

# WATCHER CERTIFICATE (Election Law, Section 8-500)

Date of Election: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointing authority: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Insert name of political party/political committee/ independent body/ candidate here)

Name of watcher: \_\_\_\_\_

County or city of watcher's residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Poll site where watcher is to appear: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Insert town/village/city and the election district number here)

Signature of Appointing Authority Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name of Appointing Authority Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Appointing Authority Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

## **GUIDELINES**

- At a General Election or special election, watchers shall be appointed by: the chair or other officer of any party committee, independent body whose candidates are upon the ballot, or political committee supporting or opposing a ballot proposal.
- At a Primary Election, watchers shall be appointed by the chair or other officer of any party committee or any candidate on the ballot.
- Each watcher must be a qualified voter of the city or county in which he/she is to serve.
- Watcher certificates must be delivered to an inspector at the election district.
- Not more than three watchers for any appointing authority may be appointed to serve at the same election district at the same time.
- Watchers may be present at the polling place at least fifteen minutes before the unlocking and examinations of any voting machine or ballot box at the opening of the polls, until after the signing of the inspectors' returns and proclamation of the result.
- Not more than one watcher for any appointing authority may be within the guard rail at any one time.
- No person shall be appointed or act as a watcher who is a candidate for any public office to be voted for by the voters of the election district in the same election in which the watcher is to serve.

**(Sample prepared by the State Board of Elections for use on Election Day or days of Early Voting)**

Rev. 10/29/2019