

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
PUTNAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**

POLICY DECISION

Date: August 7, 2007
Policy Decision No.: 07-01
Subject Matter: Polling Place Access

In order to maintain orderly and properly-secured polling places, the Board of Elections and Registration has adopted the following policy:

Access to polling places shall be limited to voters, members and staff of the Board of Elections and Registration, and duly-appointed and -verified poll watchers. Upon granting polling place access to poll watchers who present appropriate credentials and identification, the poll manager shall immediately notify the Supervisor or Board. Other persons requesting access, including Secretary of State office personnel and Premier Election Solutions technicians, shall be authorized by the Supervisor or Board in person or by phone call from the Poll Manager before access is granted. Under no circumstances shall any poll official permit alteration or modification of hardware or software in the polling place without prior authorization by the Supervisor or Board.

Access to polling places for a voter, candidate, or public official shall be limited to the duration of time required to cast his or her ballot. The poll manager shall direct that any voter, candidate, or public official who has not promptly exited after casting his or her ballot leave the polling place immediately. A candidate shall not return to the polling place for any reason after casting his or her ballot.

Access to polling places for members of the media shall be strictly prohibited. Photography, interviews, or exit polling shall only be permitted in excess of 25 feet from the outer edge of any polling place. The poll manager shall immediately notify the Supervisor or Board of any violation.

This policy shall not prohibit the presence of any persons, including candidates, who are in excess of 150 feet from a polling place. Local, state, and federal laws apply to prohibit or allow access beyond 150 feet on public or private property.

Poll managers, assistant managers, and clerks shall be instructed at each training session that access to the polling place shall be strictly limited and regulated by Board policy and Georgia election law.