

Newsletter on the Upcoming Primary Election

Early Voting Feb 18-21 | Election Day March 3

Dear Precinct #_____ Voters:

Voter Rights: Texas has upped its game when it comes to educating people about their rights at the polls. If you have questions, go to MyTexasVotes.org.

Applications for Absentee Ballot by Mail must be received at the Bexar County Elections Department for the primary election by February 21, so to be safe, you should drop your application in the mail by February 15th. You can download an application (in English or Spanish) to vote by mail by going to the home page of www.alamovotesblue.org. Text or Call me at phone number _____ if you need a paper application.

Sample Ballot for Primary Election - You can download and print the ballot for your precinct at the bexardemocrat.org website:

- Click on the Bexar County Sample Ballot picture.
- On the next screen enter your address.
- Scroll down and click on the Sample Ballot. (hint: your printer setting should be on the “fit page” setting to be sure the ballot fits on one page).

This is a SAMPLE ballot for you to preview. You will be given an official ballot at the Vote Center.

New Voting Machines: Bexar Elections is expecting a large turn-out. For the voters who have not used the new voting system, these are the major steps:

- Check-in (show voter ID)
- State your political party to the election clerk.
- Sign your name on the Affidavit.
- The clerk will give you a blank ballot form with your precinct number at the top.
- Check the back of your ballot and confirm that your ballot has been signed or stamped by an Election Official or Election Judge. If your ballot has no signature, initials or stamp on the back, return it to the clerk immediately and request a signed ballot.
- Go to the voting machine, (also called the Express Vote Terminal) and insert your blank ballot form.
- Use the touch screen to make your ballot choices.
- Be sure to go all the way to the end of the ballot. We can no longer vote a straight party ticket.
- The machine will ask if you want to review your choices. Choose YES to be sure that the machine entered the correct selections. If the review does not match what you entered, ask someone working at the voting center to help you.
- When you are satisfied with your ballot, choose PRINT on the touch screen.
- The voting machine will spit out your ballot with your choices printed on it. You haven't voted yet.
- Deposit your ballot in the DS200 (vote tabulator), which should be near the exit. Do not take the ballot with you.
- Now you have VOTED!

If you need help voting in person: Individuals who are unable to stand in a long waiting line due to a medical condition will be advanced to the front of the waiting line, along with their assistant (as necessary). (For more detail, go to: Bexar Elections Notice of Voting Priority at <https://www.bexar.org/DocumentCenter/View/13523/Notice-of-Voting-Order-Priority>)

Vote for every race, please: The ballot is long, and every candidate deserves your vote, so please don't stop before reaching the end of the ballot. We no longer have straight ticket voting.

The last entry on most ballots is for Bexar County Democratic Party Chair. Monica Alcantara, the current Bexar County Chair was endorsed by the North East Bexar County Democrats, the largest Democratic organization in San Antonio.

The San Antonio Express News Elections 2020 reviews and makes recommendations about candidates all the way down the ballot at https://www.expressnews.com/election_2020/primaries-voter-guide/. If you are unfamiliar with a candidate or an office, the Express News can be a source of objective information.

Volunteer to be a Poll Monitor: The Texas Civil Rights Project has 2 divisions: Litigation and Voter Protection. The Voter Protection group trains poll monitors to help people solve problems that may come up when they try to vote. Poll Monitors have immediate access to a team of local lawyers who will step in to resolve the problems that are reported to them. Training requires 1.5 hours of in-person training or you can take a Webinar class. If you make a commitment to work at a Vote Center for a few hours, you get a great bright yellow election monitor T-shirt. Please consider this small step of activism at: [TexasVoterProtection.org](https://www.texasvoterprotection.org)

Thank you for being a voter and participating in our democracy. As your precinct chair, I am available to assist you in any way possible.

Sincerely,



Precinct Chair
Precinct# _____
Text or email _____