

Broward County Supervisor of Elections  
115 S. Andrews Ave, Room 102  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Supervisor of Elections Peter Antonacci,

COVID-19 has created new challenges for our entire community and has created new concerns for citizens who want to exercise their constitutional right to vote. We want to ensure that every voter is able to cast a ballot without risking their health or their life. To that end, we request that the following actions be taken to help people cast their ballots in a safe and secure manner.

**Make Drop Boxes Drive-Through Wherever Possible**

Following the advice of public health professionals and with due concern related to COVID-19, over 500,000 people in Broward plan to Vote-By-Mail (“VBM”) in November due to the coronavirus pandemic. In order to successfully manage this large increase, and in order to keep our voters safe during this pandemic, we respectfully request that all drop boxes be drive-through accessible wherever possible so people do not have to exit their vehicles to drop off their VBM ballots. These changes are needed to ensure all of our diverse Broward communities have access to VBM drop boxes, including our minority, seniors, disabled, and veteran communities.

**COVID-19 Mitigation Recommendations and Broward County Emergency Orders Regarding COVID-19 Procedures**

There is a need to ensure all COVID-19 mitigation recommendations are followed during the voting process in order to protect voters, poll workers, and poll watchers. In fact, to protect the “lives, health, welfare, and safety of the people of Broward County,” County Administrator Bertha Henry has adopted a series of emergency orders. Broward County Emergency Order 20-27 provides that “[a]ll people in Broward County must wear a facial covering any time they are outside their residence if social distancing of at least 6 feet cannot be consistently maintained between persons not of the same household.” Broward County Emergency Order 20-27, Section 3.B.1 . The Emergency Order further specifies that, “[a]ll people must wear facial coverings at all times when visiting or using establishments [ . . . ]. This includes while entering, exiting, and otherwise moving around within the establishment.” Broward County Emergency Order 20-27, Section 3.B.3.

Section 3.D of Emergency Order 20-27 states that, “[a]ll establishments are responsible for ensuring all employees and patrons of their establishment comply with the facial covering requirements of this Emergency Order.” Importantly, although Governor DeSantis’s Executive Order 20-244 preempts local governments from taking certain actions with respect to COVID-19, the provisions in the Emergency Order cited above remain in full force and effect.

To ensure that every voter can cast a ballot without endangering their health and safety, and that all poll workers and poll watchers are also protected, we request that you enforce the terms of the Emergency Order in and around Early Voting sites and polling locations on Election Day. This

includes ensuring that poll workers and the public wear masks, that at least 6 feet physical distancing is maintained while voters are waiting in line to vote and casting their ballots, and frequent sanitizing of the areas accessible to voters. This effort must also include providing free masks for those who do not have masks when they present at the locations.

To the extent that a person is exempted from the mask-wearing requirement pursuant to Section (3)(C) of Broward County Emergency Order 20-27, or if anyone willfully refuses to comply with the Emergency Order, we ask that steps be taken to provide a separate area and/or separate lines from the rest of the public so that the health and safety of the voting public, poll workers and poll watchers are protected, and orderly and expeditious voting is maintained. We cannot allow individuals who are unable or outright refuse to follow the law to endanger voters exercising their constitutional rights or to disrupt the voting process.

Sincerely,