

2015-16 Voter's Guide

Okaloosa County



Paul Lux, Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections

www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com

Voter's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

[Section 101.031(2), Florida Statutes]

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from elections officers.
8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by elections officers or any other person.
9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

Each registered voter in this state should:

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
2. Maintain with the office of the Supervisor of Elections a current address.
3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.
4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the Supervisor of Elections.
9. Ask questions, if needed.
10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.

Dear Voter,

With the 2014 Elections over, I am pleased to publish the new Voter's Guide for 2015-2016!

The back pages of this guide have an up-to-date list of all of your federal, state, county, and judicial officers for easy contact. If an issue is important to you, call, e-mail or write the appropriate elected official; they do want to hear from you.

Election law changes have been minimal for the past year, and changes at the Federal level are highly unlikely this year. That said, we are planning for an active legislative session this year as it relates to election laws. We are also researching the prospect of replacing our aging elections equipment and modernizing the precinct check-in process.

We continue to add to and update the content on our website, **www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com**, as well as the mobile version of the site. Whether you are checking your registration status, updating your address, requesting to vote by mail, or even looking for a sample ballot, there is no better resource for you than our website! You can also find your polling place, search the campaign finance reports of candidates, and even look up election results as far back as the 1922 Primary Election!

If you can't find what you need in this booklet or on our website, never hesitate to call the office. My staff and I are here to serve you! We are always happy to answer any questions or solve your problem.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lux'.

Paul Lux, CERA
Supervisor of Elections

Registering to Vote

Who can register and vote?

A legal resident of Florida with a valid residence address in Okaloosa County, who fulfills all the following conditions, is eligible to register to vote in Okaloosa County:

- A citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age (may pre-register as early as 16, but must be 18 to vote)
- Not have been convicted of a felony without having civil rights restored
- Not have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting without having civil rights restored

When can I register to vote?

You can register to vote at any time; however, registration books for any election close 29 days prior to Election Day. A person registering to vote when the books are closed will not be eligible to vote in the upcoming election, but will be eligible for future elections.

How can I register?

If you go to the Supervisor of Elections office in Crestview or Shalimar, your application process begins immediately. Our office is the best source for providing new voters with information.

If you go to one of the mandated agencies (see FAQ #1), you can apply to register there at the same time as taking care of other business, such as driver's license, etc. The application must be processed through the Supervisor of Elections office.

NOTE: The Florida Voter Registration Application (FVRA) may be used for any record change as well as a new registration. **Name and party changes require an original signature and should be made on the FVRA (see FAQ #2).**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where can I go to register to vote?

- Supervisor of Elections Office
North: 302 Wilson St N, Suite 102, Crestview, FL 32536
South: 1250 Eglin Pkwy, Suite 103, Shalimar, FL 32579
- Driver's License Offices - Tax Collector Offices (Crestview, Destin, Eglin AFB, Hurlburt Field, Niceville and Shalimar)
- Public Libraries (Crestview, Destin, Fort Walton Beach, Mary Esther, Niceville, and Valparaiso)
- Children & Family Services Centers in Crestview and Fort Walton Beach that provide public assistance and food stamps (WIC, AFDC, Medicaid and Public Health)
- Department of Labor Offices serving persons with disabilities
- Armed Forces Recruiting Offices
- Military Voting Assistance Officers
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

All of the above agencies are required to accept your completed form and forward it to our office within five days for processing. Every application received is acknowledged in writing with a Voter Information Card verifying eligibility or a letter requesting more information.

2. Can I pick up or download a form and just mail it in?

Complete a form on our website www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com, print, sign and mail it to us. Call (850) 689-5600 or (850) 651-7272 to have an application mailed to you.

Anyone who registers by mail and who has never previously voted in Florida and who does not hold a current and valid Florida driver's license, Florida ID card, or a Social Security number, has to provide a copy of a current and valid identification or fit one of the exemptions listed below. Such identification or exemption may be provided when registering or at any time prior to voting for the first time in the state. Acceptable ID includes a valid U.S. Passport, Military ID, Student ID, Public Assistance ID and others; contact the elections office for additional information. Certain persons are exempt:

- Persons 65 years of age or older
- Voters with a temporary or permanent physical disability
- Uniformed Services on active duty and their dependents, who, by reason of member's active duty, are absent from the county on Election Day.
- Merchant Marine members and their dependents, who, by reason of member's service in the Merchant Marine, are absent from the county on Election Day.
- Civilians residing outside the U.S. who are eligible to vote in Florida

3. Do I have to re-register (a) if I haven't voted in a long time, or (b) every time I move?

(a) Failure to vote or contact our office in four years may result in being removed from the voter list.

- Inform the elections office of any change of address within the county or state.
- Respond to any request for Address Confirmation in order to keep your record current as an active voter.

Note: It is suggested that a voter make some form of contact at least every two years to ensure active status.

(b) You do not have to re-register, but you do have to notify the elections office of your new address. Your address determines your precinct.

4. Do I have to choose a political party?

No, it is not required. If you do not choose a party, you will be registered as "No Party Affiliation." Voters registered as No Party Affiliation or in a minor party may not vote for party (Democrat and Republican) candidates in a primary election (see FAQ #5 & #6), but may vote on nonpartisan candidates and issues. Party affiliation does not matter in the general election.

5. Does being "No Party Affiliation" or minor party mean I can vote for anyone in a primary?

No, Florida is a *closed primary state*. Usually, only the two major parties (Democrat and Republican) have primaries, which are nominating elections. Florida Statute 101.021 states, "It is unlawful for any elector to vote in a primary for any candidate running for nomination from a party other than that in which such elector is registered." However, all voters may vote in a primary for nonpartisan races, such as school board members, judges, and referenda. The only other exception is for a Universal Primary Contest.

6. What is a Universal Primary Contest?

If, in any race, only candidates of one party have qualified, and there are no minor party, No Party Affiliation, or write-in candidates for the general election, that race will be on the primary ballot for ALL registered voters of the jurisdiction, regardless of party registration.

7. How do I change my political party?

A party change should be made on a Florida Voter Registration Application with the signature of the voter. Party changes will not be processed while the registration books are closed 29 days prior to a primary election.

8. If my name has changed (marriage, divorce, other legal act), how do I change my name on your records?

A name change should be made on a Florida Voter Registration Application with the signature of the voter's new name. Please include your former name on the form as well. If your address has also changed, you can make the address change on the same document.

9. How do I change my address?

My address change is within Okaloosa County - Use our online form for address changes within Okaloosa County. Address changes within the county of registration can also be made in writing, by email, fax, telephone, or just about any contact with the elections office.

I am moving into Okaloosa County from another Florida county - Use our online form for address changes if you are moving into Okaloosa County from another Florida county. Or you may call our office and change your address over the telephone.

I have moved OUT of Okaloosa County into another Florida county - Use the Florida Voter Registration Application form to change your address or call the elections office in your new county. Our office can provide the phone number.

10. What identification do I need to vote?

Voter Information Cards are not a valid form of identification when voting. Be sure to bring a current and valid photo ID for precinct and early voting. If the photo ID does not contain your signature, an additional ID that includes your signature shall be required. If you do not bring any ID, you will be allowed to vote; however, you will be asked to vote a provisional ballot. Approved forms of photo ID are:

- Florida Driver's License
- Florida ID Card issued by the Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles
- Military ID
- Current U.S. Passport
- Debit/Credit Card
- Student ID
- Retirement Center ID
- Neighborhood Association ID
- Public Assistance ID

11. How do I get a replacement Voter Information Card?

Voters may request a duplicate Voter Information Card from the Supervisor of Elections with a signed, written request or through our website form.

12. I've moved since the last time I voted, and I forgot to change my address. Do I go to my old precinct to vote?

Before Election Day, call the Supervisor of Elections office to change your address over the telephone and find your new precinct and polling location. On Election Day, call our office to find your new polling location; you can change your address at the new polling place. It is a felony to vote in a precinct in which you do not live.

13. If it is not convenient to go to the polls for an election, how can I vote?

You may vote by mail or vote early before Election Day. To vote by mail, request an absentee ballot by telephone, mail, email, fax, website form or in person. Or, you may vote early at any one of our early voting sites. For early voting dates, times and locations please visit www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com.

14. Can someone pick up or return an absentee ballot for me?

You may name, in writing, a designee to pick up a ballot for you, no earlier than five days before an election, and provide certain required information. The designee for pick-up must provide identification. You can also have someone else return your ballot.

15. Does Power of Attorney apply when voting?

Power of Attorney cannot be used to vote or sign another voter's registration form. [F.S. 709.2201(3)(c)]

16. When does my absentee ballot have to be returned to your office?

The ballot must be in either one of our two offices by 7:00 p.m. Central Time on Election Day in order to be counted. However, if you are overseas and voting in a federal election, your ballot must be dated and/or postmarked by the date of the election, and we must receive it within 10 days of the election for it to be counted.

17. How do voters' names get removed and/or re-instated?

(a) If a voter moves to another county in Florida and registers there, the statewide Florida Voter Registration System will notify our office of the change and that voter will be listed as "Moved" from our county.

(b) If a voter registers in another state and indicates a prior registration here in Florida, we will be notified, in most cases, and the Florida registration will be canceled.

(c) If we receive notification from the post office that a voter's address has changed, we will send an Address Confirmation card to the new address for the voter to verify the effect on his/her registration. If that, or any other piece of First-Class mail, comes back to the office as Returned Undeliverable, we send an Address Confirmation Final Notice, and if we receive no response within 30 days, or if it comes back Undeliverable as well, the voter will be placed on Inactive status.

(d) Voters on the Inactive list can be re-instated by updating their voter registration, appearing to vote, or requesting an absentee ballot. However, after two general (federal) elections from the date the final notice was sent, all Inactive voters who show no activity will be removed from the registration records and must register again in order to vote.

18. If I'm not currently registered, what is the registration deadline for an election?

The registration deadline is **29** days prior to any election.

19. Do the courts get prospective jurors' names from voter registration rolls?

The county courts obtain their prospective jurors' names from the Department of Motor Vehicles. Federal courts obtain their prospective jurors' names from the voter registration rolls.

20. I've never voted before. Will someone show me what to do?

Yes. Our Greeter/Voter Education Inspector will offer you a demonstration on how to mark your ballot when you arrive at the polling place. You can also see "How to Mark a Paper Ballot" on page 13.

21. If I'm physically impaired in some way, can I bring someone with me to help me vote?

Yes, you may, but you are not required to. If you need assistance, two of our poll workers from different political parties will assist you as needed. We also have one touch screen voting machine in each polling place capable of allowing most voters with disabilities to vote secretly and independently without any assistance. See "Assistance in Voting" on page 11.

22. What happens if I make a mistake on my ballot?

Tell the poll workers you have made a mistake, and you will be issued a new ballot in exchange for your "spoiled" ballot, which is sealed in an envelope and never opened. You may be issued up to, but no more than, three ballots.

23. What happens if I forget to bring my ID with me to the polls?

Even if your name is in the precinct register, the law requires you to vote a provisional ballot.

24. What is a provisional ballot?

A provisional ballot is a conditional ballot, the validity of which is determined by the canvassing board. A voter has until 5:00 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election to provide proof of eligibility, if necessary, for the canvassing board to validate a ballot.

25. What hours are the polls open?

The polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line by 7:00 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

26. Can I just turn my voted absentee ballot in at my polling place?

No, your voted absentee ballot must be turned in to one of our two offices (see FAQ #16).

27. Can I bring my children with me to the polling place?

Yes, you may bring your children with you; we ask only that they behave appropriately. We have sample ballots designed especially for children. Involving children helps to educate them on the importance of voting. However, children cannot handle the official ballot.

28. How do I find out where I need to go to vote?

Your Voter Information Card will include your precinct and polling information or you can go to our website and use the **Voter Lookup Tool** to find out where to vote on Election Day. If your precinct or polling location changes for any reason, we will send you a new Voter Information Card.

29. Can I change my political party at the polls?

Party changes cannot be made at the polls. Registration books close **29** days before a primary election, so party changes must be done prior to the book closing date in order to be in effect for that election.

30. Can I bring my marked sample ballot to the polls?

Yes, as long as you do not display it for others to see and do not leave it in the polling place. We encourage you to use the sample ballot.

31. Can I still vote if I've been convicted of a felony?

You can still vote after a felony conviction if your civil rights have been restored and you have re-registered.

32. How do I find out if my civil rights have been restored?

You may either call our office to ask for assistance, or you may visit the website of the Office of Executive Clemency at <https://www.fcor.state.fl.us/clemency.shtml> for information (website address is case-sensitive).

Military and Overseas Citizens

Registering and Voting Absentee

The federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and conforming state legislation cover active duty members of the U.S. uniformed services, the merchant marine, spouses and dependents of all, and U.S. citizens residing overseas. They may apply for voter registration and for absentee ballots with a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) which may be obtained from a Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) or at www.fvap.gov, the website of the Federal Voting Assistance Program. Absentee requests from these voters will be effective for all elections through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If the FPCA is not available, phone or send a written request by mail, fax, or email to the Supervisor of Elections and a voter registration application or absentee ballot will be sent to you however you want it sent (i.e., by mail, fax or email).

UOCAVA voters using the Florida Voter Registration Application form who indicate their status as part of the optional information will have the same privileges extended to them. Military voters residing within the county in which they wish to register should use the Florida Voter Registration Application and indicate their military status, so the Supervisor may flag the record and ensure their UOCAVA status when they move out of the county but wish to maintain voting residency.

UOCAVA voters may have absentee ballots faxed or emailed. Only overseas ballots (those with an APO, FPO or foreign address only, not Guam, American Samoa, etc.) can be returned by fax, but not by email, if the voter waives secrecy. Access to faxed ballots in the elections office is extremely restricted, and ballots are immediately placed in secrecy envelopes. Only the Voter's

Certificate, which must be signed and dated, is examined. You can track the status of your absentee ballot request and the ballot through the online ***Voter Lookup Tool*** at **www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com**.

We encourage all UOCAVA voters to include their email addresses on any forms or correspondence and to update them along with mailing addresses whenever they move. The most important thing to remember is to notify the Supervisor of Elections office of address changes so you don't jeopardize your active voter registration status. The most efficient way to notify us is by email to Paul Lux at plux@co.okaloosa.fl.us.

Additional information for UOCAVA voters is available online from the Overseas Vote Foundation. Visit **www.overseasvotefoundation.org** for a very helpful and informative site for overseas voters. Or contact the Federal Voting Assistance Program: toll-free 1-800-438-8683, fax 1-703-588-0108, and email vote@fvap.gov.

As a result of the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, voters can now check Voter Registration and Ballot status or submit registration changes, questions and absentee requests through our website **www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com** or through the state website **<http://registration.elections.myflorida.com>**.

Federal Write-In Ballots

If it is getting close to Election Day and you still have not received your absentee ballot, you can use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as an emergency back-up absentee ballot. In order to use it, you have to be a registered voter and have previously requested a regular absentee ballot. The FWAB can be used to vote for federal office races and for state and local races with two or more candidates. You cannot use it to vote for referendum issues or for judicial retention candidates. For more information or to complete a FWAB, visit **<https://okaloosa.overseasvotefoundation.org>** or **www.fvap.gov**.

State Write-In Ballot

State write-in absentee ballots shall be made available to voters 90 to 180 days prior to a general election. In the request, the voter must indicate that due to military or other contingencies that preclude normal mail delivery, the voter cannot vote a regular absentee ballot during the normal voting period. The ballot will contain only the races, and the voter must fill in the names of candidates OR write in the name of a political party, in which case all candidates of that party will be counted if they are in fact on the ballot.

Late Registration

An individual or accompanying family member who has been discharged or separated from the uniformed services or the United States Merchant Marine, has returned from a military deployment or activation, or has separated from employment outside the territorial limits of the United States, after the book closing date for an election and who is otherwise qualified may register to vote in such election at the Supervisor of Elections office until 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before that election. Such persons must produce sufficient documentation showing evidence of qualifying for the late registration pursuant to Section 97.0555 Florida Statutes.

Other Helpful Information

Assistance in Voting

- A voter can have his/her record marked to indicate assistance is required if permanent, and poll workers will provide assistance without delay.
- A voter may bring someone to assist him/her and fill out a Declaration to Secure Assistance form at the polls (anyone except employer, union official, or agent of either). Persons providing assistance must also complete a Declaration to Provide Assistance form.
- All polling places are accessible to voters with disabilities and poll workers are trained to assist you.
- Voters who require assistance should not hesitate to ask.

Poll Watchers

- Must be registered voters in the county; poll watchers cannot be candidates or law enforcement officers.
- Each political party and each candidate may have one poll watcher per precinct or early voting site at any given time, and all must follow Florida Statutes and Supervisor of Elections procedures.
- Applications must be in Supervisor of Elections office by noon of the second Tuesday preceding the start of early voting or the election.

Florida's Public Record Law

Voter registration records are public record and any person can examine or copy the records. However, the following registration information is confidential and exempt from public disclosure: Social Security number, Drivers License number, Florida ID number, location of voter's place of registration, and location of place of registration update. A voter's signature may be viewed but may not be copied. Residence addresses and birth dates can be protected for voters covered by 119.071 F.S. Total record protection is only provided for voters in the Address Confidentiality Program.

How to Report Election Law Violations

Report violations of either the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the Help America Vote Act of 2002, or any irregularities or fraud involving voter registration, voting, candidate or issue petitions, or removal procedures under the Florida Election Code in writing to the Division of Elections, Room 316, R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, phone 850-245-6200. Complaint forms are available on the Division of Elections website at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/forms/index.shtml>.

Report violations relating to campaign financing, candidates, committees, or other political activities under chapters 104 and 106, and section 105.071, Florida Statutes, by sworn written complaint to the Florida Elections Commission, Suite 224 Collins Building, 107 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, phone 850-922-4539. The Florida Elections Commission is not affiliated with the Department of State, Division of Elections.

All other violations should be reported to the local state attorney.

Interested in becoming a poll worker?

- Applications are available at the Supervisor of Elections office or online at www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com.
- Selection is based on qualifications to fulfill job description.
- Appointed after mandatory training classes, no less than six hours per election year
- Paid positions, with requirements



Voter Signature Updates

Has your signature changed from

this  to this  ?

Among all the information in your record that should be kept up to date, one of the most important is your signature. If you have been registered for many years and your signature style has changed, or if you have married, divorced, or become disabled or unable to write, please update your signature. (If you are caregiver to someone whose signature needs to be updated for any reason, please call the office for specific instructions.)

Signature updates should be done on a Florida Voter Registration Application. The application can be downloaded and printed from our website www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com. Be sure to mark the "Signature Update" block on the application and mail it back to either one of our offices.

- North: 302 Wilson St N, Suite 102, Crestview, FL 32536
- South: 1250 Eglin Pkwy, Suite 103, Shalimar, FL 32579

Touch Screen Voting Machines

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) required that all jurisdictions have one piece of equipment at each precinct so all voters with disabilities may vote in secret and without assistance. In Okaloosa County, one TSX touch screen, with audio component, is available in every voting site.

Only persons with disabilities have the option of voting on a touch screen machine which allows them to vote without assistance. *Rule 15-2.034*

The touch screen machine, featuring an audio component, was State-certified in March 2005. The machines have been successfully used in elections all over the country.

The Supervisor of Elections office staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that proper security procedures and policies have been established and followed. The voters of Okaloosa County can be confident in the continued accuracy and integrity of the elections process.

Okaloosa County Optical Scan Voting System

- Paper ballots are read by an Accu-Vote mark sense/optical scan system.
- Results are precinct-count based.
- To vote, completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice in each race.
- Mark your ballot as directed, such as "Vote for One."
- If race is marked to vote for more than one, for example "Vote for No More Than Three," you do not have to vote for that number, only up to that number, but no more.
- The Accu-Vote rejects an overvote, giving you an opportunity to correct or to process as you wish. Overvote means that a voter marks or designates more names than there are persons to be elected to an office or designates more than one answer to a ballot question.
- The Accu-Vote also rejects a completely blank ballot, unless that is your wish.
- You will be given any assistance you need by poll workers.
- If you make a mistake, you may be issued up to three ballots, but only one ballot will be counted.
- Redundant security measures and procedures protect the accuracy and integrity of all Okaloosa County elections.

How to Mark a Paper Ballot (Optical Scan)



2015-16 Elected Officials

Key: Name, (Party), Year on Ballot

FEDERAL

PRESIDENT

4-year term

Barack Obama (D) 2016

The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

202-456-1111

U.S. SENATE

6-year term

Marco Rubio (R) 2016

284 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510

202-224-3041

Bill Nelson (D) 2018

716 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510

202-224-5274

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2-year term

District 1 Jeff Miller (R) 2016

348 SW Miracle Strip Pkwy., Suite 24, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

850-664-1266

336 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515

202-225-4136

STATE

GOVERNOR Rick Scott (R) 2018

4-year term

LT. GOVERNOR Carlos Lopez-Cantera (R) 2018

ATTORNEY GENERAL Pam Bondi (R) 2018

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Jeff Atwater (R) 2018

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE Adam Putnam (R) 2018

The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399

850-717-9337

STATE SENATE

4-year term

District 1 Don Gaetz (R) 2016

4300 Legendary Dr., Suite 230, Destin, FL 32541

850-897-5747

420 Senate Office Bldg., 404 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399

850-487-5001

District 2 Greg Evers (R) 2018

209 E. Zaragoza St., Pensacola, FL 32502

850-595-0213

308 Senate Office Bldg., 404 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399

850-487-5002

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2-year term

District 3 Doug Broxson (R) 2016

Pensacola State College Milton Campus, 5988 Hwy. 90

Bldg. 4000, Room 4013, Milton, FL 32583

850-626-3113

405 House Office Bldg., 402 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399

850-717-5003

District 4 Matt Gaetz (R) 2016

1188 Eglin Pkwy., Shalimar, FL 32579

850-833-9328

317 The Capitol, 402 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399

850-717-5004

STATE ATTORNEY FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

4-year term

Bill Eddins (R) 2016

151 Cedar Ave., Crestview, FL 32536

850-689-5620

1-B 9th Ave., Shalimar, FL 32579

850-651-7260

PUBLIC DEFENDER FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

4-year term

Bruce A. Miller (R) 2016

302 Wilson St. N, Suite 301, Crestview, FL 32536

850-689-5580

1-A 9th Ave., Shalimar, FL 32579

850-651-7350

COUNTY

OKALOOSA COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

4-year term

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT JD Peacock II (R) 2016

101 E. James Lee Blvd., Room 210, Crestview, FL 32536

850-689-5000

SHERIFF Larry Ashley (R) 2016

50 2nd St., Shalimar, FL 32579

850-651-7410

PROPERTY APPRAISER Timothy "Pete" Smith (R) 2016

1250 Eglin Pkwy., Suite 201, Shalimar, FL 32579

850-651-7240

COUNTY CONTINUED

TAX COLLECTOR Ben Anderson (R) 2016
1250 Eglin Pkwy., Suite 101, Shalimar, FL 32579 850-651-7300

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS Paul Lux (R) 2016
302 Wilson St. N, Suite 102, Crestview, FL 32536 850-689-5600

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS Mary Beth Jackson (R) 2016
120 Lowery Pl., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548 850-833-3110

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**4-year term**

District 1 Wayne Harris (R) 2016

District 2 Carolyn Ketchel (R) 2018

District 3 Nathan Boyles (R) 2016

District 4 Trey Goodwin (R) 2018

District 5 Kelly Windes (R) 2016

302 Wilson St. N, Suite 302, Crestview, FL 32536

850-689-5030

1250 Eglin Pkwy., Suite 100, Shalimar, FL 32579

850-651-7105

County Commissioners are elected at large but must live in their districts. Districts 1, 3 and 5 are elected in Presidential years, and Districts 2 and 4 are elected in Gubernatorial years. The Commission meets twice monthly, usually on the first and third Tuesdays. Please call for confirmation.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**4-year term**

District 1 Lamar White 2018

District 2 Dewey Destin 2016

District 3 Rodney Walker 2018

District 4 Cathy Thigpen 2016

District 5 Melissa Thrush 2018

120 Lowery Pl., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

850-833-5895

School Board Members are elected at large but must live in their districts. Districts 1, 3 and 5 are elected in Gubernatorial years, and Districts 2 and 4 are elected in Presidential years. The School Board meets twice monthly, usually on the second and fourth Mondays. Please call for confirmation.

OKALOOSA COUNTY JUDGES**6-year term**

Group 1 Jim Ward 2016

Okaloosa County Courthouse

101 James Lee Blvd. E, Room #204, Crestview, FL 32536

850-689-4117

Group 2 T. Patterson Maney 2016

Okaloosa County Courthouse Annex Extension

1940 Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

850-651-7486

Group 3 Patricia S. Grinsted 2018

Okaloosa County Courthouse Annex Extension

1940 Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

850-609-4700

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF FLORIDA JUDGES**6-year term**

Group 3 Michael A. Flowers 2016

Group 15 Terrance R. Ketchel 2018

Okaloosa County Courthouse

101 James Lee Blvd. E, Crestview, FL 32536

850-609-4700

Group 1 Jay Gontarek 2018

Group 2 John T. Brown 2016

Group 13 Mary Polson 2018

Group 21 William F. Stone 2016

Okaloosa County Courthouse Annex Extension

1940 Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

850-609-4700

2015 OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION

Municipal Offices:

Cinco Bayou – Three Town Council Seats
Crestview – Mayor and two City Council Seats
Ft. Walton Beach – Five City Council Seats (one seat partial term)
Laurel Hill – Three City Council Seats
Shalimar – Mayor and two Town Commission Seats

2016 OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION

Federal Offices:

President & Vice President
U.S. Senator
U.S. House of Representatives District 1

State Offices:

State Attorney
Public Defender

Multicounty and District Offices:

State Senate District 1
State House of Representatives Districts 3 & 4

Judicial Retention (Nonpartisan):

Florida Supreme Court and First District Court of Appeal

Circuit and County Court Judges: (Nonpartisan)

First Judicial Circuit and Okaloosa County Judges

County Offices:

Clerk of Court, Sheriff, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector,
Superintendent of Schools and Supervisor of Elections
*Board of County Commissioners - Districts 1, 3 & 5
*School Board - Districts 2 & 4 (Nonpartisan)

Municipal Offices:

Cinco Bayou – Mayor and two Town Council Seats
Destin – Four City Council Seats
Mary Esther – Mayor and three City Council Seats
Valparaiso – Two City Commission Seats

*Elected at Large

2015-2016 ELECTION DATES

Municipal Election

Last day to register

March 10, 2015

February 9, 2015

Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Election

Last day to register or change party

March 15, 2016

February 16, 2016

Primary Election

Last day to register or change party

August 30, 2016

August 1, 2016

General Election

Last day to register

November 8, 2016

October 11, 2016

(Note: Early Voting schedule will be available at www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com)

Election Headquarters
302 Wilson Street N, Ste 102
Crestview, FL 32536
Phone: 850.689.5600
Fax: 850.689.5644



www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com

Branch Office
1250 Eglin Pkwy, Ste 103
Shalimar, FL 32579
Phone: 850.651.7272