# **ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**2022 CLEARINGHOUSE "CLEARIE" AWARD

## **CATEGORY**

Outstanding Innovations in Elections

## TITLE

Innovative Strategies in Voter Education Messaging and Poll Worker Recruitment

### **SUBMITTED BY**

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**DUVAL COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS** 

#### TWO QUESTIONS FOR ALL ELECTION JURISDICTIONS

- 1) Are there ways you can amplify your Voter Education Messaging by creating innovative partnerships that will help you reach a much larger audience?
- 2) If the answer is YES ... How can you also utilize those same innovative partnerships to recruit more quality poll workers?

To address the CHALLENGE and OPPORTUNITY these two questions present our Duval County Supervisor of Elections Office turned to the social media power and reach of our professional sports franchises, collegiate and educational institutions.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- Duval County, Florida is the 7th largest voter jurisdiction in the State of Florida serving just over 655,000 Active Registered Voters.
- Duval County is home to the Jacksonville Jaguars, Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, Jacksonville Icemen and Jacksonville Sharks who represent the NFL and Minor League Baseball, Hockey and Arena Football.









• We are home to several colleges some of which are the University of North Florida, Jacksonville University and Florida State College at Jacksonville.









 Duval County Public Schools is the 20th largest school district in the nation operating 196 schools of which 26 areas represent High School age students.

#### SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

Duval County Supervisor of Elections Office stand-alone	4,000 +
Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp on all social media platforms combined	96,000 +
Jacksonville Icemen on all social media platforms combined	80,000 +
Jacksonville Sharks on all social media platforms combined	80,000 +
Jacksonville Jaguars on Twitter alone	. 700,000 +

University of North Florida, Jacksonville University, Florida State College at Jacksonville and Duval County Public Schools reach over 200,000 combined on social media.

#### STRATEGY ONE - INNOVATIVE VOTER EDUCATION MESSAGING

#### RAISE AWARENESS OF NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

#### **ACTION STEPS**

- Our office coordinated a simultaneous creation of social media postcards by all the sports teams and educational institutions mentioned above.
- Each entity was given guidance to brand the artwork to their own team/institution which created an environment of idea ownership.
- Each team/institution received guidance for their social media postcard to carry a QR code and/or our office's website with the goal being driving those who received it to our website to register to vote on-line or view important election information.
- Most involved pushed out a press release in advance notifying of this major social media voter education messaging partnership.
- Each entity involved pushed out their social media postcard on the morning of National Voter Registration Day, September 20, 2022.

#### **RESULTS**

Our messaging partnership reached 1,200,000 on Social Media up from our office's normal reach of 4,000.

A second very valuable benefit was on our website through our Poll Worker Recruitment sign up form we received 132 applications in a quiet week when we would normally only receive 5 applications.

#### **ACTIONABLE BENEFITS**

ANY ELECTIONS JURISDICTION IN THE COUNTRY CAN MIRROR THIS MODEL BY BUILDING THEIR OWN SOCIAL MEDIA VOTER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS.

THIS MODEL CAN BE USED TO MESSAGE FOR ANY MAJOR ELECTIONS OFFICE MILESTONE SUCH AS NATIONAL POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT DAY AND OTHERS.

- It's easy to put together requiring only time.
- An election jurisdiction can easily expand this model to charitable organizations such as the American Heart, Cancer and Lung Associations, etc. Basically, any organization with large social media reach the local jurisdiction is comfortable partnering with.







Monday, September 19, 2022

Duval County Supervisor of Elections Office Greg Clark, 904-255-3422 or gadark@duvalelections.gov

Duval County Supervisor of Elections Office Partners with Area Educational Institutions and Sports Teams to Promote National Voter Registration Day on September 20, 2022

ACKSONVILLE - Dunal County Supervisor of Elections, Male Hogan is excited to amounce a attineship with several obseksymities major educational institutions and sports franchises to promote attinual York Registration Day on Tuesday, September 20, 2012.

blished in 2012, National Voter Registration Day celebrates an amual moment for the entire nation to registering Americans to exercise their most basic right – the right to vote.

promote this important day, we will collaborate on a social media initiative with Dural County Public only. University of North Fordia, Jacksonnille University, and Fordia State College at Jacksonnille, as the Judsconnille Jaumas; the Jacksonnille Icemen, the Jacksonnille Jumbo Strimp, and the ksonville Sharks' Hogan said.

If these committed community partners, we will promote National Voter Registration Day to share hovery it is to register to vote or look up important election awareness information," Hogan added.

Seglember 20, 2022, acard of our National Voter Registration Day partners listed above will release a sid media postard chared to their institution or sports team. The postards will share a OR code dor link, driwing people to the Duval County Supervisor of Elections' website.

ise watch for this collective social media initiative potentially reaching over 1.2 million people september 20, 2022, National Voter Registration Day.

For questions about it is expansive volter awareness initiative, please contact Greg Clark, Director of Community Outreach and Events, for more information. His email address is <u>gardark@duvaletectors.gov</u> and his mobile idephone number is \$04.42.4277.

Eligible American voters should be able to exercise their right to be heard at the ballot box, and Nationa Voter Registration Day can help voters do just that.

105 E. Monroe St. Jacksonville, FL 32201 Duval County Supervisor of Elections

(904) 255-3444 <u>www.duvalelections.gov</u>

DIGITAL POSTCARDS REGISTRATION D NATIONAL YOTER SOCIAL MEDIA







#### STRATEGY TWO - INNOVATIVE VOTER EDUCATION MESSAGING

UTILIZE OUR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS VOTER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS TO SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE OUR MESSAGING REACH THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

Our office created A FIRST OF ITS KIND Voter Education Messaging Platform in partnership with our three minor league sports franchises:

- The Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp in Triple AAA Baseball
- The Jacksonville Icemen in ECHL Hockey
- The Jacksonville Sharks in the National Arena Football League

#### **ACTION STEPS**

- 1) Our office was the Presenter of the National Anthem all season long
  - Each game all-season for all three teams the announcer read just prior the National Anthem being played:
  - "Presenting tonight's National Anthem is the Duval County Supervisor of Elections Office ... Remember February 21st is the last day to register to vote in the March 21st City of Jacksonville Election".
  - This message changes with the election season as the sports seasons plays out throughout all 12 months of the year.

Over 620,000 fans heard these voter education messages. This was supported by ingame LED ribbon board messaging and an in-game video recorded by a team ownership/management representative promoting the same message. Of special note the National Anthem is the only time all fans attention is in one place. Of secondary note. An elections office is one of the few entities that can appropriately present our Nation's National Anthem. To our knowledge the creation of this messaging platform was the first time this has ever been done in professional sports.

- 2) Our office put Election reminder messaging on all the community pocket schedules of the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp and Jacksonville Icemen.
  - Voter Registration Deadline and Election Day Reminder dates were published on 300,000 pocket schedules distributed throughout Duval County and all of Northeast Florida.
  - As with the National Anthem Presenter Message we believe this has never been done in any other election jurisdiction or by any other professional sports franchise.

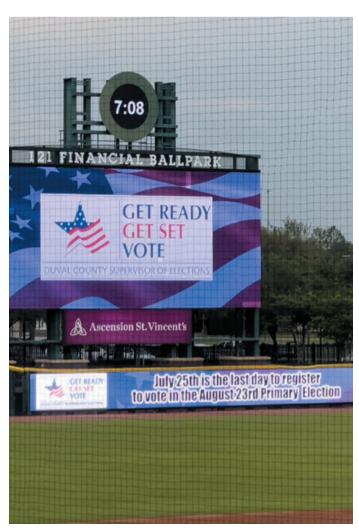
#### **ACTIONABLE BENEFITS**

THIS MESSAGING IS OPEN TO ELECTION JURISDICTIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AS YOU WOULD BE CREATING A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY THAT PREVIOUSLY HAS NOT EXISTED. IF WILLING TO CONSIDER THIS AS MEDIA, AND SPEND A LITTLE MONEY, THE JURISDICTION WILL FIND MINOR LEAGUE SPORTS TEAMS WILLING PARTNERS.

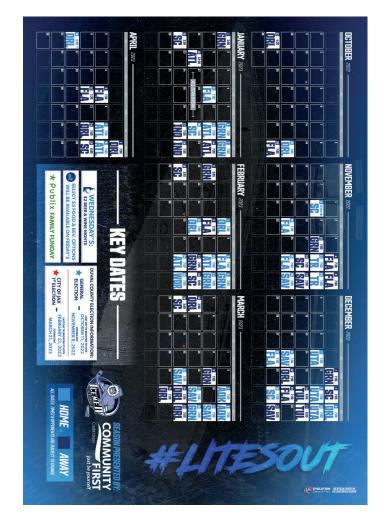


Key Election date information highlighted on 200,000 pocket schedules distributed to the community. We also partnered with the Jacksonville Icemen, pushing out Election messaging, on their 100,000 pocket schedules.





Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp scoreboard messaging that supported National Anthem presenter announcer read.



Jacksonville Icemen Pocket Schedule

#### STRATEGY THREE - INNOVATIVE VOTER EDUCATION MESSAGING

UTILIZE OUR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS VOTER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP
TO GET FANS TALKING ABOUT VOTING AND SIMULTANEOUSLY RAISE
MONEY FOR CHARITY

#### **ACTION STEPS**

Our office created a First of Its Kind messaging platform. We co-designed with the
Jacksonville Icemen custom Hockey Register to Vote Jerseys that were worn and played
in-game for two games by the team as part of Hockey Registers to Vote Night. We believe
this is the first time this has been done in professional sports. This past year Charleston
County Elections and the South Carolina Stingrays mirrored our Hockey Registers to Vote
Jersey Night.

#### **ACTIONABLE BENEFITS**

AFTER THE SECOND GAME THESE JERSEYS WERE AUCTIONED OFF TO FANS AND RAISED \$30,000 FOR THE JACKSONVILLE ICEMEN FOUNDATION.

FANS NOW WEAR THESE JERSEYS AS THEY ATTEND GAME AFTER GAME AND WHEN FANS SEE THESE JERSEYS THROUGHOUT THE ARENA, THEY TALK NOT ABOUT POLITICS BUT ABOUT VOTING AND REGISTERING TO VOTE.

#### STRATEGY FOUR - INNOVATIVE POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT

UTILIZE OUR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS VOTER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS
TO ENHANCE OUR POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT

#### **ACTION STEPS**

- Our office created a first of it's kind Poll Worker Donation Program offering fans of the Jacksonville Icemen the opportunity to serve as a Duval County Elections Poll Worker and donate their pay, back to the Jacksonville Icemen's Charitable Foundation.
- To Super Charge this the Icemen gave a fan experience package that cost them little to nothing to provide but meant something significant to the Icemen fan.
- This program in a first year generated 38 quality younger poll workers and through their collective poll worker pay they donated \$8,550 to the Jacksonville Icemen Foundation. The donation was made on-ice by Supervisor of Elections Mike Hogan at an Icemen home game.
- Advertisement of this opportunity was pushed out, free of charge, through the 80,000 plus reach of the Icemen on social media. This program could likely be done with any professional sports or collegiate institution at virtually no cost.
- We have done hybrids of this innovative recruitment model with both the Jacksonville
  Jumbo Shrimp and the Jacksonville Sharks and hope to soon create a hybrid of this model
  with Duval County Public Schools. Our goal is to collectively recruit 200 plus younger
  qualified poll workers (a 10% plus strengthening of our workforce) through these innovative
  partnerships and in turn have these poll workers donate over \$45,000 annually to charity.



Jacksonville Icemen Enhanced Benefit Poll Worker Recruitment Program - recruited 38 quality poll workers.



Hockey Registers to Vote Jersey Artwork.



Photo of Icemen Players in Hockey Registers to Vote Jerseys.



Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp Poll Worker Recruitment Flyer.



\$8,550.00 donation to Icemen Foundation via Icemen Enhanced Benefit Poll Worker Recruitment Program. Donation presented on ice by Duval County Supervisor of Elections, Mike Hogan.