**DISCLAIMER:** These guides are intended for informational purposes only and do not replace the legal advice of an attorney. Journalists or citizens with additional questions should contact a licensed attorney in their jurisdiction for assistance.

# <u>Florida</u>

## a. Recording Law

Photography and likely video recording are prohibited inside of a polling place other than to photograph one's own ballot. Fla. Stat. § 102.031(5). Audio recording is allowed, but for secret audio recording Florida has generally restrictive laws in this regard, permitting one to record only in situations where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy by any participant in a conversation. See Fla. Stat. § 934.02 et seq.

# **b.** Polling Place Restrictions

## i. Who may enter polling places?

One may <u>only</u> enter the polling room within a polling place if he is voting or serving in an official capacity such as a poll watcher. Fla. Stat. § 102.031(3)(a). One may not electioneer within 150 feet of the entrance to a polling place. Fla. Stat. § 102.031(4).

#### ii. Ballots and Ballot Interactions

It is recommended that no journalist touch or interact with a ballot unless he is in the process of voting and the ballot is designated for him.

### iii. Unlawful Vote Attempts

Florida broadly prohibits "perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate or aid in the perpetration of any fraud in connection with any vote cast, to be cast, or attempted to be cast[.]" Fla. Stat. § 104.041.

More specifically, "A person may not, in connection with <u>any part of the election process</u>, fraudulently call himself or herself, or fraudulently pass by, any other name than the name by which the person is registered or fraudulently use the name of another in voting." Fla. Stat. § 104.24. One may inquire generally about ballots for certain persons but may not affirmatively represent oneself as that voter.

#### iv. Interference

"A person may not directly or indirectly use or threaten to use force, violence, or intimidation or any tactic of coercion or intimidation to induce or compel an individual to . . . Vote or refrain from voting[.]" Fla. Stat. § 104.0615.

"Any person who tampers or attempts to tamper with or destroy any voting system or equipment with the intention of interfering with the election process or the results thereof is guilty of a felony of the third degree[.]" Fla. Stat. § 104.30.

# c. Public Guidance

- i. Florida Division of Elections, <u>Laws & Rules</u>
- ii. Florida Secretary of State, Florida Voter Guide 2024