

NEWS RELEASE:

Early voting by personal appearance for the Primary Election to be held March 1, 2016 will begin on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 and continue through Friday, February 26, 2016. Voting will be conducted at Elections and Voter Registration Building located at 602 East Concho, Rockport, Texas (corner of Concho and Ann Streets).

HOURS OF EARLY VOTING

Monday, February 15	CLOSED/CERRADO	Sunday, February 21	CLOSED/CERRADO
Tuesday, February 16	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Monday, February 22	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 17	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday, February 23	7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 18	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Wednesday, February 24	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday, February 19	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Thursday, February 25	7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 20	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Friday, February 26	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Any qualified voter is eligible to vote early by personal appearance.

Qualified voters who are eligible to vote early by mail include voters 65 years of age or older, disabled voters, voters confined in jail, and voters who expect to be absent from the county of their residence on election day and during the regular hours for conducting early voting. Applications for ballots by mail through February 19, 2016. **(NOTE - NEW LAW: House Bill 1927 (2015), amended Section 84.007 to eliminate the "first date" that a regular application for ballot by mail may be submitted to the early voting clerk. Under the new law, the application may be submitted "at any time in the year of the election for which a ballot is requested" as long as it is submitted by the deadline for that election. Therefore, as the effective date of House Bill 1927 is September 1, 2015, any regular application may be received on or after this date for the March 1, 2016 Primary Election.)** No applications may be accepted after this deadline. After early voting has started, an application for a ballot by mail cannot be "hand delivered"; it must be mailed. Only the voter may hand deliver his/her application before early voting begins.

Voter registration and ballot by mail inquiries and/or assistance is available by calling (361) 729-7431. Additionally, applications are available on the State's website at www.votetexas.gov.

NOTE: In 2011, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 14 (SB14) creating a new requirement for voters to show photo identification when voting in person. While pending review within the judicial system, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which effectively ended all pending litigation. As a result, voters are now required to present an approved form of photo identification in order to vote in all Texas Elections. This requirement is effective immediately. Below is a list of the acceptable forms of photo ID:

- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- United States military identification card containing the person's photograph
- United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph
- United States passport
- Texas Open and Carry license issued by DPS