

INDIANA 2026 LAW ENFORCEMENT QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

This pocket reference guide contains key provisions found within Title 3 of the Indiana Code and other relevant sections.*

- Threatening or injuring an election worker or obstructing or interfering with their duties is a felony.
- Injuring, interfering with, intimidating, or threatening a voter in the exercise of their rights is a felony.
- Damaging, disarranging, or tampering with a voting system is a felony.

* Some provisions have been abridged due to space limitations in this guide.

VOTING HOURS

Election Day
6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

2026 ELECTION DATES

Primary Election: May 5
General Election: November 3
For more information: [in.gov/sos/elections/files/2026-Election-Calendar-Election-Administrators-Edition.FINAL.pdf](https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2026-Election-Calendar-Election-Administrators-Edition.FINAL.pdf)

REPORT SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR TO

Your local election official:
indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index
Secretary of State:
866-461-8683
[in.gov/sos/elections](https://www.in.gov/sos/elections)
For more information:
indianavoters.in.gov



Obstruction of, interference with, or injury of voter or election officer

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-3-4

(b) For purposes of this section, "election worker" means an individual who serves as:

- (1) a precinct election officer, including an individual who serves as a precinct election officer at a vote center using a different title under IC 3-6-6-5.5;
- (2) a member of a county election board;
- (3) a member of a county board of elections and registration;
- (4) a member of a board of registration established under IC 3-7-12;
- (5) a circuit court clerk;
- (6) an employee of the office of a circuit court clerk;
- (7) a member of a town election board;
- (8) an individual who serves under IC 3-6-6-39;
- (9) a challenger or pollbook holder under IC 3-6-7;
- (10) a watcher under IC 3-6-8, IC 3-6-9, or IC 3-6-10; or
- (11) an individual appointed under IC 3-11.5-4:
 - (A) to an absentee voter board;
 - (B) as an absentee ballot counter; or
 - (C) as a courier.

(c) A person who, with the intent to obstruct or interfere with an election worker or a voter in the chute, knowingly or intentionally:

- (1) obstructs or interferes with:
 - (A) an election worker in the discharge of the election worker's duty; or
 - (B) a voter within the chute; and

(2) engages in the obstruction or interference on:

(A) election day; or

(B) a day on which voting is permitted to occur before an absentee voter board;

commits a Level 6 felony.

(d) A person who knowingly or intentionally injures an election worker or a voter:

(1) in the exercise of the election worker's or voter's rights or duties; or

(2) because the election worker or voter has exercised the election worker's or voter's rights or duties;

commits a Level 6 felony.

Actions to unlawfully influence voter; threat to election worker

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-3-18

A person who communicates a threat as defined in IC 35-45-2-1 to an election worker [as defined in § 3-14-3-4] with the intent that the election worker:

(1) engage in conduct against the election worker's will; or

(2) be placed in fear of retaliation for a prior lawful act relating to an election;

commits threatening an election worker, a Level 6 felony.

Voter intimidation

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-3-21.5

A person who knowingly or intentionally intimidates, threatens, or coerces an individual for:

(1) voting or attempting to vote;

(2) urging or aiding another individual to vote or attempt to vote; or

(3) exercising any power or duty under this title concerning registration or voting;

commits voter intimidation, a Level 6 felony.

Damaging, disarranging, or tampering with voting system

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-3-8

A person other than a precinct election officer who knowingly, before or during an election:

- (1) damages, disarranges, or tampers with a ballot card system or an electronic voting system; or
- (2) damages a ballot label placed or to be placed on the electronic voting system, or any other appliance used in connection with the ballot card voting system or electronic voting system;

commits a Level 6 felony.

Tampering with voting system

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-3-5

A precinct election officer who, with the intent to cause or permit a ballot card voting system or an electronic voting system to fail to correctly register all votes cast, tampers with or disarranges the system or any part of it commits a Level 6 felony.

Tampering with ballot container, voting system component, or contents

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-2-26

A person who:

- (1) during the progress of an election or within the time for preparation required under this title, knowingly breaks open or violates the seal or lock of a ballot box, envelope, container, bag, or voting system component in which ballots have been deposited;
- (2) knowingly obtains a ballot box, envelope, container, bag, or voting system component that contains ballots and cancels, withholds, or destroys a ballot;

- (3) knowingly increases or decreases the number of ballots legally deposited in a ballot box, envelope, container, bag, or voting system component; or
- (4) knowingly makes a fraudulent erasure or alteration on a tally sheet, poll book, list of voters, or election return deposited in a ballot box, envelope, bag, or voting system component;

commits a Level 6 felony.

Duties of election sheriffs

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-6-6-35

(a) Each election sheriff shall do the following:

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (b), attend the polls in the appointed precinct from the opening of the polls to the conclusion of the count.
- (2) Preserve order at the polls.
- (3) Enforce the election laws under the direction of the precinct election board.
- (4) Upon direction from a precinct election officer, request assistance from a law enforcement officer if a violation of law or breach of the peace within the polls or chute has occurred or appears imminent.

(b) The sheriff may leave the polls for the purpose of obtaining assistance from a law enforcement officer under subsection (a)(4).

Assistance by law enforcement officers

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-6-5-33

The county sheriff, the chief law enforcement officer of a municipality within the county, and other law enforcement officers shall assist a county election board, upon request, in the enforcement of the election laws and the discharge of its duties, including the use of police radio and telephone service on election days.

Assistance by police in enforcement of election laws

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-6-4.1-23

(a) The state police department and all state police officers shall assist the commission, on request, in the enforcement of the election laws and the discharge of the commission's duties, including the use of state police radio and telephone service on election days.

(b) The state police department or a state police officer may not supplant or interfere with a local law enforcement officer or precinct election officer in the discharge of duties.

Electioneering

Ind. Code Ann. § 3-14-3-16

(a) As used in this section, "electioneering" means making a verbal statement, displaying a written statement indicating support or opposition to a candidate, political party, or public question appearing on the ballot, or wearing or displaying an article of clothing, sign, button, or placard that states:

(1) the name of any political party or includes the name, picture, photograph, or other likeness of any candidate or currently elected federal, state, county, or local official; or

(2) support for the approval or defeat of a public question.

(c) A person who knowingly does any electioneering:

(1) on election day within:

(A) the polls; or

(B) the chute [defined as the area within 50 feet from the entrance of the polls or early voting location, pursuant to Ind. Code Ann. § 3-5-2.1-21];

(2) before election day within:

- (A) the office of the circuit court clerk or a satellite office of the circuit court clerk established under IC 3-11-10-26.3 used by an absentee voter board to permit an individual to cast an absentee ballot; or
- (B) fifty (50) feet of the entrance to the office of the circuit court clerk or satellite office; or

(3) except for a voter who is:

- (A) the person's spouse;
 - (B) an incapacitated person (as defined in IC 29-3-1-7.5) for whom the person has been appointed the guardian (as defined in IC 29-3-1-6); or
 - (C) a member of the person's household;
- in the presence of a voter whom the person knows possesses an absentee ballot provided to the voter in accordance with Indiana law;

commits a Class A misdemeanor.

Possession of firearms on school property

Ind. Code Ann. § 35-47-9-2

(a) A person may not be charged with an offense under this subsection if the person may be charged with an offense described in subsection (c).

A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses a firearm:

- (1) in or on school property;
- commits a Level 6 felony.

(b) It is a defense to a prosecution under subsection (a) that:

(1) the person is permitted to legally possess the firearm; and

(2) the firearm is:

(A) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;

(B) kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked motor vehicle; or

(C) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked motor vehicle.

(c) A person who is permitted to legally possess a firearm and who knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly leaves the firearm in plain view in a motor vehicle that is parked in a school parking lot commits a Class A misdemeanor.

Pursuant to Ind. Code Ann. § 35-47-9-1, exceptions to this section include federal, state, and local law enforcement officers; qualified retired law enforcement officers; school resource officers; and other individuals who have been authorized by the school board to carry a firearm on school property.

