

## **PRECINCT ORGANIZING PHONE BANK & CANVASSING**

The purpose of phone banking and canvassing is to identify Democrats, contact known Democrats, update your voter database, register new voters and increase voter turn-out on Election Day. The last activity is also known as GOTV – Get Out The Vote.

Our training today will focus on Voter ID – identifying voters who rarely vote, do not vote in the Democratic or Republican primaries, and/or only vote in the General Election. You will not know if these voters are Democrats until you talk to them.

### **VOTER DATABASE**

The starting point for your precinct organizing is a voter database and a precinct map.

Precinct Chairs can access their voter database online through Voter management. The Texas Democratic Party provides PCs with a sign-in and password for the database. The contact person is Jennifer Dean.

This Excel database can give you all the voters in your precinct, or you can sort it for only Democratic Primary voters, voters of a certain age or ethnicity, General Election voters only, etc. It provides a voting history for several elections and primaries. It can be sorted in alphabetical or walk order. Phone numbers are included for approximately 99% of the voters. Additional phone numbers can be looked up on the internet ([www.whitepages.com](http://www.whitepages.com)).

I suggest formatting your precinct list in walk order . . . alphabetically by street, with houses in numerical order. Addresses with no registered voters will not be on the list.

Additional formatting will have to be done to get the list in the form that is most efficient for your purposes.

Once you have downloaded your full voter database and you have started phoning and canvassing your selection of voters, this database can be updated to reflect deceased voters, voters who have moved out of the precinct, new registrations, name changes, etc.

### **PRECINCT MAP**

The Tarrant County Elections Administration can provide you with a map of your precinct. A MAPSCO is an important investment to help you canvass your precinct.

### **GETTING STARTED – PHONE BANK**

I suggest doing a phone-through of all voters who only vote in the General Election. You can reach more voters by phone, leave call-back messages, and will also find out which phone numbers are no longer working numbers or no longer belong to the listed voter. That will be the first step in cleaning up your voter list.

Volunteers who are helping you to make these phone calls need a simple “script” to follow and a basic code to use so that responses are marked consistently and clearly.

## VOTER ID PHONE SCRIPT

You will be calling voters who only vote in the General Election. We are calling them to find out which are Democrats, to update their contact information, and to find out if they are interested in getting politically active.

Use a pencil to mark the call list, use the appropriate codes, put your name and date(s) you called on the call list.

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Hello. May I speak to \_\_\_\_\_ (voter) \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I'm a volunteer with the Tarrant County Democratic Party. I am calling voters in this neighborhood to sign up volunteers for our Democratic candidates.

### ARE YOU A DEMOCRAT?

**NO – What party do you belong to? Thank you for your time. Good-bye.**

Check the appropriate box in the response column.

**YES – Great! It's good to find other Democrats nearby.**

- Are you interested in helping our Democratic candidates? There are lots of volunteer opportunities.

**NO** – If you can't help now I can call you back later when you have more time.

- Check appropriate response column.

**YES – Great! Candidates need people to make phone calls, prepare mailings, help with fundraising events, attend rallies, talk to voters, and so on. We are having an organizing meeting/volunteer meeting in our neighborhood on \_\_\_\_\_. I hope you can come.**

### UPDATE INFORMATION

We are also updating all the contact information for our Democrats.

Do you still live at \_\_\_\_\_?

Do you have a cell phone? \_\_\_\_\_

Email? \_\_\_\_\_

**Add this information to the call list.**

**Thanks for your help. I look forward to meeting you.**

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### Codes -

**D-R-G-I** - Democrat, Republican, Green, Independent - Write appropriate letter in column

**VOL**- Will volunteer - put a check mark (✓) in the column

**DEC**- Deceased - line thru voter's name, "DEC" next to name

**MOVED** - Moved, does not live at address - Line thru voter's name, "Moved" next to name

**DISC** - Disconnected, line thru phone, "DISC" next to phone

**W #** - -Wrong # - - - line thru phone, "W#" next to phone

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### LISTED VOTER NO LONGER LIVES AT ADDRESS -

Find out if the new resident is DEM or REP. If DEM, find out if they are registered. If so, advise them to update their registration. Add their name to the VOTER UPDATE form. If not registered, inform them how to get a voter registration card. OR visit them when you canvass.

After completing the phone canvass of your precinct, update the voter database, delete voters who have moved, are deceased, etc. You are now ready to do a WALK CANVASS.

## **PREPARING A WALK CANVASS**

With a cleaned-up voter list you are ready to do a WALK CANVASS. You will be working more efficiently since bad info has been removed from your database.

### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

You will need a map of your precinct and a Mapsco.  
Precinct list formatted for walking - streets in alphabetical order.  
Clipboards, pens, pencils, voter registration cards, info update form, Democratic t-shirts.  
Candidate literature.  
Flyer for follow-up meeting, contact info.

### **MAPPING THE PRECINCT**

Since the WALK LIST is in street order, volunteers can have pages for individual streets and cover the precinct efficiently, house-by-house.

Make photocopies of MAPSCO pages and highlight the streets to be covered.

You know your precinct better than anyone else. Choose areas that are more compact and heavily populated first. Choose areas that will tend to have more Democrats living in them because of Democratic Primary voting history of the area.

### **WALK PACKETS**

A Walk Packet is a manila envelope with a Mapsco page showing streets to be covered, the walk list for those streets, pencils, pens, voter registration cards, and a form for updating new information.

Other materials that can be included are flyers for future events with Precinct Chair contact information and candidate literature and/or bumperstickers and buttons.

### **CANVASS SCRIPT**

Volunteers who are walking door-door need a "script" that guides them in getting the required information and instructions on marking the voter list.

**DOOR-DOOR CANVASS SCRIPT**

You will be talking to voters who generally only vote in the General Election and identifying the Democrats in the group. You will also add new contact information for those Democrats and find out who is interested in getting active and volunteering for our Democratic candidates.

You will also register new voters and distribute campaign literature. Flyers can be distributed to invite Democrats to upcoming events and give them Precinct Chair contact information, etc.

Mark the WALK List with pencil only, use the appropriate codes. Write your name at the top of the page and the date the list was walked.

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Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I'm a Democrat and we're talking to other Democrats in the neighborhood today.

**ARE YOU A DEMOCRAT?**

- NO** - What political party do you belong to?
- Mark the appropriate response column
- **Thank you for your time. Good-bye.**

**YES - Great! It's nice to meet other Democrats.** We are trying to identify Democrats in the neighborhood so that we can work together to elect our Democratic candidates in November.

- Are you interested in volunteering for our candidates? - YES - Check VOL column
- Is your phone number still.....? Fix # if necessary.
- Do you have a cell phone? Email? - It makes it easier to communicate and send you information.  
    Add cell and email to voter list
- Here is some information about our candidates and a flyer about some upcoming activities we hope you can participate in.

Thanks for your time. I hope to see you soon.

**LISTED VOTER NO LONGER LIVES THERE**

Add new resident to the VOTER UPDATE list. Find out if the current resident is DEM or REP and mark appropriate column. If the new resident is a DEMOCRAT, have them fill out the voter registration form. If they are already registered, this will update their new address. Offer to mail the VR card for them. They will get a new voter certificate in 30 days or so.

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**CODES -**

- D-R-G-I**.....Democrat, republican, Green, Independent.....write INITIAL in column
  - VOL** - Check this column if voter will volunteer
  - DEC** - Deceased. "DEC" next to name, line thru name.
  - MOVED** - "Moved" next to name. Line thru name.
- =====

**HELLO, DEMOCRATS OF PRECINCT 4340**

Your Precinct Chair -  
Linda Sandoval Foley  
Cell 817-233-5140  
Home 817-237-9602  
lindasfoley@yahoo.com

**MEET OTHER DEMOCRATS IN YOUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD**

Saturday, June 5 at 1 p.m.  
Good Eats Restaurant  
100 Main St., Azle

Speaker - Terri Moore  
Candidate for District Attorney

Our Democratic candidates need your help. Check out  
the website of the Tarrant County Democratic Party  
and find out what is going on.

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