



Conducting a Voter Registration Drive at Your Church

PREPARATION

- **Get permission.** Talk to your pastor/church leader about conducting a non-partisan voter registration drive at your church. Church voter registration and get-out-the-vote activities are among the allowable activities under law. Resources that clarify the legality include:
 - [Political Guidelines for Churches and Pastors](#)
 - [Pastors, Pulpits & Politics](#)
 - Various resources are available on the [Alliance Defense Fund's Speak Up](#) site.
- **Announce.** Ask your pastor to make an announcement during church services and/or to include an announcement in the church bulletin that voter registration forms are available and where they are located. Your church may even choose to distribute forms during the service.

PLANNING (Timing and Materials)

- **Voter Registration Dates.** Determine when to have your voter registration drive. It is important to consider the [registration deadlines](#) when setting dates for the events. The registration deadline for the Georgia Primary is July 2, 2012; for the general election, it is October 9, 2012.

Registration Drive Schedule Suggestions:

- For the primary election, you could do a voter drive on any days of worship up to July 1, 2012 and then deliver the registration forms to [your county election office](#) by July 2, 2012*.
- For the general election, you could do voter drives on any days of worship up to October 7, 2012 and then deliver the registration forms to [your county election office](#) by October 9, 2012*.

*Registration forms must be delivered to your local county election office within 10 days of receipt.

- **Voter Registration Forms.** Determine how many voter registration application forms you will need. You can either pick up registration forms at your local [county election office](#) or [download and print](#).
- **Get help.** Enlist volunteers to help set up your registration table(s) and answer questions.

THE DRIVE

- **Announce.** Remind the pastor/church leader to make an announcement about the voter registration drive.
- **Set up.** Choose an approved location, preferably in plain view of the congregants as they enter and exit the church. Consider using balloons and/or a flag to draw attention to your table. Do not surprise your church leader. Obtain permission for any signage, decorations, etc.
- **Table Materials.** Print and read the Georgia [Checklist for Conducting A Voter Registration Drive](#) for required/recommended items for the registration table.

Mail or Deliver Application Forms? You have the option of either delivering the completed applications to your local county election office or having the registrant mail/deliver the registration form. The registrant always has the right to mail the application themselves. If you elect to deliver the applications and you printed the applications from the Internet, be sure to have on hand a stapler as a means of sealing the document. Once the applicant has completed the application, fold the document and staple one time. Sealing the application is a requirement of the Georgia Secretary of State Election Office.



- Once you have collected all the completed forms, fill out the [Voter Registration Transmittal Summary Sheet](#) and deliver to your county election office. Remember, completed registration forms must be delivered within 10 days of receipt.
- **Helpful Tips/FYIs:**
 - A registrant does not have to submit a copy of a photo ID with their application in order to register to vote. They must however, provide an accepted form of a photo ID when they vote.
 - Print off several copies of the "[Completing an Application Form](#)" handout for the registration table(s) as a reference guide for applications.
 - Ensure the registrant has completed ALL sections of the application and signed the application. According to county election offices, the primary hold-up of the registration process is an unsigned application.
 - Give each registrant who completed an application a "[Thank You for Registering](#)" card, which contains helpful follow-up information.

CAUTIONS

- Be sure you have viewed all the information concerning [Voter Registration Drives](#) located on the Georgia Secretary of State web site.
- It is advisable to print and read the [Voter Registration Rules and Procedures Manual](#), and to keep a copy at your registration table(s) in case your volunteers or registrants have questions.
- Be sure to read and be familiar with the "[Completing an Application Form](#)" handout.

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