

ORDER AND NOTICE OF ELECTION
PORT OF PORT ARTHUR NAVIGATION DISTRICT
OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS
BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS ELECTION ORDER

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON §

WHEREAS, the terms of Raymond C. Johnson and Randy T. Martin, members of the Board of Port Commissioners of the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, Texas, will expire on the first Saturday of May, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Port Commissioners has determined that a combined election with the City of Port Arthur, the Port Arthur Independent School District, Sabine Pass Independent School District, and the Sabine Pass Port Authority will reduce expense, increase voter representation, and eliminate confusion; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Board to pass an order establishing the procedure for filing and conducting the Board of Port Commissioners election;

THEREFORE, be it ordered by the Board of Port Commissioners of the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, Texas;

1. That an election be held in the Port District on May 3, 2025, for the purpose of electing to the Board of Port Commissioners of the Port District two (2) Commissioners, each for six (6) year terms.

2. That with the exception of a voting precinct at R. L. Eldridge Community Center which is outside of the boundaries of the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District, the election of the Board of Port Commissioners of the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County,

Texas, be combined with the City of Port Arthur, the Port Arthur Independent School District, Sabine Pass Independent School District and the Sabine Pass Port Authority, with the voters of the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District casting their ballots at the same precincts as used by the voters of the City of Port Arthur and the Port Arthur Independent School District. This will be a Joint Election in accordance with Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code. The City Secretary of the City of Port Arthur will coordinate, supervise and handle all aspects of administering the Joint Election in accordance with the Texas Election Code as follows:

a. The Election expenses for the joint precincts and polling places, excepting those of Sabine Pass, will be divided equally by the Port Arthur Independent School District, the City of Port Arthur and the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, Texas. The Election expenses for the joint precincts and polling places of Sabine Pass shall be divided equally between the City of Port Arthur, Sabine Pass Independent School District and the Sabine Pass Port Authority.

b. Single ballot forms shall contain positions for Councilmembers for the City of Port Arthur; Trustee positions for the Port Arthur Independent School District; two (2) Commissioner positions for the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, Texas; Trustee positions for Sabine Pass Independent School District; and Commissioners for the Sabine Pass Port Authority.

c. Records of all entities shall be combined, and one set of ballot boxes and transfer cases shall be used at each polling place.

d. Election returns shall be made on joint forms, but each entity shall canvass its own returns.

e. Early voting shall be conducted jointly and the City Secretary of the City of Port Arthur shall serve as the Early Voting Clerk for the joint early voting.

3. That the Election shall be by Electronic Voting System as authorized in Texas Election Code §123.001.

4. That all requests by candidates to have their names placed on the ballot for the above mentioned election shall be in writing and signed by the candidate and filed with the Secretary of the Board of Port Commissioners or her agent. The application to have a name placed in candidacy may be presented to the Director of Finance or the Executive Port Director at the Port of Port Arthur Navigation District Executive Office, 221 Houston Avenue, Port Arthur, Texas, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. during regular business hours on Monday through Friday. The last day for filing to be placed on the ballot for election to Board of Commissioners is not later than 5:00 p.m. on February 14, 2025.

5. That the polls of the voting places will be open on May 3, 2025 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

6. That there shall be appointed one clerk to assist any person with a bilingual problem related to voting.

7. That applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to City Secretary Sherri Bellard, City of Port Arthur, P. O. Box 1089, Port Arthur, Texas 77641-1089, OR to City Secretary Sherri Bellard, City of Port Arthur, 444 Fourth Street, Port Arthur, Texas 77640. Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 22, 2025.

8. That the Presiding Judge of the election, the Judges of the Precincts, and all other clerks and workers in the election will be appointed by the City of Port Arthur.

9. That each candidate for an office for which this election is to be held must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the first day of the term to be filled, shall be a United States citizen, shall reside in the Port District, shall be a qualified voter in the Port District, shall own real property in the Port District and shall have resided twelve (12) months in the State of Texas and six (6) months in the Port District immediately preceding the date of the regular filing deadline for a candidate's application for a place on the ballot.

10. That, in accordance with Texas Election Code Sections 141.031 and 144.003, each candidate shall file an application with the Secretary of the Board of Port Commissioners, on a form to be provided by such Secretary, at least forty-five (45) days but no more than seventy-five (75) days prior to May 3, 2025, such application shall be in writing, and shall be signed and sworn to by the candidate, and shall include all statements and information required by law.

11. That the location of each polling place is shown on Exhibit A, attached hereto.

12. That the conduct of such election shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act, the Federal Help America Vote Act (“HAVA”), and the rules of the Department of Justice, including provisions for bilingual assistance, notices, instructions, ballots, and other written materials and information relating to the electoral process, for which presentation and assistance is required.

EARLY VOTING

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted in accordance with the dates, times and locations on Exhibit B, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

The Robert E. "Bob" Bowers Civic Center located at 3401 Cultural Center Drive, Port Arthur, Texas, is hereby designated as the "COUNTING STATION" to receive and tabulate voted ballots.

The returns of said election shall be made to the Board of Port Commissioners of said Port of Port Arthur Navigation District in accordance with law.

A copy of this Order signed by the President and attested by the Secretary of this Board shall serve as proper notice of said election, and the President shall cause notice of said election to be given in accordance with law.

READ, ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Board of Port Commissioners at a regular meeting held at the Port office, 221 Houston Avenue, Port Arthur, Texas this 13th day of February, 2025.



JOHN A. COMEAUX, President
Board of Port Commissioners of
Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of
Jefferson County, Texas

ATTEST:

 (Seal)

LINDA TURNER SPEARS, Secretary
Board of Port Commissioners of
Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of
Jefferson County, Texas

EXHIBIT A

ELECTION PRECINCTS:

R. L. ELDRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER
(SABINE PASS)
(All or a portion of Jefferson County Election
Precinct 32)

PORT ACRES ELEMENTARY
(All or a portion of Jefferson County Election
Precincts 33 and 34)

TYRRELL ELEMENTARY
(All or a portion of Jefferson County Election
Precincts 43, 44, 47, 48, 49, 60, 61, 71, 76, & 93)

PORT ARTHUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
(All or a portion of Jefferson County Election
Precincts 45, 46, 70, 81, 82, 95, 96, 97, & 98)

PORT ARTHUR CITY HALL
(All or a portion of Jefferson County Election
Precincts 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, & 55)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL
(All or a portion of Jefferson County Election
Precincts 57, 59, & 104)

POLLING PLACES:

5262 S. Gulfway Drive
Port Arthur, Texas 77655

6900 Jade Avenue
Port Arthur, Texas 77640

4401 Ferndale
Port Arthur, Texas 77642

4615 Ninth Avenue
Port Arthur, Texas 77642

444 Fourth Street
Port Arthur, Texas 77640

1023 Abe Lincoln
Port Arthur, Texas 77640

EXHIBIT B

1. Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the following locations between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 and ending on Tuesday, April 29, 2025:

City Hall, 444 Fourth Street
Port Arthur Public Library, 4615 Ninth Avenue

2. Extended voting hours for Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted on Monday, April 28, 2025 and Tuesday, April 29, 2025 between the hours of 8: 00 a. m. and 6: 00 p. m. at the following locations:

City Hall, 444 Fourth Street, Port Arthur, Texas 77640
Port Arthur Public Library, 4615 Ninth Avenue, Port Arthur, Texas 77642