

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD FOR CANVASSING OF THE ABSENTEE AND PROVISIONAL BALLOTS AND RANDOM SELECTION OF RACE AND PRECINCT FOR MANUAL AUDIT OF VOTING SYSTEM FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

The Calhoun County Canvassing Board will meet at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2008, to canvass absentee and provisional ballots for the November 4, 2008 General Election. This meeting is open to the public and will be held in the Calhoun County Supervisor of Elections Office in the Calhoun County Courthouse, 20859 Central Avenue East, Room G-10, Blountstown, Florida.

Sealed absentee ballots for the General Election received prior to 1 p.m. on November 4 will be available for public inspection in the Supervisor of Elections Office from 1 p.m. until the Canvassing Board convenes at 2 p.m. Immediately afterward, those absentee ballots will be opened and processed, but not tabulated. Tabulation of all absentee ballots will not begin until after 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. Any ballots received between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2008, will be available for public inspection until opened. Those wishing to inspect absentee ballots received during that time period must be present. Shortly after receipt, those ballots will be opened and processed, but not tabulated.

Pursuant to Section 101.68(2)(c)2, Florida Statutes, if any elector or candidate present believes that an absentee ballot is illegal due to a defect apparent on the voter's certificate, he or she may, at any time before the ballot is removed from the envelope, file with the Canvassing Board a protest against the canvass of that ballot, specifying the precinct, the ballot, and the reason he or she believes the ballot to be illegal. A challenge based upon a defect in the voter's certificate may not be accepted after the ballot has been removed from the mailing envelope.

The Calhoun County Canvassing Board will reconvene at 7 p.m. on November 4, 2008 to canvass precinct returns and provisional ballots. It may become necessary for the Calhoun County Canvassing Board to reconvene after November 4, 2008, to canvass provisional ballots. If so, the time and date will be posted at the Calhoun County Supervisor of Elections Office and announced at the conclusion of the November 4, 2008 meeting.

Section 101.591, Florida Statutes, requires that the Canvassing Board select a random race and precinct for a manual audit of the November 4, 2008 General Election. Prior to adjourning for the day on Tuesday, November 4, 2008, the Canvassing Board will select the random race and precinct and set the date and time for a manual audit of the November 4, 2008 General Election in accordance with Florida law. The date, time and location of the manual audit will be publicly posted. In accordance with the Sunshine Law of Florida, all Canvassing Board meetings are open to the public.

Note: Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision by a board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Margie C. Laramore
Supervisor of Elections
Calhoun County, Florida