

# Voting Rights and Registration Basics

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# Agenda

- ▶ Disability Law Colorado Overview
- ▶ Your Rights
- ▶ Registration Requirements
- ▶ Voting
- ▶ Voter Identification Requirements
- ▶ Scenarios
- ▶ Complaints

# Disability Law Colorado

- ▶ Protects and promotes the rights of people with disabilities:
- ▶ Legal Representation
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Investigation
- ▶ Education



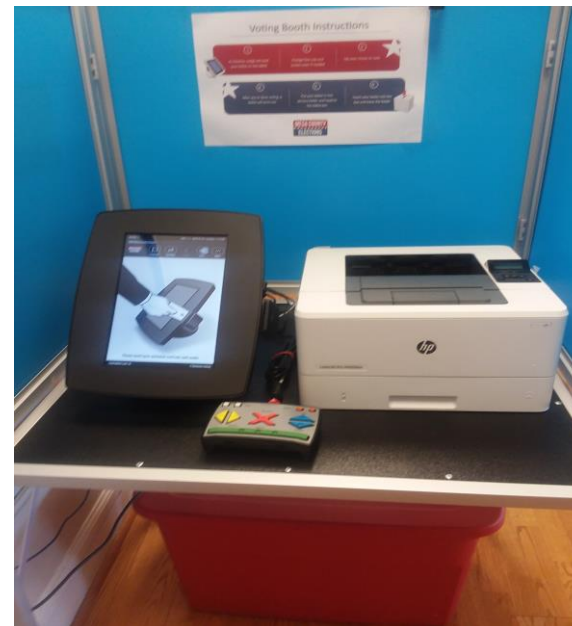
# Election Laws that Protect People with Disabilities

- ▶ Voting Rights Act 1965
- ▶ Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act 1984
- ▶ Americans with Disabilities Act 1990
- ▶ National Voter Registration Act 1993
- ▶ Help America Vote Act (“HAVA”) 2002
- ▶ Colorado’s Election Law 2013 Title 1 C.R.S.



# Definitions

- ▶ Ballot
  - ▶ Paper
  - ▶ Online
  - ▶ Accessible voting machine
- ▶ Voting Service and Polling Center
- ▶ Mail Ballot Drop Box
- ▶ Registering to Vote
- ▶ Voting



## Your Rights Under The Law

- ▶ You have the right to vote if you have a guardian
- ▶ You have the right to vote if you have diminished mental capacity due to age
- ▶ You have the right to vote if you have an intellectual and/or developmental disability
- ▶ You have the right to vote independently and privately
- ▶ You have the right to mark your ballot with a mark or by using a stamp

Signature Rubber Stamp

© addressstamp.com

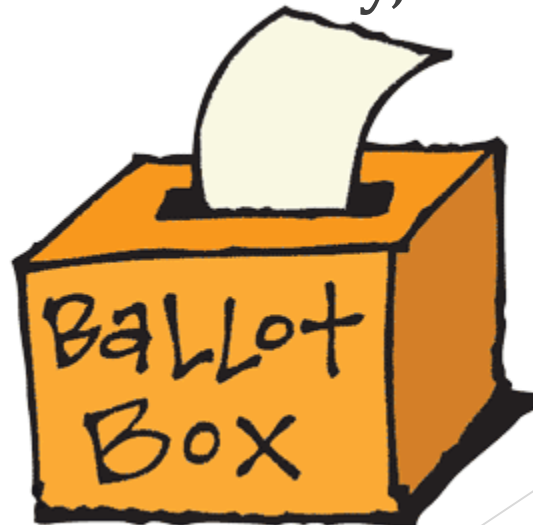


Kathryn M. Watke



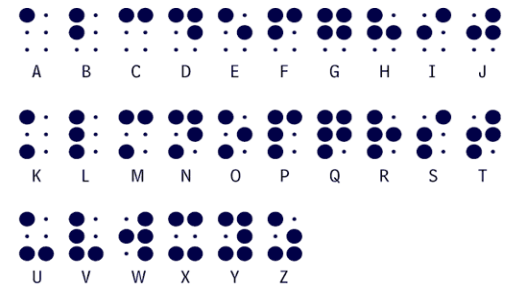
## Your Rights Under The Law

- ▶ You have the right to have any person you choose help you vote
- ▶ You have the right to have a poll worker help you if you didn't bring anyone with you
- ▶ You have the right to vote 2 weeks in advance of election day, **November 3**



# Your Rights Under The Law

- ▶ Each voting and service polling center (“VSPC”) must have an accessible voting machine
- ▶ All VSPC’s must be physically accessible under ADA standards
- ▶ Registration forms, ballots, and other materials must be made available in alternate formats that are accessible
- ▶ **NEW RULE!** If a voter with a disability needs to use online assistive technology, there is an online ballot delivery system





## Registration

- ▶ You must be a resident of Colorado for 22 days prior to the election
- ▶ You can register to vote up until and on election day
- ▶ If you register by mail or online, you must do so 8 days prior to the election in order to receive a mail ballot
- ▶ You can pre-register at 16 years old



# Registration

- ▶ Register online - Govotecolorado.com
- ▶ PDF Form Printed from govotecolorado.com – mail, fax or email form to clerk
- ▶ Department of Motor Vehicles
- ▶ A state agency that provides public assistance
- ▶ Voting Service and Polling Center
- ▶ Voter Registration Drive

**Colorado Voter Registration Form** Fill out all fields marked with an asterisk (\*)

**Eligibility** 1 Are you a citizen of the United States?  Yes  No **If you answered "No", do not complete this form.**

**Name** 2 \*Last Name First Name Middle Name Suffix

**Identification** 3  I have a valid CO Driver's License or ID card and that number is: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I do not have a CO Driver's License or ID card but the last 4 digits of my Social Security Number are:  X  X  X  X  
 I do not have a Colorado Driver's License, ID card, or a Social Security Number.

**The address where you live** 4 \*Address (no P.O. boxes) Unit Number \*City or Town  
 CO State \*Zip Code Colorado County \*When did you move to this address?

**The address where you receive mail** 5  Same as above Address  
 City or Town State Zip Code

**The address to mail your ballot** 6  Same as above Address  
 City or Town State Zip Code

**Political party** 7 Select one:  American Constitution  Green  Republican  Unaffiliated  
 Democratic  Libertarian  Unity

**Updating a current record?** 8 Previous home address Previous legal name  
 Previous mailing address Previous party affiliation  
 I am no longer overseas  I am no longer absent from Colorado due to military service

**Warning:** A violation of the self-affirmation you are about to make is a criminal act under the laws of this state and will subject you to the penalties provided by law. It is a Class 1 misdemeanor to swear or affirm falsely as to your qualifications to vote.  
 I am aware that if I register to vote in Colorado I am also considered a resident of Colorado for motor vehicle registration and operation purposes and for income tax purposes.  
**Self-Affirmation:** I affirm that I am a citizen of the United States; I have been a resident of the state of Colorado for at least twenty days immediately prior to an election in which I intend to vote, and I am at least sixteen years old and understand that I must be eighteen years old to be eligible to vote. Further, I affirm that my present address as stated herein is my sole legal place of residence, that I claim no other place as my legal residence, and that I understand that I am committing a felony if I knowingly give false information regarding my place of present residence. I certify under penalty of perjury that I meet the registration qualifications that the information I have provided on this application is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I have not, nor will, cast more than one ballot in any election.

**Declaration** 9 \*Signature or mark \*Date Witness Signature Date  
 If you are unable to sign, you must make a mark and have the mark witnessed by another person.

**Optional information** 10 Phone number with area code Gender  I would like to be an election judge  
 I want to receive election information by email. (You will not receive a ballot by email.) Email address

Secretary of State Approved 01-08-16 **Form 100** (Article 2, Title 1, CRS)

# Voting

- ▶ You can vote by mail, in-person at a VSPC, or an accessible electronic ballot up to **two weeks** prior to election day
- ▶ ALL registered voters receive a mail ballot at least 8 days prior to the election
- ▶ Mail Ballots can be dropped at a dropbox or mailed through the US Postal Service or returned to a VSPC



# Voter Identification

- ▶ All voters who vote at the polls must provide identification
- ▶ You are not required to have a Colorado driver's license in order to vote or a photo ID, but you must have an acceptable form of identification




## Acceptable Forms of Identification

- ▶ Colorado Driver's License
- ▶ ID card issued by the Department of Revenue
- ▶ U.S. Passport
- ▶ Employee ID card with photo issued by U.S. government, state, municipality or other political subdivision of the state
- ▶ Pilot's license (no photo)
- ▶ U.S. Military Card with photo
- ▶ ID from Tribal Government

# Acceptable Forms of Identification

- ▶ Current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with name and address of elector
  - ▶ Any form of identification listed above that shows your address must show a Colorado address to qualify as an acceptable form of identification
- ▶ Medicaid or Medicare card
- ▶ U.S. Birth Certificate
- ▶ Documentation of Naturalization
- ▶ Student ID with photo


 Mailed on Sep 10 2007  
 Sep 24 2007  
 PAYMENT DUE DATE

U25-11111-11-1 1111 TEST PL  
 ACCOUNT NUMBER SERVICE ADDRESS

CITIZEN  
 1111 TEST PL  
 SAN DIEGO CA 92102-3742

RETURN THIS PORTION  
 MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO CITY TREASURER

2511111111 0000116749 \$116.74  
 TOTAL AMOUNT DUE

ACCOUNT NO.	U25-11111-11-1	CITIZEN	Meter Size	16.74			
SERVICE ADDRESS	1111 TEST PL		PAYMENT DUE DATE	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			
TYPE OF SERVICE	METER	SERVICE PERIOD FROM TO	DAYS	METER READING PREVIOUS CURRENT	USAGE HCF	AMOUNT	CODE
Water Base Fee		08-03 09-04	32			15.18	
Water Used		08-03 09-04	32	2823 2845	22	55.26	E
				7 HCF @ \$2.2620 =	\$15.83		
				7 HCF @ \$2.4610 =	\$17.23		
				8 HCF @ \$2.7750 =	\$22.20		
Sewer Base Fee		08-03 09-04	32			2.31	
Sewer Svc Chrg		08-03 09-04	32			4.11	
Storm Drain Fee						0.95	
						117.81	
						1.07CR	
PREV. BALANCE						1.07CR	
						TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$116.74

## Acceptable Forms of Identification

- ▶ Verification that a voter is a resident of a group residential facility, as defined in section
- ▶ Verification that a voter is a person committed to the department of human services and confined and eligible to register and vote shall be considered sufficient identification of such person for the purposes of section
- ▶ Written correspondence from the county sheriff or his or her designee to the county clerk indicating that a voter is confined in a county jail or detention facility.



# Scenarios



- ▶ This is John, he has developmental disabilities and has a guardian.
- ▶ Can he vote?
- ▶ YES, People with guardians are entitled to Independently cast ballots.



# Scenarios



- ▶ This is Jane, she is blind and cannot read the mail ballot.
- ▶ Can she vote?
- ▶ YES, Jane is entitled to a mail ballot that will enable her to vote independently, an online ballot, or she can vote at a VSPC where there is an accessible machine, enabling Jane to vote privately and vote independently.

## Disability Related Complaints

- ▶ Architectural and Physical Barriers
- ▶ Inaccessible Voting Machines
  - ▶ Lack of space for mobility
  - ▶ Pathway is blocked
- ▶ Voting Machines Not In Operation
- ▶ Lack of Knowledge and Testing
- ▶ Discriminatory Attitudes
- ▶ Privacy Violations
  - ▶ Hovering election worker
  - ▶ Machine facing the public



# My Rights Were Violated!

## What do I do?

Contact Disability Law Colorado for direct advocacy in filing a disability related complaint with the Secretary of State's Office or with the Department of Justice



## Resources

- ▶ Election Assistance Commission [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)
- ▶ National Institute of Standards and Technology [www.nist.gov](http://www.nist.gov)
- ▶ National Federation of the Blind [www.nfb.org](http://www.nfb.org)
- ▶ [Justvotecolorado.org](http://Justvotecolorado.org) – VSPC and Mail Ballot Drop Box locations
- ▶ [Govotecolorado.com](http://Govotecolorado.com) – register to vote online
- ▶ Accessible Online Ballot - [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us)
- ▶ Working for you election office - contact your county clerk

## Remember To Cast Your Vote!

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