

# How to:

## conduct a voter registration drive in your church

1. Get permission from your pastor. Emphasize that the point is to register voters, not to promote a political viewpoint.
2. Select dates for your drive. Hawaii Family Forum suggests conducting the drives for 2—3 consecutive weeks. You may also consider leaving blank “Wiki Wiki” forms out in a public place until October (when the general election registration deadline rolls around.) **In 2008, that date is October 6, 2008.**
3. Try to advertise your voter drive in your church bulletins, newsletters and posters during the week(s) prior and during the drive. If possible, have your pastor make an announcement from the pulpit.
4. Recruit volunteers to work the voter registration tables.
5. Make sure you have ample forms for distribution.
6. Be courteous, civil, and cordial when registering people to vote.
7. Be enthusiastic during the registration drive, but not overly assertive.
8. **Do not** infringe upon the public's right to refuse to register to vote.
9. **Do not be coercive.** Coercion means the exercise of force or intimidation to obtain a desired result. Such an action is considered a form of election fraud under Hawaii Revised States § 19-3(4) and is strictly prohibited.
10. **Do not offer incentives.**

***Rules published by the Office of Elections prohibit campaigning and the promotion of political issues during the execution of the voter registration—Hawaii Administrative Rules § 2-51-29(c)(3). To avoid any misunderstanding, no campaigning or promotion of political issues should be permitted to occur in connection with a registration effort. If there is any such activity in the vicinity, applicants should be advised that the campaigning or promotion are not tied to the registration program in any way.***

"Completed voter registration forms shall not be collected by the distributing person or organization unless specific authorization is provided by the clerk or chief election officer (see “Become a Deputy Voter Registrar” on the reverse side of this flyer). Each person who completes a registration form shall be directed to mail or deliver the completed registration form to the office of the appropriate clerk or the chief election officer.” —Hawaii Administrative Rules § 2-51-29 (4)

"Information provided by the person on the voter registration form is confidential until the registration application is accepted by the clerk and entered in the general county register. An individual or organization distributing or collecting the registration forms shall not duplicate, copy, or otherwise make use of any information provided on the voter registration form."—Hawaii Administrative Rules §2-51-29 (6)

“Wiki Wiki” forms can be  
downloaded from:  
[http://hawaii.gov/elections/forms/voter\\_application.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/elections/forms/voter_application.pdf)

## **Become a Deputy Voter Registrar**

A Deputy Voter Registrar is a certified volunteer who distributes, collects, and turns-in completed registration affidavits to their respective county registrar. Registrars may receive a maximum of 300 voter registration affidavits per month to distribute. Camera-ready copies of the affidavit are available upon request. Deputy Voter Registrars are not authorized to register individuals for another county. Individuals must return their completed affidavit to their respective County Clerk where s/he resides.

### **Who may volunteer?**

Any registered voter may volunteer to be a Deputy Voter Registrar in the county which s/he resides. However, no candidate for office may serve.

Every Deputy Voter Registrar is required to be certified every election year. Interested individuals must contact their City Clerk directly for more information.

City & County of Honolulu: (808) 523-4293  
City Hall (Room 205), Honolulu Hale  
530 S. King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

County of Hawaii: (808) 961-8277  
5 Aupuni Street, Room 209  
Hilo, HI 96720

County of Maui: (808) 270-7749  
Kalana O Maui Building  
200 South High Street, 7th floor  
Wailuku, HI 96793-2155

## **Other Do's and Do Not's for Churches Conducting Voter Registration Drives**

Churches and other church organizations can encourage members to participate in the electoral process: to register, to vote, to become informed on a broad range of issues, and to become active in the political life of the community .

### **DO**

... remember at all times to emphasize registration, not politics

... allow people from every political party to register

### **DO NOT**

... make statements that can be construed as endorsements or as promoting political issues, such as "Senator Smith is a committed Christian" or "Do your part and vote for pro-life candidates .

...tell people who you are voting for during registration.

...pass out voter's guides while you are conducting a voter registration drive. The table are strictly for voter registration.

...collect the completed forms unless you are a certified Deputy Voter Registrar.

### **Sample Bulletin Announcement:**

We strongly urge all members of our church to register, to become informed on key issues, and to vote. The Church does not support or oppose any candidate, but seeks to focus attention on the moral and human dimensions of issues. We do not authorize the distribution of partisan political materials on church property.