

Maryland State Board of Elections

Rules of Conduct for Canvass Observers



Members of the public and media are encouraged to observe the local board of canvassers canvass mail-in and provisional ballots. During the canvasses, it is the responsibility of the local board of canvassers to maintain order and safeguard all records and documents. Please be mindful of the following rules of conduct for individuals observing a canvass.

- ❖ Print your name on the canvass sign-in sheet
- ❖ Direct all questions to the Election Director or his or her designee
- ❖ You may observe the canvass teams reviewing the ballots but must maintain a reasonable distance
- ❖ Do **not** touch the ballots or other election documents
- ❖ Do **not** make excessive noises or cause distractions
- ❖ No food or drink are allowed in the canvassing room
- ❖ Do **not** use cell phones or other audible devices in the canvassing room
- ❖ Taking pictures and recording a canvass is permitted as long as it does not disrupt the canvass or interfere with other people attending and observing the canvass
- ❖ If you have information that you believe should be considered by the Board of Canvassers, immediately notify the Election Director or his or her designee