Marion County
OREGON
COUNTY CLERK

May 19th, 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election

COUNTY CLERK
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Dear Observer:

Welcome to Marion County's conduct of the Tuesday, May 19th, 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election. We are pleased you could join us.

We are very proud of our work and our processes. We will be happy to explain any aspect of the conduct of this election. Our processes will be deliberative and methodical, and we will take as much time as is necessary to ensure that each is done properly.

We are a polling place where ballots are issued to voters. We utilize the office lobby and at times the building lobby and hearing room for voting booths. Marion County will enforce electioneering according to the accompanying memorandum. The conduct of any election involves a number of processes to make certain there is no undue influence to voters, secrecy is maintained; that each voter only votes once; ballot integrity is maintained, and accountability assured.

Under Oregon law you are not an active participant in this process. You are strictly a public observer. Due to time sensitivity, voter privacy, accuracy and security concerns, you may not converse with the staff or board members performing the work.

We will identify election staff members to whom you may address questions and/or concerns. If you wish to discuss a process, please bring it to the proper person's attention.

We will help you find the areas where you may watch the processes in which you are interested. Depending on space and number of observers, any of these processes may be limited to observation via camera feed to a monitor elsewhere in the office. You may observe the following processes:

Returned ballot in-take procedures;
Office Counter customer service;
Sorting and Signature Verification;
Ballot Opening, Pre-Inspection and Duplication (if any);
Ballot Scanning, Resolution; and Write-In process.

We require that you:

- Sign-in,
- Wear your name badge at all times while in the election office,
- Stay in the assigned location, and maintain physical distance of 6 feet from election staff
- Keep conversation to a minimum and only to designated individuals. As asked.

At times we could have over 60 people in the room, and we need to keep both the noise and distractions at a minimum. There are a limited number of spaces available in our office. The Elections staff reserves the right to reassign the location of the observers within our office.

The use of cell phones in our office is prohibited. There are also other restrictions (see attached information). Food and beverages are not allowed while in our office. Restrooms are down the east hallway outside our office.

Thank you for observing Democracy in action,

Bill Burgess
Marion County Clerk

MARION COUNTY ELECTIONS RULES FOR OBSERVERS

You are strictly an observer. You have no formal part in the process. The following rules will apply:

1. You are considered "Public" so you are welcome anytime we are open to the public.
   Our normal business hours are 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday.
   On Election Day, May 19th we will open at 7:00 am.

2. **We are a polling place where ballots are issued to voters**. The lobby of our office is used for voting. There can be no electioneering within our building.

3. You may not interact with general staff members while they perform their duties. We discourage all conversation as it may detract from the concentration of the staff. You may, of course, take notes about anything you observe.

4. If you have questions, you may address them to designated Election Official(s).

5. You will be given a name badge and required to sign in and out of our office. This is standard procedure in our office for those who are allowed beyond the normal public area. The sign-in paper will include your name, proof of identification and any organization you may be representing. If you represent a particular candidate or political party, we must have authorization for you from that party or candidate (ORS 254.482).

6. You may not interfere in any manner with the election processes. Any interference or disorderly conduct may result in your removal from the process and our office. You will quietly stay seated or standing in the assigned locations as applicable. You may not handle any ballot-related material. You will not be at the tables/desks with staff. Not all observation areas have seating available and some or all observing may be available only via closed circuit cameras.

7. No computers, videotaping, cameras, audio recorders, binoculars, cell phones, I-Pods, etc. will be allowed. Photographing or recording of any kind is prohibited. If you carry a cell phone you must silence the ring and remove yourself from our office for any and all phone conversations. We ask you not wear fragrances, perfume or colognes, while serving as an observer. This is a concern for persons with allergies and/or asthma. Food and beverages are not allowed while in the office.

8. Due to space issues, you may be asked to observe ballot scanning and resolution of votes and/or the ballot duplication process via camera feed from the election area to a monitor elsewhere in the office.

9. You are required to sign the agreement below indicating you comply with these rules.

The amount of work to be done in a very short time for the election demands that we control the work environment. Please help us complete our processes and procedures with as few interruptions as possible.

Restrooms are located down the east hallway opposite the floor elevators. There are no public telephones, fax machines or Internet access. Sale of food and beverages is available to the public on the first floor of this facility.

Thank you for your cooperation, Bill Burgess, Marion County Clerk

I have read the above rules for observers and agree to abide by them. I understand that violation of these rules may result in my removal from the Elections Office at the discretion of the County Clerk, Elections Supervisor or designated Election Official. Additionally, I understand my failure to abide by this agreement may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Print Your Name: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____ **Phone #:** _____

Your Mailing address: _____ **City, State, Zip**_____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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