

## CHAPTER 204C

### ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES

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#### 204C.06 CONDUCT IN AND NEAR POLLING PLACES.

**Subdivision 1. Linger near polling place.** An individual shall be allowed to go to and from the polling place for the purpose of voting without unlawful interference. No one except an election official or an individual who is waiting to register or to vote shall congregate in any number or stand within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place.

*[For text of subds 2 to 7, see M.S.1988]*

**History:** 1989 c 291 art 1 s 12

#### 204C.31 CANVASSING BOARDS; MEMBERSHIP.

*[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1988]*

**Subd. 3. Duties of canvassing boards.** The returns from every election held in this state must be reported to a legally constituted canvassing board. The duties of each canvassing board are limited to those duties specified in sections 204C.32 to 204C.39.

**History:** 1989 c 291 art 1 s 13

#### 204C.35 LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL RACES.

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1988]*

**Subd. 2. Optional recount.** A losing candidate for nomination or election to a legislative office or to a district, county, or county municipal court judicial office may request a recount in a manner provided in this section at the candidate's own expense when the vote difference is greater than the difference required by this section. The votes shall be recounted as provided in this section if the candidate files a request during the time for filing notice of contest of the primary or election for which a recount is sought. The requesting candidate shall file with the filing officer a bond, cash, or surety in an amount set by the filing officer for the payment of the recount expenses. The requesting candidate is responsible for the following expenses: the compensation of the secretary of state, or designees, and any election judge, municipal clerk, county auditor, administrator, or other personnel who participate in the recount; the costs of computer operation, preparation of ballot counting equipment, necessary supplies and travel related to the recount; the compensation of the appropriate canvassing board and costs of preparing for the canvass of recount results; and any attorney fees incurred in connection with the recount by the governing body responsible for the recount.

**History:** 1989 c 291 art 1 s 14

#### 204C.36 RECOUNTS IN COUNTY, SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

**Subdivision 1. Required recounts.** A losing candidate for nomination or election to a county, municipal, or school district office may request a recount of the votes cast for the nomination or election to that office if the difference between the vote cast for that candidate and for a winning candidate for nomination or election is:

(a) Five votes or less when the total vote cast for nomination or election to that office is 100 votes or less;

(b) Ten votes or less when the total vote cast for nomination or election to that office is more than 100 but not more than 500 votes;

(c) Twenty votes or less when the total vote cast for nomination or election to that office is more than 500 but not more than 2,000 votes;

(d) One percent of the votes or less when the total vote cast for nomination or election to that office is more than 2,000 but less than 10,000 votes; or

(e) One hundred votes or less when the total vote cast for nomination or election to that office is 10,000 votes or more.

Candidates for county offices shall file a written request for the recount with the county auditor. Candidates for municipal or school district offices shall file a written request with the municipal or school district clerk as appropriate. All requests shall be filed during the time for notice of contest of the primary or election for which a recount is sought.

Upon receipt of a request made pursuant to this section, the county auditor shall recount the votes for a county office at the expense of the county, the governing body of the municipality shall recount the votes for a municipal office at the expense of the municipality, and the school board of the school district shall recount the votes for a school district office at the expense of the school district.

**Subd. 2. Discretionary candidate recounts.** A losing candidate for nomination or election to a county, municipal, or school district office may request a recount in the manner provided in this section at the candidate's own expense when the vote difference is greater than the difference required by subdivision 1, clauses (a) to (e). The votes shall be recounted as provided in this section if the requesting candidate files with the county auditor, municipal clerk, or school district clerk a bond, cash, or surety in an amount set by the governing body of the jurisdiction or the school board of the school district for the payment of the recount expenses.

**Subd. 3. Discretionary ballot question recounts.** A recount may be conducted for a ballot question when the difference between the votes for and the votes against the question is less than or equal to the difference provided in subdivision 1, clauses (a) to (e). A recount may be requested by any person eligible to vote on the ballot question. A written request for a recount must be filed with the filing officer of the county, municipality, or school district placing the question on the ballot and must be accompanied by a petition containing the signatures of 25 voters eligible to vote on the question. If the difference between the votes for and the votes against the question is greater than the difference provided in subdivision 1, clauses (a) to (e), the person requesting the recount shall also file with the filing officer of the county, municipality, or school district a bond, cash, or surety in an amount set by the appropriate governing body for the payment of recount expenses. The written request, petition, and any bond, cash, or surety required must be filed during the time for notice of contest for the election for which the recount is requested.

**Subd. 4. Expenses.** In the case of a question, a person, or a candidate requesting a discretionary recount, is responsible for the following expenses: the compensation of the secretary of state, or designees, and any election judge, municipal clerk, county auditor, administrator, or other personnel who participate in the recount; the costs of computer operation, preparation of ballot counting equipment, necessary supplies and travel related to the recount; the compensation of the appropriate canvassing board and costs of preparing for the canvass of recount results; and any attorney fees incurred in connection with the recount by the governing body responsible for the recount.

**Subd. 5. Notice of contest.** Time for notice of contest of a nomination or election to a county office which is recounted pursuant to this section shall begin to run upon certification of the results of the recount by the county canvassing board. Time for notice of contest of a nomination or election to a municipal office which is recounted pursuant to this section shall begin to run upon certification of the results by the governing body of the municipality. Time for notice of contest of a school district election that is recounted under this subdivision begins to run on certification of the results of the recount by the school board.

**History:** 1989 c 291 art 1 s 15

## **204C.361 RULES FOR RECOUNTS.**

The secretary of state shall adopt rules according to the Administrative Procedures Act establishing uniform recount procedures. All recounts provided for by sections 204C.35, 204C.36, and 206.57, subdivision 1, shall be conducted in accordance with these rules.

**History:** 1989 c 291 art 1 s 16