
EL PASO COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

CANDIDATE AND CAMPAIGN MEETING

March 2018 Primary Election

May 2018 Uniform Election

May 2018 Primary Runoff Election

Lisa Wise

Elections Administrator



AGENDA

- Important Dates
- www.epcountyvotes.com
- Mobile App
- Information for Voters
- Candidate Services
- Public Logic & Accuracy Test
- Ballot by Mail
- Federal Postcard Application (FPCA)
- Identification Options at the Polls
- Provisional Voting
- Election Night Results (ENR)
- Official Election Results
- Electioneering and Campaign Signage
- Volunteer Deputy Registrars
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- Texas Secretary of State
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IMPORTANT DATES

March 2018 Primary Election

- Voter Registration Deadline: Monday, February 5, 2018
- Early Voting: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 through Friday, March 2, 2018
- Election Day: Tuesday, March 6, 2018

May 2018 Uniform Election

- Voter Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 5, 2018
- Early Voting: Monday, April 23, 2018 through Tuesday, May 1, 2018
- Election Day: Saturday, May 5, 2018

May Primary Runoff Election

- Voter Registration Deadline: Monday, April 23, 2018
- Early Voting: Monday, May 14, 2018 through May 18, 2018
- Election Day: Tuesday, May 22, 2018

WWW.EPCOUNTYVOTES.COM

■ **Responsive Website**

- Optimal viewing; PC to mobile phones
- Bilingual in English and Spanish

■ **Early Voting Stations**

- Website provides Google Locator (nearest station)

■ **Where Do I Vote?**

- Provides precinct information by address and zip code as well as sample ballot

■ **Count of Registered Voters**

- Number of registered voters are automatically updated on a daily basis

■ **Campaign Finance Reports**

- Search engine provides reports from any county position candidate or committee
- Candidate reports are due 30 days and 8 days prior to every Election Day

■ **What's New**

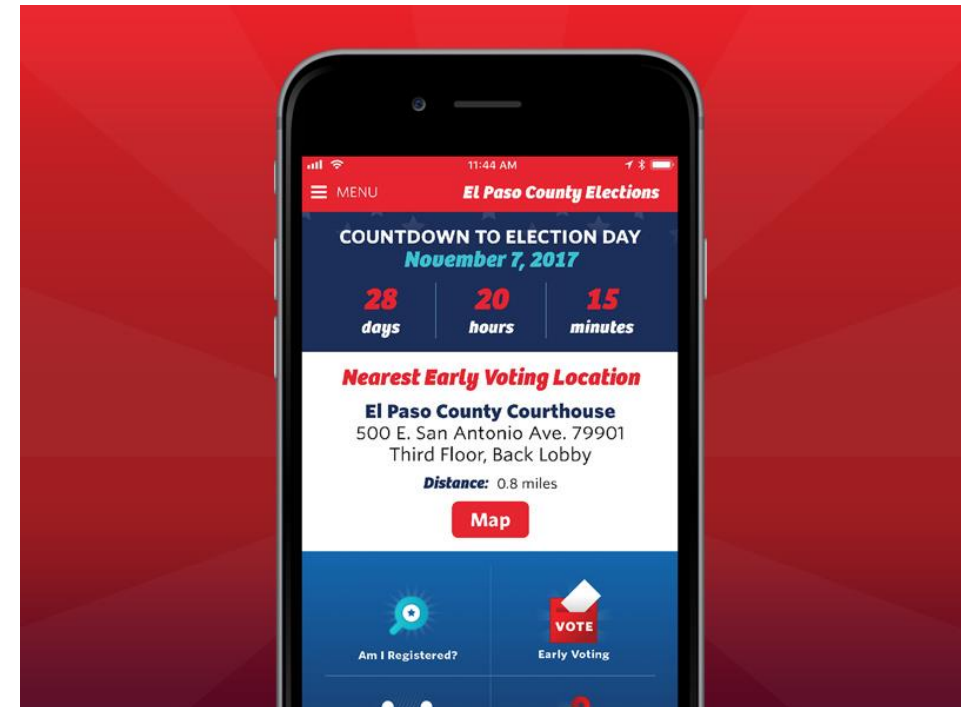
- Provides important election information
 - Election deadlines, location changes, outreach events, etc.

■ **Election Archives**

- Reports from past elections beginning 1998 to present

MOBILE APP

- **Our new mobile app is free to download and allows El Paso County voters to access the most accurate and up to date election information**
- **App features:**
 - Am I Registered? (voter registration status)
 - Google Locator for Early Voting Locations and Election Day Polling Places
 - Estimated wait times for Early Voting Locations
 - Where Do I Vote? (Election Day Polling Place)
- **Download app:**
 - Apple Store (El Paso County Elections)
 - Google Play (El Paso County Elections Department)



INFORMATION FOR VOTERS

■ Resources for Voters

- www.epcountyvotes.com
- Smartphone Mobile App
 - Available on Apple Store and Google Play
- Phone
 - Main Line, (915) 546-2154
- Social Media
 - Facebook, www.facebook.com/EPCountyElections
 - Twitter, www.twitter.com/EP_Elections
- Maps
 - Available at all Early Voting Locations and Election Day Polling Places

CANDIDATE SERVICES

■ **Voter Files**

- CD, \$5.00 per file
- CD (Mailed via U.S. Postal), \$8.00 per file, plus \$5.00 each additional file
- Copies, \$0.10 per page
- Labels, \$10.00 per 1,000 labels (Must bring own labels, template #5160)

■ **Maps**

- Plotter Map (34X42), \$20.00
- 11X17, \$3.00
- 8.5X11, \$1.50
- Copies, \$0.10 per page
- Map Book, \$20.00

■ **Street Index**

- For county business, \$0. For additional copy is \$10.00

PUBLIC LOGIC AND ACCURACY TEST

- **Test will be performed to ensure the accuracy of the tabulation of electronic voting systems, also known as voting machines.**
- **The test shall be open to representatives of the press and the public, Tex.Elec.Code, 129.023(b).**
- **Testing will be conducted before every election at the El Paso County Elections Department, 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite #314**

Election	Date	Time
March Primary	Wednesday, January 17, 2018	10:00 a.m.
May Uniform	Monday, March 19, 2018	10:00 a.m.
May Primary Runoff	Wednesday, April 4, 2018	10:00 a.m.

BALLOT BY MAIL

■ **Who can vote by mail?**

- You are eligible to vote early by mail in Texas if you are a registered voter who is:
 - 65 years of age or older, Tex.Elec.Code 82.003
 - Out of the county on Election Day and during the period of Early Voting by personal appearance, must provide out of county address, Tex.Elec.Code 82.001
 - Sick or disabled, Tex.Elec.Code 82.002
 - Confined in jail, but eligible to vote, Tex.Elec.Code 82.004

The Early Voting Clerk does not mail applications or ballots without a specific request from the voter.

Now any Application for a Ballot by Mail (ABBM) (single use or annual) may be submitted at any time in the calendar year for an election held in that year.

BALLOT BY MAIL (CONT.)

- **When must voter return the ballot?**
 - **New Law:** House Bill 1151 (2017) amended Section 86.007 to provide that a marked ballot voted by mail that a voter received due to submitting an ABBM may arrive at the address on the carrier envelope no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day after Election Day, if the carrier was placed for delivery by mail or common or contract carrier from within the United States and bears a cancellation mark of a postal service or a receipt mark of a common or contract carrier or a courier from not later than 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day.
 - **Note:** This deadline does not apply to ballots sent by non-military voters who are overseas but applied for a ballot using an ABBM; these voters have until the 5th day after Election Day to return their ballots (or the next business day if the 5th day after Election Day to return their ballots, or the next business day if the 5th day falls on a weekend or legal state or federal holiday). This deadline also does not apply to ballots mailed (domestically or from overseas) by certain members of the military who applied for a ballot using an FPCA; those voters have until the 6th day after Election Day to return their ballots.

BALLOT BY MAIL (CONT.)

In-Person Delivery of Carrier Envelope

- **New:** Tex.Elec.Code 86.006(a-1) provides that a voter may hand-deliver his or her own by-mail ballot to the **Early Voting Clerk's office** during the hours the polls are open on Election Day. An assistant or agent may not deliver a ballot for a voter under this section; only the voter himself or herself may complete the hand-delivery. Also note that the ballot must be delivered to the Early Voting Clerk's office and cannot be submitted to the Presiding Judge at an Election Day polling place to be counted.
- The individual must present one of the acceptable forms of voter identification described by the Tex.Elec.Code 63.0101. **Note that if the voter does not have one of the acceptable forms of identification, he or she cannot take advantage of the in-person delivery**, but rather should be informed of the option to proceed to the appropriate Election Day polling place, surrender the by-mail ballot (which will be cancelled), and vote a provisional ballot (due to lack of identification). Alternatively, the voter could have the by-mail ballot delivered by a common or contract carrier to the Early Voting Clerk under the law, House Bill 1151 (2017).

BALLOT BY MAIL (CONT.)

March Primary Election (Important Dates)	
First day to apply for a Ballot by Mail	Monday, January 1, 2018*
Last day to apply for a Ballot by Mail, (Received, not postmarked)	Friday, February 23, 2018

May Uniform Election (Important Dates)	
First day to apply for a Ballot by Mail	Monday, January 1, 2018*
Last day to apply for a Ballot by Mail, (Received, not postmarked)	Tuesday, April 24, 2018

May Primary Runoff Election (Important Dates)	
First day to apply for a Ballot by Mail	Monday, January 1, 2018*
Last day to apply for a Ballot by Mail, (Received, not postmarked)	Friday, May 11, 2018

*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An Annual ABBM or FPCA for a January or February 2018 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.

FEDERAL POSTCARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

■ **Who can use the FPCA?**

- Active duty, military, spouses and dependents (voting from outside the home Texas county)
- U.S. Citizens (nonmilitary) temporarily overseas* away from the home Texas county
- U.S. Citizens (nonmilitary) permanently overseas* away from the (previous) home Texas county

*Federal law defines “overseas” as anywhere outside the United States

As per Senate Bill 100, 82nd Legislature, the FPCA is valid for one calendar year.

IDENTIFICATION OPTIONS AT THE POLLS

- **If a voter possesses one of the following forms of ID, he/she must present it:**
 1. Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
 2. Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
 3. Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS
 4. Texas License to Carry a Handgun issued by DPS
 5. United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph
 6. United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph
 7. United States passport

IDENTIFICATION OPTIONS AT THE POLLS

- **If a voter does not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the forms of ID from the previous list, the voter must complete a declaration at the polls explaining why and bring one of the following supporting documents:**
 1. Valid Voter Registration Certificate (yellow certificate)
 2. Certified birth certificate (must be an original)
 3. Copy of or original bank statement
 4. Copy of or original government check
 5. Copy of or original paycheck
 6. Copy of or original government document with voter's name and an address (original required if it contains a photograph)

PROVISIONAL VOTING

- **In 2002, the Help America Vote Act required that provisional ballots be offered to:**
 - Any voter that declares that they are a registered and eligible voter of the precinct in which they are appearing, and;
 - Any voter whose eligibility is called into question by an election official, e.g. shown have to have voted early by mail, 52 U.S.C. 21082.
- **Texas Law echoes the federal requirements, but also adds that a voter may vote provisionally if they do not have the required identification, Tex.Elec.Code 63.011.**

PROVISIONAL VOTING (CONT.)

■ **Provisional Ballot Process after Election**

- A determination whether a provisional ballot will be counted will be made by the Early Voting Ballot Board after the election, Tex.Elec.Code 65.059
- A notice will be mailed to provisional voter within 30 days of Election Day to the mailing address provided on affidavit indicating that ballot was counted or not counted
- If questions arise after the notice is received by provisional voter, he/she can contact the Elections Department at (915) 546-2154

ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS (ENR)

- **Observers**
 - Information for political observers, visitors and media
- **Releasing Election Night Results**
 - All results will be released at www.epcountyvotes.com

Times	Results
7:00 p.m.	Unofficial Early Voting Results
8:00 p.m.	Unofficial Election Results
8:45 p.m.	Unofficial Election Results
9:30 p.m.	Unofficial Election Results
10:15 p.m.	Unofficial Election Results

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

■ Canvass

- **Tex.Elec.Code, Sec. 172.116: Local canvass relating to candidates who filed an application for a place on the ballot in accordance with the general requirements:**
 - a) The county chair and, if available, at least one member of the county executive committee selected by the county executive committee shall canvass the precinct election returns for the county
 - b) The county chair and any selected county executive committee member shall convene to conduct the local canvass on the second Thursday after Election Day at the hour specified by the county chair and posted on the county party website or the commissioners court bulleting board if the county organization of the political party does not maintain a website
 - c) The local canvass is open to the general public
 - d) The official results of the primary election, except for offices canvassed at the state level, is determined from the local canvass of precinct returns and shall be posted to the secretary of state's website

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS (CONT.)

■ **Voter Turnout**

- Official results are available two to three weeks after canvassing of election results
- Reports will be posted at www.epcountyvotes.com

ELECTIONEERING AND CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE

- **100 ft. from Entrance to Early Voting Station or Election Day Polling Place**
 - During the voting period, it is prohibited to electioneer, including expressing preference for or against any candidate, measure, or political party
 - A violation of this provision in the Election Code is a Class C misdemeanor, Tex.Elec.Code 61.003, 85.036
- **Campaign Signage (City of El Paso, Code Compliance)**
 - **Can you leave a campaign sign until the end of the campaign?**
 - No. the city code allows a campaign sign to be displayed between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Signs must be taken down on a daily basis.
 - **What happens to the signs that are picked up by the city?**
 - Signs in violation of the city code that are removed by the Environmental Services Department are disposed of by the city.

City of El Paso, Code Compliance Division: (915) 599-6290

ELECTIONEERING AND CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE (CONT.)

- **Bystanders Excluded; Unlawful Presence of Candidate, Tex.Elec.Code, Sec.61.001**
 - a) Except as permitted by this code, a person may not be in the polling place from the time the Presiding Judge arrives there on Election Day to make the preliminary arrangements until the precinct returns have been certified and the election records have been assembled for distribution following the election.
 - b) A candidate in the election commits an offense if the candidate is in a polling place during the period described by Subsection (a) for a purpose other than:
 - 1. voting; or
 - 2. official business in the building in which the polling place is located.
 - c) It is an exception to the application of Subsection (b) that the candidate:
 - 1. is not within plain view or hearing of the persons in the voting area or the area in which voters are being accepted for voting; and
 - 2. is not engaged in campaign activity.
 - d) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

VOLUNTEER DEPUTY REGISTRARS

- **Volunteer Deputy Registrars, also known as VDR's, are allocated with the responsibility of officially registering voters in the State of Texas.**
 - VDR's administer voter registration applications and take responsibility for making sure the applicant completes the application correctly so there is no delay in processing.
- **If interested in becoming a VDR and you meet the qualifications prescribed by the Texas Secretary of State, you can:**
 - take the training in our office as a walk-in from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays and election cycle
 - register for one of our monthly trainings we offer at various public libraries throughout the county. Locations, dates, times and registration link are available in our website, www.epcountyvotes.com

To request a private class for your organization, our office requires a minimum of 25 attendees and a two week notice from the date and time your organization would like the VDR training.

For more information contact Melissa Rosales or Brenda Negrete at (915) 546-2154.

CONTACT US

■ **El Paso County Elections Department**

Address: 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite #314, El Paso, Texas 79901

Phone: (915) 546-2154

Fax: (915) 546-2220

Email: epelections@epcounty.com

Website: www.epcountyvotes.com

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Monday—Friday, excluding holidays



TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE

■ Elections Division

Address: Secretary of State, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711-2060

Phone: 1 (800) 252-VOTE (8683), (512) 463-5650

Fax: (512) 475-2811

Email: elections@sos.texas.gov

Website: www.sos.state.tx.us



TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

- Address: Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070
- Phone: 1(800) 735-2989, (512) 463-5800
- Fax: (512) 463-5777
- Website: www.ethics.state.tx.us





THANK YOU