# **AMENDMENT 4 FAQ** FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is Amendment 4?

The Voting Restoration Amendment was the fourth proposed Constitutional Amendment on the 2018 General Election ballot. This amendment stated as a citizen initiative which made ballot position through the collection of over 842,000 petition signatures. The amendment passed with 64.55% of the voter and will now be part of Florida's Constitution with an effective date of January 8, 2019.

#### BALLOT SUMMARY:

This amendment restores the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinets vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis.



#### How do I know if my voting rights have been restored?

It is the voter's responsibility to confirm whether or not their voting rights have been automatically restored. Search or apply for your Restoration of Civil Rights certificate through the Florida Commission on Offender Review, Office of Executive Clemency.

The agencies listed below also have resources or records to assist you.

- Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller in the county where sentences. In Dixie County, call (352) 498-1200 or visit online: www.dixieclerk.com
- Florida Department of Corrections where supervised or incarcerated. Call (850) 488-5021 or visit online: www.dc.state.fl.us

Office of Executive Clemency Online: <u>www.fcor.state.fl.us</u> Phone: (800) 435-8286 or (850) 488-2952 Fax: (850) 488-0695 Mail 4070 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, FL 32399

## What does this mean for convicted felons who were previously deemed ineligible to register to vote?

Starting on January 8, 2019, certain convicted felons that have completed their sentences, including parole and probation, will have their voting rights automatically restored and will be eligible to register to vote. Exception: Felons convicted of murder or sexual offenses are not eligible to register and vote unless the Governor's Clemency Review Board restores their voting rights.



## How will the Supervisor of Elections handle voter registration applications now with Amendment 4?

The Dixie County Supervisor of Election office will accept and process voter registration applications as usual. Applications will be accepted from individuals with prior felony convictions who are newly eligible to register pursuant to the terms of Amendment 4. Voters who have previously been removed from the voter rolls due to a felony conviction must re-register to vote starting January 8, 2019.

## Starlet Cannon DIXIE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

229 NE 351 Hwy, Suite A, Cross City, FL 32628 Phone: (352) 498-1216 \* Fax: (352) 498-1218 \* www.dixievotes.com **AMENDMENT 4 FAQ** FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## My voting rights have been restored. Do I need to do anything before I can vote?

Yes. You must register to vote before you can participate in any election. State law requires all voters to be registered at least 29 days prior to Election Day. You may register:

- At the Supervisor of Election Office
- At a voter registration agency
- By mail (visit www.dixievotes.com to print the form)
- Online at <u>www.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov</u> (requires a Florida Driver's License or Florida ID Card)
- At a community voter registration event

**NOTE:** The Dixie County Supervisor of Elections advises any convicted felon who wishes to register to vote to verify that they have fulfilled their court ordered sentencing obligations BEFORE registering to vote.

### If I was removed from the voter rolls due to a felony conviction, will I automatically be reregistered to vote now?

No. If a voter's name has been removed from the voting rolls due to a felony conviction, the individual must re-register to vote. Please note that our office will not be contacting individuals regarding this issue. Help us to spread the word by sharing this flyer and encourage your friends and family to contact the Supervisor of Election office in their county of residence.

### I registered to vote - what happens now?

You should receive a new Voter Information Card from our office within a few weeks of registering. If you don't receive this, please contact our office to make sure we have your correct address. After registering, voters must keep their registration up to date. Voters can update their address and other information any time at <u>www.dixievotes.com</u>, or call or visit the office.

# **ΗΟW ΤΟ VOTE**

1. Each voter receives a paper ballot. Use pen provided to mark your ballot. When voting by mail, use a black ballpoint pen. If you make a mistake on your ballot or overvote a race, ask for help. Florida law states you may have up to 2 replacement ballots. If voting my mail, call the Election Office if you make a mistake.

2. When finished voting, place your voted ballot inside the secrecy sleeve. Take your ballot to the ballot box and insert the ballot into the slot designated on the top of the machine. If voting by mail, follow the instructions provided to return your voted ballot to the Elections Office. Mail ballots must be received by 7:00 P.M. on Election Day in order to be counted.

Completely fill in the oval next to your choice, as shown here:

A GUIDE FOR

**FIRST TIME VOTERS** 



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