

from the desk of...



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Supervisor of Elections



VoteHillsborough.org

February 2016

Nominating a President voting is underway



With ballots ready for the post office, I stopped to thank some of our team members who served in the military.

Election Day for our Presidential Preference Primary is March 15, but voting here has already begun. As I love to remind voters, Election Day isn't the first day to vote, it's the last day to vote.

By law, we send ballots to overseas and absent military voters first, and we've received some of those ballots back already. By mid-month, we'll have mailed out more than 90,000 ballots to domestic voters, and I expect that number to keep going up.

Vote By Mail ballots are sent to voters who request them. If you'd like to choose the most convenient way to vote, visit VoteHillsborough.org or call us at (813) 744-5900 and make your request. After February 12, we'll be mailing ballots out within two days of receiving each request. You can even track your ballot online (just like Fed Ex!) to see when we mailed your ballot and when your completed ballot was received by our office.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

MYTH: People who are registered "independent" or "no party affiliation" can choose to vote in either the Democratic Primary or the Republican Primary.

FACT: Florida has closed primaries, which means you must be registered with a party to vote in that party's primary election. By law, only registered Democrats and registered Republicans can vote in Florida's Presidential Preference Primary.

MYTH: Vote By Mail ballots are only counted if the election is close.

FACT: All Vote By Mail ballots are counted, and they are the first results released on Election Day.

FEB. 16

Important Deadline: Party changes must be made by February 16 to be valid for the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary. February 16 is also the deadline to register to vote for the Presidential Preference Primary.

the flip side



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RAVE REVIEWS FOR OUR NEW EQUIPMENT

We held four open houses to show off our new equipment and the response was 100% positive! This is what we heard from voters and poll workers:

- ★ "This is great."
- ★ "So simple to use."
- ★ "Really easy."
- ★ "Voters will love this."



EARLY VOTING TRAINING



We started the month training more than 200 poll workers who will be working at our Early Voting sites. Early Voting will be held in 15 sites Feb. 29 - March 13, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Check VoteHillsborough.org for locations and wait times.

ELECTION NEWS IS GETTING OUT

Our local reporters are working hard to let their audiences know about elections in Hillsborough County.



the last word

Visit VoteHillsborough.org and make sure your voter information is up-to-date! Voting will go more smoothly if we have your current name and residential address on file. If you are voting by mail, please update your mailing address before submitting your ballot request.

