

DEMOCRACY IS FOR PEOPLE



A Public Citizen project

Poll Captains

What is the role of a Poll Captain? Each polling station where we are collecting signatures will have one Poll Captain. S/he will recruit and lead the volunteers at that station and make sure that signatures are entered and sent to Public Citizen national office by **Wednesday, November 14th**.

Before you get started:

1. Read Legal Guidelines for Petitioning, and make sure your volunteers have read it, too.
2. Contact the local clerk/election warden to establish a relationship before Election Day.
3. Local officials and poll workers can give you the best advice on where you can and cannot collect petition signatures and what kinds of media you can display or distribute. If they understand what you're doing, there's less chance you'll be challenged over it.
4. If you believe that your local officials are telling you something inconsistent with state law, you can contact your city/regional coordinator or Dan Mayer at (202)588-7757 or dmayer@citizen.org for advice on how to proceed.
5. If you are concerned that there may be a problem on Election Day you may want to try to find a local legal observer to join you or be available in case something comes up.

Poll Captain Responsibilities:

1. Arrange to have several different shifts of volunteers at your polling station. You can maximize the number of signatures you collect and make sure it's a good experience for all if volunteers are well-rested. Divide up the shift times in a way that makes sense for the volunteers at your station. Keep volunteers in pairs if possible. It makes the activity much more fun.
2. Bring one or more clipboards and lots of pens. Tying the pens to the clipboards with string is helpful. You can make clipboards from the sides of a cardboard box.
3. E-mail amendment@citizen.org for "Corporations Are Not People" buttons.
4. If you can, bring a table and/or sign. Using a visual element will attract attention and engage people passing by. E-mail amendment@citizen.org for "Corporation



1600 20th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009 ★ (202) 588-1000

www.democracyisforpeople.org

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- Are Not People”, “End Corporate Rule”, or “I AM a Person” signs. Signs **must not** endorse or disparage a particular candidate or party.
5. Distribute petitions and supporting materials to the shift volunteers. Petitions can be downloaded from www.democracyisforpeople.org.
 6. Bring a few snacks, water and if you are in a cold area, hand-warmers, to keep your volunteers happy and comfortable.
 7. Make sure your Poll Captains enter all collected signatures into an Excel document and send them to beister@citizen.org, no later than **Wednesday, November 14th**. Use these signatures for your own local organizing effort also.
 8. For verification purposes, make sure your Poll Captains send in all the hard copy petitions in to:

Democracy is For People Campaign
Public Citizen
1600 20th St. NW
Washington, DC 20009

If you have any questions or would like to get involved please contact Brian Eister at beister@citizen.org or (202)588-1000.



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