

Town of Brandon Policy on Politicking at the Polling Place

References: 17 VSA §2505, 17 VSA §2508, 17 VSA §2572, 17 VSA §2581

Vermont law prohibits politicking within the building containing the polling place.

- Voters must remove campaign buttons, hats, and other paraphernalia before coming in to vote. Coats should be kept on if a person is wearing a campaign shirt.
- All conversations about candidates should be kept outside of the polling place.
- Individual voters may bring in brochures and written campaign materials for their own use, but these may not be shown to others or left in the voting booth or polling place.
- Exit polling is considered politicking and must remain outside of the polling place.

Vermont law permits the presiding officer to designate an area outside of the polling place where candidates, supporters and pollsters can stand, offer information, conduct polls, and/or hold signs.

- **The voter's progress into and out of the polling place may not be blocked.**
- Candidates, supporters and pollsters may stand on the public sidewalk across from the polling place or on the stairs of the Town Hall and not be on or block entry to the polling place walkway.
- No unattended signs are permitted at or near the polling place.
- Vehicles with campaign signs may only park near the polling place for the average amount of time it would take someone to vote.

Poll watchers are permitted inside the polling place and must remain in the observation area designated by the presiding officer. They must not interrupt the election officials or the election process. No speaking to the voters. No cellphones or pagers are permitted.

Adopted by the Board of Civil Authority on February 12, 2019