

F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	Your County	Your Name	Were any observer lists submitted untimely?	If so, please provide any suggestions for ensuring timely submission of observer lists.	Were any observer lists noncompliant (e.g., missing chair signature, if so, please provide any suggestions for ensuring that lists are compliant.)?	Did you experience any observer conduct problems while voting was taking place? If so, please describe the incidents.	Please provide any suggestions for improving observer conduct while voting is taking place.	Recall that the following behavior is specifically prohibited by the administrative code: (1) ...	Did you experience any observer or witness conduct problems before or after voting (i.e., during opening and closing procedures at one-stop or at the precinct polling place)? If so, please describe the incidents.2	Please provide any suggestions for improving observer/witness conduct before or after voting (i.e., during opening and closing procedures).	Observer Rule Updates: Aside from what you have already shared in this survey, if you have suggestions for any updates or revisions to the observer administrative rule (08 NCAC 20 .0101) please pr...	
2	Macon	Melanie Thibault	No		No	No			No			
3	Iredell	Susie Jordan	No		Yes	One party submitted names by email very unorganized. Names were not submitted together.	Yes	One observer continued to complain that she could not hear, even though the observer that was with her had no problem hearing.	Training of the observers should not be conducted by advocate/radical groups within the party.	No		
4	Yancey	Mary Beth Tipton	No		Yes	They want to email them since both party chairs work.	No		No			There needs to be some kind of training, maybe online that they must complete.
5	Pasquotank	Emma Tate	No		No		Yes	Talking, intimidating poll workers, leaving the enclosure several times to 'report to headquarters'	No			
6	Rockingham	Paula Seamster	No		No		No	We only had 1 observer and the observer followed the rules that were given to her.	No			
7	Guilford	Charlie Collicutt	No		No		No	The whole process needs an overhaul - but that would be legislative. The amount of subjectivity under the veil of "observing and taking notes" needs to have more guardrails through legislation.	No			The scope of this question is truly too much for this forum. I'd love to have a forum for discussion on this, because this really gets to how do we regulate something so subjective as "observing." For example, I'm hard of hearing, so can I stand 18 inches away from a voter describing how she has moved into public housing less than 30 days ago? The main issue we get is this line between observing and intimidation, so how do you handle that in a rule?
8	Catawba	Amanda Duncan	No		No		Yes	Observers talking to voters and election assistants. Call the Republican Chair to notify of the actions of the observer.	No			
9	Watauga	Matt Snyder	Yes	This is the responsibility of the parties.	Yes	This is the responsibility of the parties.	No		No			
10	Pitt	Dave Davis	Yes	Develop a good relationship with your party chairs.	No		No		No			
11	Alleghany	Sherry Dawson	No		No		Yes	During early voting we had an observer to get into a confrontation with a voter.	No			Observers need to understand that they are doing the observing for their party NOT as a favor to or employee of the Board of Elections.
12	Craven	Meloni Wray	Yes		No		Yes	talking, greeting voters, directing voters	No			
13	Davidson	Andrew Richards	No		Yes	Need to make it clear to the parties what we need in order for the list to be acceptable not just at the state level but at the county level as well.	Yes	There were several that weren't aware of where they could and could not be in the polling place. While most were perfectly fine several demanded to be behind the machines to watch people vote. When told they could not be behind the voting equipment several became argumentative. Clearer rules rather than just legal language is needed.	No			
14	Moore	Towanna Dixon	No		No		Yes	Had observers who were talking to voters and poll workers, Were questioning processes because they did not learn that in training and didn't think it was right. (example: no cell phones in the voting enclosure)	Submitting names on a continuous basis. It was hard to keep up with the numerous submissions.	No		

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20	clay	rebecca hall	No		Yes	she didn't know it needed to be signed and i had her sign it	Yes	the republican party had an at large observer who went from one precinct to the next and only stayed at first one for less than 30 minutes before he went to the next one. Then come to find out before the 1st one he had been to another but not stayed just came in to vote and talked to the precinct observer for like 10 minutes and left. A pollworker overheard him say he was going to all precincts to say hello and check in. After i was notified of this, i contacted the party chair and spoke with her about him having to do the four hour time limit and if he left he couldn't go anywhere else till that four hours was up. I had went over this with her before the election also and provided her copy of the rules/guide. She was under the impression from the state party that the at large could go anywhere anytime that they wanted. She said she would call and speak to the observer after i spoke with her and after that i didn't hear that he went anywhere else. We had notified all precincts of the time he left 1st place and he couldn't come anywhere else till those 4 hours from time he arrived were done. That is when i found out about other 2 situations.			No		both of my party chairs were under the impression from state party chairs that their at large could go anywhere anytime they pleased and did not have to adhere to the 4 hr rule. this needs to be stressed to the state parties.	
21	Orange	Rachel Boyce Raper	Yes	This is on the party chairs and not my responsibility to beg for timely/compliant lists. Democratic Party chair submitted a timely list, the Republican chair did not - his was 15 minutes late and not accepted.	No	Ensuring lists are compliant should not be considered my responsibility- it's not that difficult for party chairs to gather names and submit via email. I have enough to do conducting an election.	No	Observers often try and engage with voters. I didn't have that problem with this election, but hearing in the past. Or they get in the spirit and attempt to be an election official. My folks fully fill in.	In 2020 the Democratic Party observers attempted to hang signs with a number to call if voters had problems voting. They said it was allowable since it was not campaign material- I did not allow it. It should be clear observers may not distribute ANY material (including hanging/holding a sign).	No	Kind of- had a guy appear at my office wanting to shadow the election night return process, including entering my private office. He was told where the public viewing areas were (my office is not one of those areas) and he left after about 20 minutes. There's a push for randos to show up and observe us working at the office.	entitled to view the procedures and machine tapes. Any one who wants to witness can- and there are more and more people coming in and out each election. No real suggestions at this point, just sharing context.	One stop observer rules need to be clearer- precinct vs. at large is confusing. It's one stop- what precinct is being referred to? Does this mean only 10 people can observe at more than one site? This is a seventeen day period... "The list of observers for one-stop must designate the names of the observers who will be present on each day of early voting and, for precinct-specific observers, at each one-stop site. At large observers may serve at any one-stop site." Are observers allowed during municipal elections? The chair of each political party in a county may designate two precinct-specific observers to attend each one-stop site during a primary or general election." A municipal election is not mentioned. I have received different answers through several elections. I need a flow chart to navigate observer rules- it shouldn't be like this....	
22	Brunswick	Sara LaVere	No		No		No				No			
23	Tyrrell	Emily Hodges	No		No		No				No			
24	Burke	Debbie Mace	No		No		No				No		We had no issues at all.	

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25	Alamance	Dawn Hurdle	Yes	We had one party chair who failed to submit the observers name before the deadline of the start of OS. After speaking with him and the State party chair he immediately submitted his list. We had sent an election information packet to both party chairs that included all deadlines.	No		No			Yes	We had issues with the candidates themselves and/or their representatives during early voting. We had several telephone complaints during early voting and had to make numerous trips to remind those persons of electioneering protocol.	We would like guidelines to handout to candidates during filing for themselves and their employees on appropriate behavior while electioneering.	
26	Bladen	Christopher L. Williams	Yes	I sent out several email before the deadline with the OS. to the party chairs.	No		Yes	Minor incident of observer talking with voter. Observer said it was his friend who just had a heart attack. Site Coordinator let the observer know it was not allowed. No problems after that.	Having the voters trained with the county party chairs and receiving the list of observers with training dates. Make them accountable that they know the rules.	No			Training observers in the rules and regulations and the repercussions of breaking the rules.
27	Chatham	Pandora Paschal	No		Yes	Supply an example of a compliant list to send to the county party chairs	No			No			
28	Stany	Kimberly Blackwelder	No		No		No	It is important for the Chief Judge to know where the observer(s) should be placed. We provide each Chief Judge with a detailed interior and exterior layout to use for setup. This layout shows the designated location for observer(s). It is important for the observer(s) to know what they can and cannot do. I send a memo to the local party chairs which summarizes the process for appointing observers along with the NCSBE observer handout. Upon receipt of an observer list, the handout is shared with the party chairs again along with summarized reminders about observer conduct. When an observer appears at the polling place, they are given the handout and an "Observer" name tag. The Chief Judge also has an observer log to track times in an out.	No			There is physically not enough space to accommodate the number of potential observers in some of our smaller polling places. I understand this is statute, but this will present a problem if all parties and unaffiliated candidates were to have observers at the same time.	
29	Beaufort	Kellie Harris Hopkins	No		No				No				
30	Forsyth	Tim Tsujii	No		No		No		No				
31	Washington	Dora Bell	No	N/A	No	N/A	No	N/A	No	N/A			None at this time
32	Swain	Judy Alliman	Yes		No		No	None at this moment	No	N/A			None at this time
33	Burly	Michella Huff	Yes		Yes		No		No				
34	Hyde	Viola Williams	No		No		No		No				
35	Haywood	Robert Inman	Yes		Yes	Changes and updated lists submitted day prior to observers arrival at polling place.	Yes	Wearing of US veteran related articles that result in starting conversations with voters entering or leaving polling places. Following behind precinct officials even in their personal vehicles when official are transporting election materials to BOE at end of day.		Yes	It was reported to me that observer had constant stream of comments and/or questions for chief judge as she was closing polls.		Its my opinion that observers may only be allowed after political parties have obtained adequate number of persons to serve as precinct officials / poll workers.
36	Warren	Debbie Formyduval	No		No		No	nothing that couldn't be managed such as chit chatting with staff when the sheet clearly said no talking. I had a precinct official tell me that the observer went into the voting booth and once I was made aware, I told the observer that was unacceptable.		No		a training video that observers are required to watch prior to observing.	the strongest possible language you can use with consequences for violation. I believe that a video and certification for observers would resolve a lot of this problem. Observers show up with no experience in elections. they have simply volunteered or been appointed. I can tell you I answered a lot of questions.
37	Rowan	Brenda McCubbins	No		No		Yes	We had a great increase in observer activity, especially during one-stop. There was an incident where an observer was talking to election assistants. We have a good and respectful relationship with both the Republican and Democratic Party Chairs and I believe the situation was taken care of very well.		No			

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				SBOE should have a portal where parties can log in for information forms. A uniform form would be helpful. Give reminders to the parties of dates and requirements (State and local parties). Have SBOE training provided by SBOE.		Too late, no times when when required, wrong polling locations, no precinct listing... Standardized form where the necessary information is a required entry and deadlines are clear. Can SBOE provide training?	Inside poll observer gave a voter information on who to vote for. Outside observers being argumentative with each other. Guidance on where inside poll observers can be. Observers asking many questions about procedures, more than ever before. Observers confused about whether they are inside or outside. People on lists that were submitted untimely were not informed that they could not serve and then showed up which led to confusing.	Give examples of impeding and disrupting the voting process. Empower CI or OS captain to know what is under their "discretion" to limit. Clarify that ATVs cannot be photographed because of sensitive information even though they can be viewed.	I am not aware of problems but for the first time observers did want to observe these procedures. Is the rule that observers can be there any time the CI is there?	Is the rule that observers can be there any time the CI is there? Clarify.	Is the rule that observers can be there any time the CI is there? Clarify that ATVs cannot be photographed because of sensitive information even though they can be viewed. Give examples of impeding and disrupting the voting process.	
38	Buncombe	Corinne Duncan	Yes		Yes	Yes			No			
39	Pamlico	Lisa Bennett	No		No	No			No			
40	Davie	Tabatha Parrish	Yes		Yes	No			No			
41	EDGEcombe	Jerry W. Spruell	No		No	No			No			
						Initially submitted without signature, but provided signature when requested						
42	Henderson	Karen Hebb	No		No	Yes	Observers demanded to approach tabulators to verify totals. They would not sit quietly but continuously questioned workers and ordered with an affidavit to take pictures at election day precincts. They demanded to be present in the room where USBs were being uploaded on election night to observe and verify no totals were being changed.		Observers demanded to approach tabulators to verify totals.	We did not allow the observers to approach our tabulators, but we did announce the totals. Please put something in writing that states it is up to the individual CBEs to deny or allow access.		
43	New Hanover	Rae Hunter-Havens	No		No	Yes	Observer conduct problems during voting. In 2021, poll workers were observers chatting/conversing with Election Officials, observers wandering unescorted through the polling place, approaching the DS200 unescorted, asking/demanding voter reports outside of the established time frames. We prefer to position the DS200 at exit door if different than the entrance so that the official monitoring the DS200 can also observe the electioneering area outside.	We prefer to position the DS200 at exit door if different than the entrance so that the official monitoring the DS200 can also observe the electioneering area outside. This can create challenges when the observer wants to use the exit door when approaching the curbside voting area since they walk by voters inserting their ballots into the DS200.	Observer/Witness conduct problems during opening/closing procedures; talking/asking questions, and wanting to physically inspect the DS200 ballot box were both recurrent issues. In 2021, we had observers and/or witnessing come in the door at closing and immediately tried to participate in the closing of the voting equipment. They filmed poll workers and the polling place the entire time they were in the polling. They verbally harassed the officials and followed them to their car. The officials felt that they were being intimidated and harassed.	It would improve this process if the guidance regarding observers/witnesses clearly states what is prohibited during the opening and closing process. Also, we would like additional guidance regarding what is prohibited for observers/witnesses during the opening and closing process.	It would be helpful to have guidance that explicitly states that observers cannot use "staff only" doors to exit the polling place and must use the public entrance or exit doors depending on the location of the DS200.	
44	Caldwell	Chad Barnes	No		No	No			No			

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