

Specifications for: ELECT-604 Prohibited Area and Activities poster Rev 7/2025

Must be printed and shipped in accordance with the following specifications and conditions:

PAPER:	20# white offset
SIZE:	24" x 36 "
STYLE:	Red and 2/0 black and PMS 193U, bleeds
INK:	Red.
PRINT:	One side.
ARTWORK:	Artwork is attached.
LOGO:	No manufacturer's logo is to be printed on forms.
PACKAGING:	Folded by eighths (tri-fold) into a 9" x 12" rectangle, boxed in groups of 300 with a cardboard divider between each set of 100 (3 sets of 100 per box), and labeled: ELECT-604 Prohibited Area and Activities poster Rev 07/2025
DELIVERY:	Warehouse receives shipments Mondays - Fridays, 8:00 AM - 4 PM only. Ensure delivery is made within this timeframe.

# PROHIBITED AREA AND ACTIVITIES

Hours of the election: 6:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Va. Code §§ 24.2-639, 24.2-604, 24.2-604.4, 24.2-604.5, 24.2-649(B), 24.2-655

What activities are unlawful in the polling place and prohibited area [within forty feet of any entrance to the polling place building] while the polls are open, or ballots are being counted, or within one hour of opening or closing?

- Loitering or congregating
- Giving, offering, or showing any ballot, ticket, or other campaign or referendum material to any person
  - Exception: worn items like hats, buttons, stickers and t-shirts are permitted only when voting
- Asking for any person’s vote
- In any way trying to influence any person in casting a vote
- Being in position to see any other voter's marked ballot
- Possession of a firearm
- Stopping or delaying a qualified voter in entering or leaving a polling place
- Stopping or delaying an officer of election
- Interfering with the orderly conduct of the election

These offenses are Class 1 misdemeanors, punishable by up to 12 months in jail and a fine of up to \$2500, either or both.

Who is allowed within the polling place and prohibited area while the polls are open?

- A voter and an assistant if requested by the voter
- A minor (age 15 or under) accompanying a parent to vote
- An officer of election, electoral board member, registrar, staff, page, voting equipment custodian, or other person on official business with permission of the officers of election
- A candidate voting or visiting inside the polling place for no more than 10 minutes per polling place per election day
- A neutral observer with prior written authorization from the electoral board

Who may have representatives in the polling place?

- A political party with a nominee on the ballot or an independent or primary candidate on the ballot is entitled to representatives as follows:
  - Representative must be a qualified voter of any jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Virginia and have authorization signed by the county or city chair of the political party, the independent candidate, or the primary candidate
  - An interpreter to observe language assistance to voters
  - A candidate on the ballot may not be a representative while voting is taking place

When may representatives be in the polling place?

- **Before the polls open**, one authorized representative of each party or independent or primary candidate may be present while the voting equipment is examined
- **While the polls are open**, at least one but no more than three representatives (at the discretion of the officers) are permitted in the polling room at any one time for each party or independent or primary candidate
  - In the event of a precinct having four or more pollbooks, the officer must permit in the polling room one representative of each party or independent candidate equal to the number of pollbooks
- **After the polls close**, two representatives of each party and one representative of each independent or primary candidate may be present while the ballots are counted and may not leave until the returns are completed
  - If there are fewer than four representatives, the officers shall notify any bystanders and select one or more so that there are as many as four bystanders and representatives (in total) present while the ballots are counted and the returns completed

What about the news media?

- News media may be present and may film or photograph inside the polling place while the polls are open, but may not film or photograph:
  - Any person who specifically asks the media representative at the time that he not be filmed or photographed
  - The voter or the ballot in a way that shows how any individual voter is voting
  - The voter list or any other material in a way that shows the name or other information about any individual voter
- **Interviews, live broadcasts, or taping of reporters’ remarks must be conducted outside of the polling place and the prohibited area**

The officers of election may require any person who is found by a majority of the officers present to be in violation of these laws to leave the polling place and remain outside of the prohibited area.

After voting, please exit the polling place and the prohibited area.

