

Vote Alachua Update

December 2023

From the Supervisor

As we approach the end of the year, we just wanted to recap all the exciting things our office has been doing!

Below you can read about <u>everything you need to know</u> for 2024 and you can learn about what we have been up to since the last edition!

Remember that throughout 2024 you may read and hear many things about voting and elections that may or may not be true.

The Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Office is the official trusted source of information regarding voting and elections in Alachua County.



Please reach out to us to verify if any information you have seen or heard is accurate.

Key Dates

First, it is important that you know about some key dates in 2024. There will be three countywide elections next year. The Election Days for each election, along with the registration deadlines, are below:

• Presidential Preference Primary: March 19, 2024

• Registration/Party Change Deadline: February 20, 2024

• Primary Election: August 20, 2024

• Registration/Party Change Deadline: July 22, 2024

• General Election: November 5, 2024

• Registration Deadline: October 7, 2024

Presidential Preference Primary

The first election of the year will be the Presidential Preference Primary, where only registered Republicans will vote for a Republican presidential candidate during the election. The Democratic Party only submitted one candidate, so there will be no Democratic Party Primary on the ballot.

Florida is a closed primary state, so your party affiliation will impact which candidates, if any, will appear on your ballot. You have until February 20, 2024 to update your party affiliation for the Presidential Preference Primary.

You can do so online at RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov or by completing an application at our office during our business hours, at a voter registration agency such as an Alachua County Library Branch, or by mailing a completed application to our office, located at 515 N. Main Street in Gainesville.

Vote-By-Mail Changes

Due to Senate Bill 90, all vote-by-mail ballot requests in Florida expired on December 31, 2022. Voters must make a new vote-by-mail ballot request for each election cycle.

This means that if you voted by mail last year and plan on voting by mail in 2024, you must make a new vote-by-mail ballot request.

You can renew your vote-by-mail ballot request right now by visiting the following link: https://www.votealachua.gov/Voters/Vote-by-Mail. You can also give us a call at 352-374-5252 during our normal business hours of Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot for the Presidential Preference Primary is March 7, 2024.

Early Voting

Remember, all registered Alachua County voters can vote at any early voting site during the early voting period. Hours for early voting are from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Early voting for the 2024 Election Cycle will take place on the following dates:

Presidential Preference Primary:

• March 8 - March 16

Statewide Primary Election:

August 5 - August 17

General Election

• October 21 - November 2

Signature Updates

Your signature on file with our office is very important. Your signature is used to compare to the signature on your vote-by-mail ballot and any candidate or initiative petition you sign.

Handwriting changes over time. If you believe your signature of record with our office no longer matches how you typically sign your name, <u>you should update your signature</u> <u>with our office.</u>

You can do so by completing a new voter registration application. Please follow this link to learn more about how to do so by-mail or in-person.

Redistricting/Reprecincting Changes

Last year my office, along with every other Supervisor of Elections Office in the state, used the new district maps at every level of government to make changes to our precinct boundaries. Additionally, the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners recently approved some additional changes to precinct boundaries.

We worked very hard to make changes for limited reasons, such as if the state's new legislative lines demanded changes or if moving precinct lines allowed us to reduce the need for multiple ballot styles within that precinct.

Due to these changes, it is possible your elected representatives or polling place may have changed. <u>All voters</u> will be notified prior to the next election if their polling place has changed.

Additionally, as is the case in every election cycle, some polling places will no longer be available to us next year. We will work hard to find alternatives that are convenient and accessible for Alachua County voters in their precinct boundaries

If you have any questions about your elected officials or your assigned precinct or polling place, please visit VoteAlachua.gov and click "My Registration Status" on the home page. Once you enter in your first name, last name, and date of birth, you will find your assigned polling place and precinct and you will have an option to see your office holders.

You can also give us a call at 352-374-5252 during our normal business hours of Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Serving as an Election Worker

Whether you have served as an election worker with us before or would like to assist us next year for the first time, if you are an Alachua County voter with reliable transportation that cares about your community, we would welcome you to our team!

If you are one of our returning election workers, give us a call during our business hours (352-374-5252) and let us know that you are interested in serving again next year, and for which elections you are available.

We hope you have a lovely rest of your holiday season, and can't wait to work with you in 2024.

Respectfully,

Kim A. Barton Supervisor of Elections

Alachua County



VOTEALACHUA.GOV

UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION

Keep your registration current with our office to avoid delays at the polls.

https://www.votealachua.gov/My-Registration-Status

Community Events

We want you to know that we have been busy appearing and presenting at events all around the county! Here are the places we visited in the two months:

- November 7: SIATech Charter MYcro School in Gainesville for a Voter Education Presentation
- November 9: Santa Fe College Disability Resource Center in Gainesville for a Voter Registration Agency training
- November 11: The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Multipurpose Center in Gainesville for the Veteran's Day Breakfast
- November 27: The Federal Courthouse in Gainesville for a Naturalization Ceremony
- December 2: Downtown Gainesville for the Very GNV Holiday Parade
- December 12: The Senior Recreation Center in Gainesville for tabling and presenting at the Community Coalition for Older Adults Quarterly Meeting
- December 13: The Federal Courthouse in Gainesville for a Naturalization Ceremony

Our Office Participates in the Inaugural "Very GNV" Holiday Parade







The Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Office participated in the "Very GNV" Holiday Parade on December 2!

We decorated two vehicles and had a wonderful time celebrating the holidays in downtown Gainesville.

As you can see in the topmost picture, even Grand Marshall of the parade and Gator legend Steve Spurrier wished Supervisor Barton glad tidings!

Supervisor Barton Attends Retirement Ceremony for Susan Crowley, Community Partner at the University of Florida



On December 1, Supervisor of Elections Kim A. Barton attended the retirement ceremony for Susan Crowley, Assistant Vice President for Community Relations at the University of Florida.

Ms. Crowley served as a tremendous partner to our office for many years. She was especially instrumental in ensuring Election Day polling places at UF and our Early Voting location at the Reitz Union operated smoothly and accessibly for voters.

Our office wishes her a wonderful and well-deserved retirement!

Working With and Learning from Other Election Teams in Ocala and at the FSE Winter Conference





On November 15, Supervisor Barton and members of the Vote Alachua Team, including Chief Deputy Supervisor Carl Delesdernier and Voter Services Coordinator Audrey Brown, went to Ocala for a Florida Supervisors of Elections District 4 Meeting.

Supervisors and staff shared great information and best practices regarding elections management and procedures.

In December, Supervisor Barton attended the Florida Supervisors of Elections (FSE) Winter Conference in Pensacola. In the bottom picture, she is standing with Sarasota County Supervisor of Elections and President of the FSE Ron Turner.

We always welcome opportunities to collaborate with other Elections Offices across the state.

Supervisor Barton was honored to table at the 2023 Veteran's Day Breakfast at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Multipurpose Center.

Our office is always committed to serving and honoring our veterans.



Voter Education at SiaTech Charter MYcro School





Our office was excited to visit the SiaTech MYcro School for the first time on November 7 to speak to students about the importance of voting and elections and preregister students to vote!

Director of Communications and Outreach Aaron Klein had a wonderful experience partnering with the Alachua County League of Women Voters and the Gainesville Chapter of The Links, Incorporated to put together a comprehensive presentation.



On November 7, Supervisor Barton stopped by Howard Bishop Middle Community Partnership School to participate in the inauguration of the school's Leadership Council!

Alachua County has a bright future because of these inspired young leaders!

Celebrating our Employees with a Holiday Employee Recognition Social

On December 15, our office celebrated another terrific year together with a Holiday Recognition Social.

We enjoyed some delicious food, exchanged gifts, played games, and enjoyed each other's company. Our office values opportunities to connect and celebrate together!









Join Us in Welcoming Mathew and Logan to the Vote Alachua Team





We are delighted to announce two new staff members joining the Vote Alachua Team

Logan Marcum, shown in the topmost photo, joins our office as an Elections Clerk. Logan is a first-generation college graduate with a B.A. in International Studies and M.S. of Microbiology from his alma mater, the University of Florida. He hopes to eventually become a primary care physician but is very much looking forward to serving and engaging with his community as a clerk for the Supervisor of Elections in a pivotal election cycle.

Mathew Medlock, shown in the middle photo, joins our office as an Elections Operations Clerk. Mathew was born and raised in the Greater Gainesville area and graduated with a bachelor's degree from UF in 2008. He says he looks forward to being a part of a team that works to protect one of the most fundamental rights we have: the right to vote.

Welcome, Logan and Mathew!

Recognizing Assistant
Supervisor of Elections Tim Williams



In November, Assistant Supervisor of Elections Tim Williams marked 30 years of service at the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections.

Our office came together on December 19 to recognize Tim's tremendous service and dedication to the citizens and voters of Alachua County.

Recognizing Elections Specialist Yvette Carreras



In November, Yvette Carreras marked 18 years with the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Office. Yvette, who works with election workers, candidates, poll watchers, and much more, is a crucial part of the Vote Alachua Team.

Thank you for your dedicated service to Alachua County's voters Yvette!

What Our Office is Focused On

Here are just a few projects our staff is currently focused on:

- Verifying Signatures on Candidate and Initiative Petitions
- Mailing reminders to voters about requesting vote-by-mail ballots for 2024
- Processing vote-by-mail Requests
- Staff trainings (TableTop Exercises, Signature Verification Trainings, and collaborating with other Elections Offices)

Assisting with Voter Registration Across the County

Election Reminders



We need you!

We are looking for dedicated, service-minded individuals to serve as election workers during the March Presidential Preference Primary, August Primary Election, and November General Election.

We are scheduling training classes for January, so contact us now!

You must be a U.S. citizen, a registered Alachua County voter, fluent in English and have reliable transportation to serve as an election worker.

If you are interested, please call us at 352-374-5252, or visit VoteAlachua.Gov

#VoteAlachua

Voting is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

You can:

- · Vote-By-Mail
- Early Vote
- · Vote In-Person on Election Day

Learn more at VoteAlachua.gov or by giving us a call at 352-374-5252



There are three convenient and secure options to cast your vote:

Vote-By-Mail to deliver your ballot to us through the mail or at a secure ballot intake station at one of our early voting locations.

Early Vote to cast your ballot at select locations ahead of Election Day when it is convenient for you.

Vote on Election Day to cast your ballot in-person at your assigned precinct.

Reach out to us or visit VoteAlachua.gov to learn more!

#VoteAlachua

Here is a Snapshot of Alachua County's Active Registered Voters by Party

Active Registered Voters 12/28/23

Democrats: 72,924
Republicans: 43,603
Others: 37,835
Total: 154,362



VoteAlachua.gov