

Observing Vote Processing and Counting?

Prepare for the WORST and bring your BEST

Preparing YOURSELF

1. Write a script for a few of the scenarios provided, focus on the situations that feel edgy but not out of reach. Practice using them until it feels natural.
2. Select your ballot processing location, get authorized or recognized there.
3. Complete Scrutineers' intro training for observing vote processing and counting, called How to Help Stop Election Sabotage. You'll find this at <http://scrutineers.org/train1>. Look over the other trainings & resources there.

Advance planning & safety

1. Transportation- will you drive, ride share, use transit? If you drive, lock valuables and ID in your car.
2. Avoid clothes that give away your identity or are easy to grab (skirts, baggy clothes etc).
3. Bring an extra face mask.
4. Confirm dates and times for observing.
5. Recruit at least one buddy to join you.
6. If concerned regarding pepper spray/bear spray, mix up plastic bottles that are half milk of magnesia, half water.

Set up your buddy/ team agreement

1. Designate a nearby reconnection point in case you and your buddies get separated or need to step away from observing.
2. Agree to swap roles if one of you becomes overwhelmed.
3. Agree to always stay within earshot of each other.
4. Have a "got home safely" call or text set up. If people don't confirm they are now safe, have clear instructions as to what to do next (i.e drive to home, call partner, etc.).

Device security options (not required!)

1. Burner phone or full-disk encryption and complex password.
2. If using your phone, assure you have backed up all data.
3. Program these phone #s into your phone
 1. 866-OUR-VOTE
 2. Your local ACLU # or other legal aid .
4. See if your ACLU chapter has an app to automatically upload your videos (in case your phone gets seized).
5. Add Signal app to your phone for encrypted texting with your team.
6. Turn off location feature or put phone in "airplane mode."
7. ObscuraCam app (blurs faces on any video you capture). This is an optional add if those caught on your video wish to protect their privacy.