



Physical Access for Voters with Disabilities

NASED Winter Conference

February 17, 2017

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NDRN

- National Disability Rights Network
- The nonprofit membership organization for the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Systems for individuals with disabilities

The P&A Network

- Established by Congress to protect the rights of people with disabilities through legal support, advocacy, referral, and education.
- In all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, US Territories, and the Native American Consortium (Hopi, Navaho and Piute Nations in the Four Corner region of the Southwest).
- Largest provider of legal advocacy services to people with disabilities in the US.

PAVA

- Protection & Advocacy for Voter Access
- Federal mandate to the P&As
- Established under HAVA to “ensure the full participation in the electoral process for individuals with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places.”

The Current State of Polling Access

According to the Government Accountability Office (GAO):

- In 2000, 84% of polling places were not fully accessible.
- In 2008, 73% of polling places were not fully accessible.

The Current State of Polling Access

According to voters with disabilities:

- No accessible entrance, path of travel, or parking.
- Lack of signage.
- Elevators locked or out of service.
- Voting equipment not set up or in use.
- Misinformed poll workers.

Know the Regs

- Voting Rights Act
- Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- National Voter Registration Act
- Help America Vote Act

Collect Resources

- www.eac.gov
 - <http://sfgov.org/elections/poll-workers-poll-providers>
 - Clemson University: Research Alliance for Accessible Voting
- https://www.ada.gov/archive/votingscrn_old.pdf

If You Remember 3 Things...

- Start right now.
- Focus on poll worker training.
- Call your state's P&A.

Thank You

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