VOTING

FROM REGISTRATION TO RETURNS

REGISTERING TO VOTE

1) Complete a Voter Registration Application

2) NC Eligibility

- a) US Citizen
- b) resident of the county where you live for 30 days
- c) <u>18</u> or older
- d) not currently *incarcerated* or residing in a *mental institution*
- e) in North Carolina, ex-convicts can regain their voter eligibility by simply applying for voter registration

AT THE POLLING PLACE

1) Election Day is the first Tuesday after the first <u>Monday</u> in <u>November</u>

2) Your polling place is determined by your address

3) The polling place is designated as a <u>non-political</u> location

4) No <u>campaigning</u> can take place within several hundred feet of the polls

12th Amendment:

 separate ballots for president and vice president

15th Amendment:

 voting rights for former slaves (African American men)

17th Amendment:

 U.S. Senators are elected directly by the people rather than by state legislatures





19th Amendment:

gives women the right to vote (suffrage)

23rd Amendment:

 gives people in D.C. the right to vote for the president; D.C. received three electors

24th Amendment:

 bans poll taxes (forbids having to pay a tax to vote)





26th Amendment:

- lowers the voting age to 18
 - Passed in response to Vietnam War.

Election cycles (FYI! Do not need to know.)

Presidential cycle- 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020, 2024

Federal cycle (every two years on the even year) - '00, '02, '04, '06, '08, '10, '12, '14, '16, 18', '20

Municipal elections - 2007, 2011, 2015, 2019 (ex. Mayoral cycle of Cary)

VOTING

 <u>Secret Ballot</u> ensures that people do not feel intimidated about the candidates they are voting for

2) In North Carolina we use a <u>"bubble sheet"</u>

3) For those people who know they will not be able to get to their polling place on Election Day, they may fill out an <u>absentee ballot</u> in advance. It must be received before the prescribed date.

4) North Carolina also uses <u>"No Excuses Early Voting"</u> where people may vote early several scheduled days prior to Election Day

VOTING

2012 (L) FORSYTHE

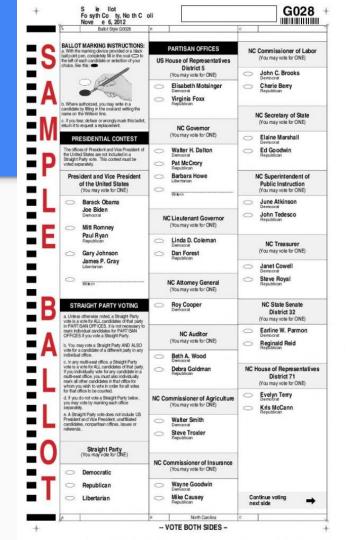
2008 (R) WAKE

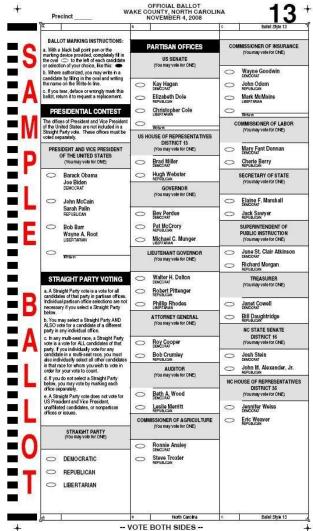
Can you find?

President?

Straight Party?

Patterns?





Types of Elections

- 1) Primary elections
 - a) Run-off
- 2) General elections
- 3) Voting on issues
 - a) **Proposition**
 - b) Referendum
- 4) Special elections
 - a) Recall

All elections are run at the state and local level - even for national offices

Partisan v nonpartisan elections

Some things that we vote for (by level)...

Federal

- President / Vice-President
- U.S. Senators
- U.S. House of Representatives

State

- Governor
- Lt. Gov.
- General Assembly (Sen/House)
- Council of State
- Judges (Superior Court judges *non-partisan* 1996-2018, now partisan again)

Local

- Mayor
- City Council
- County Commissioners
- Sheriff
- Board of Education

Issues

- Laws
- Taxes
- Amendments (constitutional)

EXIT POLLS

1) <u>Surveys</u> conducted by media organizations outside of the polling place

 <u>News networks</u> use these to try and predict the outcomes before the polls close to get <u>more viewers and</u> <u>higher ratings</u>

3) These are <u>unofficial</u> results

RETURNS

1) These are the <u>official</u> results of the election

2) Counted after each polling place closes

3) If an election is close, there is a mandatory recount

Statewide elections lesser of 0.5% or 10,000 votes

County elections less than 1.0%

GO VOTE!

GO VOTE! GO