



# COLORADO COUNTY CLERKS ASSOCIATION

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FAQ's 2018 Caucus**

Wheat Ridge, CO- *The Colorado County Clerks Association, while not a party to the caucus process would like to provide the following frequently asked questions around the political process outlined in state law. For more specific information, please contact the applicable political parties about their specific rules.*

### **Caucuses**

#### ➤ **What is a precinct caucus?**

- The 2018 Party Precinct Caucus is held on **Tuesday, March 6th, 2018**.
- In each even-numbered year, political parties hold their neighborhood precinct caucus on the first Tuesday in March to begin the process of electing candidates to nominate in the upcoming elections, forward party platform ideas and engage and elect party leaders.
- Registered voters of the same political party gather to select delegates to represent the precinct at the county assembly and committee officers to organize political activities for the precinct.
- Precinct caucuses are open to the public and held throughout the state. Only affiliates party members may participate in the caucus.

#### ➤ **Who can vote in a precinct caucus?**

- A resident affiliated with the caucusing political party for at least 2 months before the precinct caucuses.
  - **Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018:** Last day to affiliate with a political party in order to vote in the March 6<sup>st</sup> party precinct caucus.
- A registered voter no later than 29 days before the caucus
  - **Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018:** Last day to update your registration address to participate in the March 1<sup>st</sup> party precinct caucuses.
- To update your voter registration, and/or affiliate with a party go to [www.GoVoteColorado.com](http://www.GoVoteColorado.com)

#### ➤ **What about unaffiliated voters?**

- Unaffiliated voters may observe a precinct caucus, but may not participate.
- For the first time in Colorado, unaffiliated voters will be eligible to cast a Primary Election ballot for any one participating political party. This is because Colorado voters approved Proposition 108 in 2016. Unaffiliated voters will receive both the Democratic and Republican Primary ballots in June, and may vote and return only one. If a voter returns both ballots, none will be counted.
- As an alternative, unaffiliated voters may declare a "ballot preference" before the June 26 Primary Election at [www.GoVoteColorado.com](http://www.GoVoteColorado.com) and receive only one ballot for their preferred party. This will conserve taxpayer dollars, because counties will not have to pay printing and postage costs to send two ballots.

## **Party Assemblies and Conventions**

*For specific dates and locations for assemblies and conventions, please contact your political party directly.*

*Colorado Democratic Party, 303-623-4762 or [www.coloradodemocrats.org](http://www.coloradodemocrats.org)*

*Colorado Republican Party, 303-758-3333 or [www.cologop.org](http://www.cologop.org)*

### ➤ **What is a county assembly?**

- Precinct caucus delegates gather to select candidates for the state primary election, delegates to the congressional district assemblies and the delegates to the state assembly.
- The county assembly is held no later than 25 days after the precinct caucuses.

### ➤ **What is a district assembly?**

- The district assembly selects district level delegates to the national convention. Delegates also nominate candidates for Congress, the Colorado General Assembly, the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents, and District Attorneys.
- The time and place of the district assembly is determined by the chairperson of the district committee.

### ➤ **What is the state assembly/convention?**

- State assembly members nominate candidates for statewide offices for the primary election ballot and delegates for the national convention.
- The state assembly/convention is held no later than 73 days before the primary election.

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