

Florida Supervisor of Elections Survey
Floridians for Election Transparency

County/City Polk Observers Pixie Rubin, Emmett Purviss, Michael Thompson
Date of interview 6/24/22 Supervisor of Elections Lori Edwards

Before the Interview - Record the time and date of your call and email, and if the meeting is not set immediately, the time and date of their response

- a) Time and date of initial call and email: 6/22/22
b) Time and date of response: 6/22/22
c) Did the Supervisor of Elections refuse to meet you: Yes ___ No
d) If yes, please provide the reason given for not meeting: _____

The Interview - Thank the Supervisor for agreeing to see you. State that the purpose of the observation program is to provide voters with accurate information about the election process. Emphasize how important you think his/her role is in ensuring that everyone in the county sees the elections here are free, fair and legitimate.

First, we have a few general questions.

What is your biggest concern about the upcoming election? (open ended. Record verbatim.)

1. Mis-Information, Dis-Information. Big challenges, spends a lot of time setting the record straight.

Any other major concerns? (open ended. Record verbatim.)

2. Redistricting year, Polling locations, aggressive public education plan in place.

a. Do you feel like you have the resources, equipment, personnel, and training needed to run an effective election in November?

- Yes
No ___
Don't know ___
No answer/refused ___

3.

b. If no, what is missing?

4. Many changes in election procedures were introduced in response to the COVID pandemic, and some people have argued that these changes weakened the integrity of the election process. As an election professional, do you think the changes made in the election process in Florida in response to COVID have weakened election integrity, strengthened election integrity, or made no change in election integrity?

weakened integrity.

strengthened integrity

made no change

Don't know

No answer/refused

Thank you. Now a few questions on the voter roll and voter registration.

5. When was the last time the voter file in your county was scrubbed or cleaned?
(Enter date, and the number of days since last audit) Date: *Cleaned once a year. Did not have date of last time it was cleaned, but annually.*

6. When was the last time you had access to the National Change of Address List or any other change of address list? (record date and other list(s), if relevant) *Feb. 2022. Stated they take Pride in Keeping their Voter role updated.*

7. a. Are you confident that the voter file is accurate and up to date?

Yes

No

Don't know

No answer/refused

b. If no, what is/are your main concern(s) about the list?

a. Have you had private third-party individuals or groups conducting voter registration activities in this county?

Yes

No

Don't know

No answer/refused

b. If yes, can you tell me which groups conducted these activities? *Mi Vecino, Tides Advocacy & PowerLatinX, Faint in Florida & Florida Rising. (seems to be a focus on registering Hispanics)*

c. If yes, are you confident these registration activities take place without bribery, intimidation or coercion, and that only qualified voters are registered through these third-parties?

Yes, I'm confident

No, not sure

Don't know

No answer/refused.

Moving on, we have some questions on voting processes and technology.

9. Can you explain how your office manages voting in nursing homes? *FL law specifies "supervised voting" F.S. 101.655. If contacted by a facility they will provide ballots, but SoE office does not actively contact local facilities. Only if contacted by the facility, do they engage.*

10.	<p>There are two types of voting machines used in Florida: Dominion and ES&S. Can you tell me which machines you use?</p> <p>Dominion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>ES&S. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
11.	<p>We understand the State of Florida is responsible for updating the voting machines before an election. Is that done by a state employee, or by a contractor or consultant from a private company?</p> <p>State employee <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If private, which company: <u>ES+S Rep.</u></p>
12.	<p>Are you present when the machines are updated, or is that process supervised by someone else? If someone else, what is their position?</p> <p>I am present <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Another person supervises this process (insert title and position) <u>Staff from IT Dept.</u></p>
13.	<p>Do you invite party representatives to witness the update?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Happy to have them. Never been asked this question before.</i></p>
14.	<p>a. Are voting machines ever connected to the internet?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>b. If yes, when and why are they connected?</p>
15.	<p>Concerns were raised across the country about the accuracy and integrity of voting machines in the 2020 elections, and there are now calls to get rid of the machines, and use a manual process like that used in France.</p> <p>a. Do you think it a good idea to go back to a manual voting process?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>b. If no, why? <i>Polk Co. ballots are 4-sided. 15 Races each side. w/ 350K Voters, 700 sheets x 2 = 1.4M sides w/ 15 races each, would have to make smaller precincts.</i></p>
16.	<p>Can you tell us what it costs per voter to implement an election in this county? <u>\$3.00</u></p>

Now we have a few questions about the counting process.

17. a. How many (%) extra ballots are available in each precinct? *5% - 10%*
- b. Can you describe the process used to track and account for these excess ballots? *Counted by Serial number, not tracked on ballot, but on another part. Also Chain of Custody. Ballots have to match machine count.*

We know that in some areas machines had difficulty reading many mail-in ballots, and the votes on these had to be copied on to clean ballots and rescanned.

18. a. Can you describe briefly how this process is done? *Teams of 2 people, Temp workers, Paired in opposing parties, given blank ballot to fill out. One person reads the voters "intent" then they switch sides + the other Rep. interprets their thoughts to the other + agree on*
- b. About what percentage of absentee ballots required copying in this county/city during the 2020 election? *Did not provide % but stated it was a very small % (intended to vote for)*
- c. Were pollwatchers from each party present during the copying process?
- Yes _____
- No _____
- Don't know _____
- No answer/refused _____

Observation of election processes enhances transparency and strengthens public confidence in the integrity of elections, and have a few questions about pollwatchers and non-partisan observers.

19. Have your local party chairs been notified that they are entitled to send observers to your office each day it is open and receiving in-person absentee ballots?
- Yes _____
- No _____
- Don't know _____
- No answer/refused _____

20. a. Did you have both Republican and Democrat pollwatchers at every polling location in 2020?
- Yes _____
- No _____ (go to b.) *Both parties participated, but unaware if precincts were observed @ every precinct.*
- Don't know _____
- No answer/refused _____
- b. If no, please estimate the percentage of polling locations covered by each party:
- Democrats _____ Republicans _____

21.	<p>a. Do you have a publication that you provide to your election officials regarding rights and responsibilities of pollwatchers?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/> (go to b.)</p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>b. If no, would you be willing to distribute such a publication that we would prepare based on Florida law?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
22.	<p>If the Legislature through the Department of State allowed independent non-partisan observers, would you welcome that?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><i>Thank you. The survey is complete now. We deeply appreciate your time today, and look forward to keeping in touch as we go through the 2022 elections. (if you have additional questions) If you don't mind, we have a few additional questions related specifically to (county or city).</i></p>	
23.	<p>Post survey question – Please characterize your interaction with the Supervisor of Elections as (circle all that apply)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helpful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Polite Defensive Unhelpful Antagonistic</p>
<p><i>To the survey team: Thank you for all you have done and will do to ensure a free and fair election in Florida! Please submit your completed survey form as soon as possible.</i></p>	

1) Super nice, very friendly + accomodating. MT

2) Did not accept Zuckerbuck funds. MT

Tides Advocacy Power Latinx

Mi Vecino

Faint in Florida

Florida rising