



CHAPTER 163
ARTICLE 5 - PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS

N.C.G.S. § 163-42.

Assistants at polls; appointment; term of office; qualifications; oath of office.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b) — seventeenth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:14 UTC	f66de26c0e6337288e05e5df - 35f929a42837526a8880d136 - e245ebaf26bfa62b

§ 163-42(a) Each county board of elections is authorized, in its discretion, to appoint two or more assistants for each precinct to aid the chief judge and judges. Not more than two assistants shall be appointed in precincts having 500 or less registered voters. Assistants shall be qualified voters of the county in which the precinct is located. When the board of elections determines that assistants are needed in a precinct an equal number shall be appointed from different political parties, unless the requirement as to party affiliation cannot be met because of an insufficient number of voters of different political parties within the county.

In the discretion of the county board of elections, a precinct assistant may serve less than the full day prescribed for chief judges and judges in G.S. 163-47(a).

§ 163-42(b) The chairman of each political party in the county shall have the right to recommend from three to 10 registered voters in each precinct for appointment as precinct assistants in that precinct. If the recommendations are received by it no later than the thirtieth day prior to the primary or election, the board shall make appointments of the precinct assistants for each precinct from the names thus recommended. If the recommendations of the party chairs for precinct assistant in a precinct are insufficient, the county board of elections by unanimous vote of all of its members may name to serve as precinct assistant in that precinct registered voters in that precinct who were not recommended by the party chairs. If, after diligently seeking to fill the positions with registered voters of the precinct, the county board still has an insufficient number of precinct assistants for the precinct, the county board by unanimous

vote of all of its members may appoint to the positions registered voters in other precincts in the same county who meet the qualifications other than residence to be precinct officials in the precinct. In making its appointments, the county board shall assure, wherever possible, that no precinct has precinct officials all of whom are registered with the same party. In no instance shall the county board appoint nonresidents of the precinct to a majority of the positions as precinct assistant in a precinct.

§ 163-42(c)

In addition, a county board of elections by unanimous vote of all of its members may appoint any registered voter in the county as emergency election-day assistant, as long as that voter is otherwise qualified to be a precinct official. The State Board of Elections shall determine for each election the number of emergency election-day assistants each county may have, based on population, expected turnout, and complexity of election duties. The county board by unanimous vote of all of its members may assign emergency election-day assistants on the day of the election to any precinct in the county where the number of precinct officials is insufficient because of an emergency occurring within 48 hours of the opening of the polls that prevents an appointed precinct official from serving. A person appointed to serve as emergency election-day assistant shall be trained and paid like other precinct assistants in accordance with G.S. 163-46. A county board of elections shall apportion the appointments as emergency election-day assistant among registrants of each political party so as to make possible the staffing of each precinct with officials of more than one party, and the county board shall make assignments so that no precinct has precinct officials all of whom are registered with the same party.

§ 163-42(d)

Before entering upon the duties of the office, each assistant shall take the oath prescribed in G.S. 163-41(a) to be administered by the chief judge of the precinct for which the assistant is appointed. Assistants serve for the particular primary or election for which they are appointed, unless the county board of elections appoints them for a term to expire on the date appointments are to be made pursuant to G.S. 163-41.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
17 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1929	c. 164, s. 35	ENACTED
02	1933	c. 165, s. 24	AMENDED
03	1953	c. 1191, s. 3	AMENDED
04	1967	c. 775, s. 1	AMENDED
05	1973	c. 793, s. 95	AMENDED
06	1973	c. 1359, ss. 1-3	AMENDED
07	1975	c. 19, s. 67	AMENDED
08	1977	c. 95, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
09	1981	c. 954, s. 3	AMENDED
10	1983	c. 617, s. 4	AMENDED
11	1985	c. 563, ss. 8, 8.1	AMENDED
12	1985	1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 762, s. 17	AMENDED
13	1985	1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 554, s. 1	AMENDED
14	1985	c. 734, s. 2	AMENDED
15	2011	S.L. 2011-31, s. 19	AMENDED
16	2017	S.L. 2017-6, s. 3	AMENDED
17	2018	S.L. 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II

4 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 163-47(a)	(a)	<i>"for chief judges and judges in"</i>
G.S. 163-46	(c)	<i>"other precinct assistants in accordance with"</i>
G.S. 163-41(a)	(d)	<i>"shall take the oath prescribed in"</i>
G.S. 163-41	(d)	<i>"are to be made pursuant to"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-42 (2018).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-42(a) (2018).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1929, c. 164, s. 35; 1933, c. 165, s. 24; 1953, c. 1191, s. 3; 1967, c. 775, s. 1; 1973, c. 793, s. 95; c. 1359, ss. 1-3; 1975, c. 19, s. 67; 1977, c. 95, ss. 1, 2; 1981, c. 954, s. 3; 1983, c. 617, s. 4; 1985, c. 563, ss. 8, 8.1; 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 762, s. 17; 1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 554, s. 1; c. 734, s. 2; 2011-31, s. 19; 2017-6, s. 3; 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b).)

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