

Beta Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Promotes Voter Registration



By Jeanne Spencer

(AUSTIN, TX) - Members of the Beta Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. are taking an active role in their community by serving as Volunteer Deputized Registrants (VDRs). Their work ensures that local residents have the opportunity to register to vote and participate in upcoming elections. By facilitating voter registration at community events and local drives, they are empowering individuals, particularly in underserved areas, to engage in the democratic process.

The chapter's efforts highlight the importance of voter registration in making elections accessible and ensuring every voice is heard. Their dedication to this civic duty reflects Alpha Kappa Alpha's long-standing commitment to social justice and community uplift. Through their work, under the stellar leadership of RoShana Adamson, President, Beta Psi Omega, Social Action Chairmen Darlene Owens and Lois Poe-Porter, and members are not only fulfilling a necessary civic responsibility but also helping shape the future of their community by increasing voter participation.

Travis County Commissioners Court, County Clerk Honor Election Workers Ahead of Historic Election



Pictured are Travis County Clerk Dyana Limon-Mercado (center in green) surrounded by election workers and the Travis County Commissioners Court. Photo ©Office of the County Clerk

TRAVIS COUNTY – Earlier this week, Travis County honored the continuous efforts, dedication, and hard work of our election workers. Over 100 election workers, elected officials, and county staff showed up to celebrate the guardians who protect democracy every day in big and small ways.

Travis County Judge Andy Brown presented a proclamation in Commissioners Court, declaring September 17, 2024, Election Worker Appreciation Day. "It's important to acknowledge the dedicated election workers who safeguard our democracy ahead of the November 5 election. Their commitment to elections in the face of intense scrutiny and pressure ensures our voices are heard and our choices matter. I'm thankful for their ongoing dedication to the democratic process."

Travis County Clerk Dyana Limon-Mercado expressed her gratitude for the workers that make each election possible. "Our team members serve in a variety of roles, from programming and testing ballots to staffing poll sites, securing locations, training workers, maintaining equipment, processing ballots, registering voters, and providing excellent customer service. Their dedication, whether early mornings, late nights, rain, or pandemic, is what brings the election to life."

"I'm thankful to the community for showing appreciation for those who make democracy work for everyone."

Election workers provide voters with an easy and smooth voting experience, despite constant changes and hurdles, including long hours, extreme weather, a pandemic, and changes from the Secretary of State and state legislature. Travis County election workers come from all backgrounds, political affiliations, and corners of Travis County.

Miguel Valls and his wife Sylvia Valls have been poll workers since retiring in 2016. "We were looking for a way to give back to our community and

wanted to work somewhere with a well-defined mission and a close-knit group of people. We come back each election because we enjoy helping, and as voters ourselves, we're invested in ensuring the process runs smoothly."

Cinnamon Babbitt started as a temporary election worker seven years ago and has been a full-time election worker for more than three years. "I started seasonal work for Travis County Elections in the 2017 November election doing on-site Tech Support. I found the work interesting, challenging, and dynamic, but what kept me coming back was the fulfillment from community engagement. I worked as a seasonal employee Sites Lead during COVID in 2020, and what I experienced then left a big impression on me to this day. I witnessed an entire County coming together to make democracy happen under the most difficult and unprecedented circumstances. I'm now a proud Elections full-time employee in the Sites Department. The November 5 election will be my second Presidential cycle and I'm happy to see us through it again."

This year, our Travis County Clerk team has conducted four elections, with the fifth coming up on November 5, and a possible sixth in December. The November 5 election will require more than 1,000 workers to ensure adequate coverage. Anyone interested in being a poll worker can apply on VoteTravis.com or

emailerecruiting@traviscountytexas.gov. These are paid positions starting at \$20 an hour.

In addition to County Clerk Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Judge Andy Brown, Commissioners Jeff Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard and Margaret Gomez, event attendees also included Sheriff Sally Hernandez, District Clerk Velva Price, Judge Mary Ann Espiritu, Constable George Morales, Austin City Council Members Ryan Alter and Vanessa Fuentes.

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 Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
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