

§ 163-129. Structure at voting place; marking off limits of voting place.

(a) At the voting place in each precinct established under G.S. 163-128, the county board of elections shall provide or procure by lease or otherwise a suitable structure or part of a structure in which registration and voting may be conducted. To this end, the county board of elections may demand and use any school or other State, county, or municipal building, or a part thereof, or any other building, or a part thereof, that is supported or maintained, in whole or in part by or through tax revenues for the purpose of conducting registration and voting for any primary or election, and the board may require that the requisitioned premises, or a part thereof, be vacated for these purposes. This section does not permit a board of elections to demand and use a tax-exempt church property for these purposes without the express consent of the individual church involved.

(b) If a county board of elections requires that a tax-supported building be used as a voting place, that county board of elections may require that those in control of that building provide parking that is adequate for voters at the precinct, as determined by the county board of elections.

(c) The county board of elections shall inspect each precinct voting place to ascertain how it should be arranged for voting purposes and shall direct the chief judge and judges of any precinct to define the voting place by roping off the area or otherwise enclosing it or by marking its boundaries. The boundaries of the voting place shall at any point lie no more than 100 feet from each ballot box or voting machine. The space so roped off or enclosed or marked for the voting place may contain area both inside and outside the structure in which registration and voting are to take place.

(d) The county board of elections shall ensure that each precinct voting place permits candidates at least 36 hours prior to the opening of the voting place and at least 36 hours after the close of the voting place, as provided in G.S. 163-166.25, to place and retrieve political advertising. Any political advertising placed outside the times specified in this subsection may be removed by the property owner. (1929, c. 164, s. 17; 1967, c. 775, s. 1; 1973, c. 793, s. 54; 1983, c. 411, s. 3; 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 762, s. 34; 1999-426, s. 5(a); 2017-6, s. 3; 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b); 2019-119, s. 1.5(a); 2019-119, s. 1.5; 2025-25, s. 40.1.)