REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
CHAPTER 9

REVISED EDITION 2000
SHOWING THE LAW AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2000.

This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 1980 - 1990.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws - Page

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS 3

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT 20
Amendments in force as at 31st December, 2000.

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CHAPTER 9
REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

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[*1st April*, 1978] Commencement. S.I. 23 of 1978.

PART I

Preliminary

1. This Act may be cited as the Representation of the People Act. Short title.

2.-(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:- Interpretation. 9 of 1989

"candidate" means a person who is nominated as a candidate at an election or is declared by himself to be or acts as a candidate for election to any seat in the House of Representatives;

"Central Register" means the register to electors established under the provisions of this Act;

"Chief Elections Officer" means the person responsible for the registration of electors and the conduct of elections in accordance with the provisions of this Act, appointed under section 10;

"Commission" means the Elections and Boundaries Commission established in accordance with section 88 of the Belize Constitution; CAP. 4.

"district" means a judicial district established under the Inferior Courts Act; CAP. 94.

"division" means an electoral division specified in the First Schedule to this Act; First Schedule.

"divisional register" means the register for the time being in force in respect of a division;

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"divisional representative" means a person duly elected to represent a division in the House of Representatives;

"duly registered" means registered in accordance with the provisions of this Act;

"election" means an election for the purpose of electing a member of the House of Representatives, and includes a general election;

"election officer" includes the Chief Elections Officer, an Assistant Chief Elections Officer, a registering officer, a revising officer, a returning officer, an election clerk, a presiding officer, a poll clerk, a counting clerk, and any other person having a duty to perform under this Act, to the faithful performance of which duty he has sworn or affirmed;

"elector" in relation to an election, means a person who pursuant to this Act has been registered as an elector to vote at the election;

First Schedule. "electoral division" means an electoral division specified in the First Schedule to this Act;

"form" means the form applicable to the circumstances and which is set out
Fifth Schedule. in the Fifth Schedule to this Act;

"general election" means the general election of divisional representatives after a dissolution of the House of Representatives;

"House of Representatives" means the House of Representatives constiCAP. 4. tuted in accordance with the provisions of Part VI of the Belize Constitution;

"member" means a member of the House of Representatives;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for elections;

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"proper register" and "proper registering officer" means the register of electors for the electoral division in which the elector is qualified to vote, and the registering officer in charge of that register respectively;

"public office" means any office of emolument in the public service;

"public officer" means a person holding or acting in any public office;

"public service" means the public service as defined in section 131 of the Belize Constitution; CAP. 4

"register" or "register of electors" means the register of electors for any particular electoral division;

"Registrar" means the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Belize, and includes a deputy or other officer, authorised in that behalf;

"signature" includes any mark or thumb impression;

"voter" means a person who votes or applies to vote at an election.

(2) Any reference to "this Act" shall where the context permits include a reference to any rules or regulations made thereunder.

(3) Where any register, notice or other document is by or under this Act required to be published, it shall be done, in the absence of any provision in this Act to the contrary, by-

(a) publishing it in the *Gazette*; or

(b) making copies thereof available for inspection at the office of the Chief Elections Officer and that of the Registrar; or

(c) affixing such register, notice or other document to the court

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house or courthouses in the district to which the register, no tice or other document relates, or such other conspicuous place in that electoral division as the person publishing considers necessary; or

(d) advertising it in a newspaper circulating in the area to which such register, notice or other document relates, or by specifying in such an advertisement the places at which such register, notice or document is available for inspection; or

(e) placards or handbills; or

(f) such other manner approved by the Commission as the person publishing thinks is best calculated to afford information to the persons who should receive such information.

(4) Where any act or thing is directed to be done within a specified time after "the date of the publication" of any register, notice or other document, that time shall be computed from the date on which the register, notice or other document is first published in any one of the methods set out in subsection (3).

9 of 1989
CAP. 4.

(5) Residence in Belize means physical residence within the territorial limits of Belize as defined in section 1(2) of the Belize Constitution; and where the person is a registered voter his place of residence shall be taken to be the registered address against his name on the voters' list or at such altered address as he may, by notice in writing, give to the Chief Elections Officer:

Provided that a person shall not be regarded as residing outside the territorial limits of Belize if he is temporarily absent from the country-

(a) on the service of the Government of Belize; or

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(b) undergoing medical treatment certified by a registered medical practitioner in Belize or elsewhere to be essential to his health; or

(c) and is *bona fide* pursuing a course of training or education.

(6) Any person who is required under this Act to take an oath and who objects to being sworn and states as the ground of such objection either that he has no religious belief or that the taking of an oath is contrary to his religious belief, shall be permitted to make his solemn affirmation instead of taking an oath in all places and for all purposes where an oath is required and that affirmation shall have the same force and effect as if it had been an oath.

Power to alter dates. 9 of 1989.

3. The Governor-General may at any time by proclamation published in the *Gazette*, either generally or in respect of any division, alter, vary or extend all or any of the dates on which or the periods within which any act or thing is to be done under this Act.

Power to give directions.

4. Where any difficulty arises in the carrying out of the provisions of this Act or any rules or regulations made thereunder, the Commission may give such directions as it thinks fit for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act or rules or regulations made thereunder; and any person acting in pursuance thereof shall be deemed to be acting in accordance with the provisions of this Act or the rules or regulations.

PART II

Franchise and Registration.

Right to vote.

5.-(1) Every person who on the date of his application to be registered-

(a) is eighteen years of age or over; and

(b) (i) is a citizen of Belize; or 9 of 1989

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9 of 1989

(ii) is a citizen of any Commonwealth country who has ordinarily resided in Belize for a period of not less than twelve months immediately preceding that date; or

(iii) is a citizen of any Commonwealth country who is domiciled in Belize and is ordinarily resident therein on that date; and

(c) is resident for a period of not less than two months immediately preceding that date in the electoral division in which he seeks registration,

shall, unless otherwise disqualified, have the right to vote at an election of a divisional representative for that electoral division if such person-

(i) is registered as an elector in the proper register; and

(ii) is, subject to section 8 (2) *(c)*, in possession of an identification card issued to him by the Chief Elections officer.

11 of 1997.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph *(c)* of subsection (1) above, a citizen of Belize who is a *bona fide* student studying abroad, or who is on official government duty outside Belize, shall be deemed to continue to reside in the electoral division in which his family home is situate and shall be eligible for registration notwithstanding that he may be physically outside Belize, provided that all other conditions for such registration are satisfied.

Registration of electors.

6.-(1) Every person who possess the qualifications mentioned in section 5 shall be eligible, subject to the provisions of this Act and rules made thereunder, to be registered as an elector and to be issued with an identification card.

Second Schedule.

(2) The rules contained in the Second Schedule shall apply for the purposes mentioned in subsection (1).

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(3) Rules made under this section may provide for punishment for offences that are committed in connection with the registration of electors and the issue of identification cards.

Disqualification preventing registration. 9 of 1989. 7 of 1993.

7. A person shall be disqualified to be registered, or being registered, to vote at an election and shall not be registered if such person -

(a) is less than eighteen years of age; or

(b) is under a sentence of death imposed on him by the Supreme Court or any court in any part of the Commonwealth or is serving a sentence of imprisonment exceeding twelve months, imposed on him by such court or substituted by a competent authority for some other sentence imposed on him by such court or is under such a sentence of death or imprisonment the execution of which has been suspended; or

(c) is certified to be insane or otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind or is a patient in any establishment maintained wholly or mainly for reception and treatment of persons suffering from mental illness or mental defectiveness by virtue of or under any law in force in Belize; or

(d) is disqualified for registration as an elector by virtue of any law in Belize, whether or not by reason of his having been convicted of an offence relating to elections.

Plurality of registration or voting

8.-(1) No person shall seek registration or be entitled to have his name entered or retained in more than one register or more than once in the same register.

(2) No person may-

(a) at a general election, vote as an elector in more than one electoral division;

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(b) at any election, vote as an elector more than once in the same electoral division;

11 of 1997.

(c) at any election, vote without first producing the original identification card that had been issued to him or proving to the satisfaction of the presiding officer that although he has been registered he has not been issued with an identification card or that the identification card issued to him has been lost or destroyed and that his identity can be established from the duplicate identification card if kept by the presiding officer:

Provided that the presiding officer shall-

(i) state to the candidates or their agents then present in the polling station his reasons for permitting an elector to vote without first providing his original identification card;

(ii) record his reasons and sign the record so made;

(iii) maintain a list of the names and registration numbers of voters voting without producing their original identification cards showing the number of the ballot paper issued to each of them;

(d) at any election, vote without having been marked with the indelible ink provided for that purpose;

(e) at any election, vote without answering the questions which may be put to voters if asked of him by the presiding officer.

(3) If any person at an election votes otherwise than as a proxy in more than one electoral division, or more than once in the same electoral division or

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applies for another ballot paper or ballot papers for the purpose of so voting he shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) The provisions of paragraphs *(a), (b), (c)* and *(d)* of subsection (2) shall not apply to a person voting as proxy.

Re-registration of electors after every ten years. 11 of 1997.

9.-(1) There shall be carried out a complete re-registration of electors beginning from 1st July, 1997, and every ten years thereafter, in accordance with the provisions of this Act and rules made thereunder:

Provided that, in the case of registration exercises after the first re-registration exercise to be carried out in July, 1997, if the date of the re-registration exercise falls within six months of the general elections becoming due or being called, the Minister shall by Order published in the *Gazette,* postpone the carrying out of the re-registration exercise until such time after the elections as he may consider appropriate.

(2) After a re-registration exercise pursuant to subsection (1) above has been completed, the Minister shall by Order published in the *Gazette* appoint a date on which the new registers of electors prepared as a result of such re-registration exercise shall come into force.

(3) On the coming into force of the new registers of electors, the old registers of electors shall stand repealed but until such commencement, shall remain in full force and effect.

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PART III

Elections and Boundaries Commission

Elections and Boundaries Commission. 9 of 1989. CAP. 4.

10.-(1) There shall be an Elections and Boundaries Commission appointed in accordance with section 88 of the Belize Constitution.

(2) At any meeting of the Commission the quorum shall be any three members of the Commission and if a quorum is present the Commission shall not be disqualified from the transaction of business by reason of any vacancy among its members and any proceedings of the Commission shall be valid, notwithstanding that some person who was not entitled so to do took part therein. If the chairman shall be absent the members present shall appoint one of their number to act as chairman at that meeting.

(3) The Commission shall within three months of the close of a calendar year submit to the Governor-General an annual report of its activities along with any recommendation it may wish to make.

PART IV

Administrative Provisions

Chief Elections Officer. 9 of 1989. CAP. 4.

11.-(1) There shall be a Chief Elections Officer who shall be a public officer appointed by the Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister as provided in section 107 of the Belize Constitution.

(2) For the purpose of the discharge of its functions, the Commission may confer any of its powers and impose any of its duties on the Chief Elections Officer and without limiting the generality of the foregoing may subject to such directions as it may issue from time to time impose upon the Chief Elections Officer the following duties and functions-

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(a) the duty to make such arrangements and do such other things as are necessary for the compilation and maintenance of the divisional registers, and the Central Register and for the issue of identification cards to electors, in accordance with the provisions of this Act and for that purpose to make such arrangements for the preparation and the issue of the necessary forms and documents and the collection and preservation of such records as may be necessary;

(b) the duty to issue to registering officers, revising officers, returning officers, presiding officers and other election officers such directions as he may deem necessary to ensure the effective execution of the provisions of this Act.

(3) There may be appointed by the Public Services Commission one or more Assistant Chief Elections Officer to assist the Chief Elections Officer in the exercise of his powers, the performance of his functions and the discharge of his duties under this Act or any rules or regulations made thereunder. 9 of 1989.

Registering and revising officers. 9 of 1989.

12.-(1) For the purpose of the registration of electors and the issue of identification cards to them, the Public Services Commission shall by notice in the *Gazette* appoint a registering officer in respect of each electoral division and may from time to time appoint one or more persons to be assistant registering officers. A person so appointed to be an assistant registering officer shall have all the powers and may perform all the duties of the registering officer he is appointed to assist and any reference in this Act to a registering officer shall unless the context otherwise requires be deemed to include a reference to every person so appointed as an assistant registering officer.

(2) The Chief Magistrate of the Belize District or a magistrate nominated by him shall be the revising officer for the divisions in the Belize District and the resident magistrate of each district shall be the revising officer for those divisions falling within that district. 9 of 1989.

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Returning officers and election clerks.

13.-(1) For the purposes of holding an election the Commission shall, from time to time and as occasion demands, appoint a person to be a returning officer for each division, and may appoint one or more persons to assist the returning officer in the performance of his duties. A person so appointed to assist any returning officer shall have all the powers and may perform all the duties of the officer he is appointed to assist and any reference in this Act to a returning officer shall unless the context otherwise requires be deemed to include a reference to every such person.

(2) The Chief Elections Officer shall, with the approval of the Commission, appoint an election clerk for each division. If at any time between the issue of a writ for an election and the declaration of the result of that election the returning officer dies or becomes incapable of performing his duties as such, the election clerk shall forthwith report that fact to the Chief Elections Officer and shall discharge all the duties and exercise all the powers of the returning officer until some other returning officer is appointed or the returning officer ceases to be incapable of performing his duties, as the case may be.

(3) An appointment made under subsections (1) and (2) may be revoked at any time.

Other officers. 9 of 1989.

14.-(1) The Public Services Commission may, at the request of the Chief Elections Officer, appoint such number of other officers as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Chief Elections Officer shall, with the approval of the Elections and Boundaries Commission, appoint from within the public service such number of presiding officers, polling clerks, counting clerks and other officers, as the occasion demands.

Oaths of office. Fifth Schedule. Form 1. Form 1A.

15. Any person appointed in any capacity to exercise or perform any power or duty conferred or imposed upon him by or under this Act shall take and subscribe to an oath in Form 1 or Form 1A before a justice of the peace

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to act in that capacity faithfully and without partiality, fear, favour or affection and to keep secret whatever information relating to the manner in which any person voted might come to his knowledge while acting in that capacity.

Offices of the Chief Elections Officer, registering and revising officers and returning officers.

16.-(1) The Chief Elections Officer shall immediately after his appointment as Chief Elections Officer publish in the *Gazette* the address of his office.

(2) The Chief Elections Officer shall, as soon as may be after the appointment of the registering officers, revising officers and returning officers of the electoral divisions, publish in the *Gazette* the address of the office of every such officer at which the members of the public can transact their business with such officer.

(3) A notice giving the address of the office of the registering officer and revising officer of an electoral division shall also be exhibited in conspicuous places in the electoral division.

PART V

Electoral Divisions

Electoral divisions. First Schedule.

17.-(1) For the purpose of the election of members of the House of Representatives, Belize shall be divided into electoral divisions, the names and boundaries of which are set out in the First Schedule.

9 of 1989. CAP. 4. First Schedule.

(2) The number, names and boundaries of the electoral divisions specified in the First Schedule may be varied as provided in section 90 of the Belize Constitution.

(3) Each electoral division shall be represented in the House of Representatives by one elected member.

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Polling areas.

18.-(1) Each electoral division may be a polling area.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1), each electoral division may be subdivided into such number of polling areas as the Chief Elections Officer, with the approval of the Commission, considers necessary with such boundaries and description as he may by notice published in the *Gazette* appoint.

(3) In determining the boundaries of any polling area the Chief Elections Officer shall have regard to geographical considerations and such other factors as may effect the facility of communication between various places within the polling area.

PART VI

Elections

Issue of writs for holding elections.

9 of 1989.

19.-(1) For the purpose of every general election of members of the House of Representatives and for the purpose of the election of members to fill vacancies caused by death, resignation or otherwise the Governor-General shall issue writs of election under the Public Seal of Belize, addressed to the returning officers of the respective divisions for which members are to be returned.

(2) Such writs shall be forwarded to the Commission for transmission to the several returning officers.

Fifth Schedule.
Form 2.
11 of 1997

(3) Each writ shall be in the form set out in Form 2 of the Fifth Schedule and shall specify the day and place of nomination of candidates, the days on which, if necessary, the poll shall be taken, the first of which being not less than fifteen days and not more than twenty-one days after the nomination day, and the day on which such writ is returnable to the Commission for transmission to the Governor-General.

(4) Upon receipt of the writ every returning officer shall proceed to

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hold the election in the manner hereinafter provided.

Notice of time and place of nomination.

20.-(1) On the Governor-General issuing a writ, the Chief Elections Officer shall give notice thereof, and of the day and place fixed for the nomination of candidates, by publication in the *Gazette* and one or more newspapers at least ten clear days before the day fixed for such nomination, and the returning officer shall give further notice of the issue of such writ and of the time and place fixed for the nomination of candidates by causing notices according to Form 3 of the Fifth Schedule to be published.

9 of 1989.

Fifth Schedule. Form 3.

Fifth Schedule. Form 4.

(2) Nomination papers shall be provided by the returning officer and shall be according to Form 4 of the Fifth Schedule.

The conduct of elections. Third Schedule.

21.-(1) The proceedings at an election shall be conducted in accordance with the election rules contained in the Third Schedule.

(2) Returning officers at elections shall do all such acts and things as may be necessary for effectually conducting elections in the manner provided by the election rules.

PART VII

Offences

Chief occupant to furnish information. Forgery, etc., of identification card.

22.-(1) Where the Chief Elections Officer or a registering officer requires any chief occupant or occupier of any premises of which he is in charge to give information required by him for the performance of his function under this Act or any rules made hereunder, and where that occupant or occupier wilfully fails to give the information required from him, or gives information which he knows to be false, or which he does not believe to be true, he is guilty of an offence.

(2) A person who without reasonable excuse fails to obey any request or summons made or issued to him to be present at the inquiry into any application or objection is guilty of an offence.

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(3) A person who without reasonable excuse neglects, fails or refuses to return the identification card of himself or any other person when directed to do so by any registering officer or the Chief Elections Officer, within the time given therefor in the direction, is guilty of an offence.

(4) A person who without lawful authority forges, destroys, mutilates, defaces, removes or makes any alteration in-

(a) an unused completed, incomplete or cancelled registration record card or any duplicate of the same; or

(b) a certificate as to registration; or

(c) an identification card; or

(d) any other documents published or prescribed under this Act,

is guilty of an offence.

(5) Any person who is guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

False claims to registration. 9 of 1989.

23. A person who-

(a) is neither a citizen of Belize nor a citizen of a Commonwealth country; or

(b) has not attained the age of eighteen years; or

(c) does not have the requisite residential qualifications for inclusion in the register of electors,

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and who wilfully makes any claim to be included in the register of electors is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year.

False objections.

24. A person who objects under this Act or any rules or regulations made thereunder to the inclusion of any other person in any list or register relating to electors prepared under this Act or any rules or regulations made thereunder upon any ground which he knows or has reasonable cause to believe to be false is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year.

False statement for registration.

25. A person who knowingly makes a false statement for the purpose of being registered as an elector is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

Offence to omit qualified persons from registering.

9 of 1989

26.-(1) A registering officer who wilfully or without reasonable excuse omits to register the name of any person qualified to be registered or who wilfully frustrates (by any means whatsoever) any such person from being so registered is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

(2) A registering officer convicted of an offence under subsection (1) shall, in addition to any penalty prescribed by that subsection, forfeit his right to payment for his services as a registering officer and, subject to subsection (3), shall be incapable during a period of seven years from the date of his conviction-

(a) of being qualified as an elector or of voting at any election; and

(b) of being elected a member of the House of Representatives.

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(3) Where an appeal is made against a conviction for an offence under subsection (1), the incapacity provided for by subsection (2) in the event of any such conviction, shall continue until the appeal is determined, and thereafter if the conviction is not quashed such incapacity shall remain in force for a period of seven years from the determination of the appeal unless the court hearing the appeal directs that the period of seven years shall run from the date of conviction.

Offences by persons employed in the preparation of registers.

27.-(1) Any person who, being employed under the provisions of this Act in connection with the preparation of any register-

(a) knowingly falsely certifies any register to be correct; or

(b) wilfully enters in any register the name of any person not qualified; or

(c) wilfully omits from any register the name of any person entitled to be entered therein,

shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months.

(2) Section 26 (2) and (3) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any person convicted under the provisions of this section.

Restriction on sale of intoxicating liquor.

28.-(1) Subject to subsection (2), every person who is the holder of any liquor licence granted under the provisions of any Act authorising the sale of intoxicating liquor in any premises maintained solely for that purpose shall take all necessary steps to cause such premises to be closed to the public upon election day between the hour appointed for the opening of the poll and the hour appointed for the closing of the poll.

(2) Every person who is the holder of any hotel licence, special hotel licence, restaurant licence or licence to sell liquor in any premises not solely maintained for that purpose, granted under the provisions of any Act authorising

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the sale of intoxicating liquor shall take all necessary steps to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquor at any time upon election day between the hour appointed for the opening of the poll and the hour appointed for the closing of the poll.

(3) Any person who contravenes this section is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction with a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

Employers to allow employee the prescribed period for voting.

29.-(1) Every employer shall, on polling day, allow to every voter in his employ a reasonable time during the prescribed period for voting, and no employer shall make any deduction from the pay or other remuneration of any such voter or impose upon or exact from him any penalty by reason of his absence during such period.

(2) Any employer who, directly or indirectly refuses to grant, or by intimidation, undue influence or in any other way, interferes with the granting of reasonable time to any voter in his employ during the prescribed period of voting as in this section provided, shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year.

Offences by election officers.

30. Every election officer who –

(a) makes, in any record, return or other document which he is required to keep or make under this Act, any entry which he knows or has reasonable cause to believe to be false, or does not believe to be true; or

(b) permits any person whom he knows or has reasonable cause to believe not to be a blind person or an incapacitated person to vote in the manner provided for blind persons or incapacitated persons, as the case may be; or

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(c) refuses to permit any person whom he knows or has reasonable cause to believe to be a blind person or an incapacitated person to vote in the manner provided for blind persons or incapacitated persons, as the case may be; or

(d) wilfully prevents any person from voting at the polling station at which he knows or has reasonable cause to believe such person is entitled to vote; or

(e) wilfully rejects or refuses to count any ballot paper which he knows or has reasonable cause to believe is validly cast for any candidates in accordance with the provisions of this Act; or

(f) wilfully counts any ballot paper as being cast for any candi date, which he knows or has reasonable cause to believe was not validly cast for such candidate,

is guilty of an offence against this section and on conviction on indictment, liable to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding five years.

Loudspeakers, ensigns, banners, etc., prohibited on polling day.
9 of 1989.

31.-(1) No person shall furnish or supply any loudspeaker, bunting, ensign, banner, standard or set of colours, or any flag, other than the national flag, to any person with intent that it shall be carried, worn or used as political propaganda, on polling day, and no person shall, with any such intent, carry, wear or use, any such loudspeaker, bunting, ensign, banner, standard or set of colours, or any flag, other than the national flag, on polling day.

(2) No person shall furnish or supply any flag, ribbons, label or like favour to or for any person with intent that it be worn or used by any person within any division on polling day, as a party badge to distinguish the wearer as the supporter of any candidate, or of the political or other opinions entertained or supposed to be entertained by such candidate, and no person shall use or wear any flag, ribbon, label, or other favour, as such badge, within any division

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on polling day.

(3) Nothing contained in either subsection (1) or subsection (2) of this section shall be deemed to extend to the furnishing or supplying of any banner bearing only the name of any candidate or any political party or only such name preceded by the words "Vote for" or similar words or of any rosette or to the use of any such banner on any vehicle or of any such rosette.

(4) No person shall on polling day do any of the following acts within any division in which a poll is being taken-

(a) organise, hold or participate in any meeting, or organise, lead or participate in any procession, of five or more persons;

(b) accost, or solicit or canvass his vote from any elector who has already joined the line of voters waiting to vote at any polling station.

(5) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months.

Bribery.

32.-(1) The following persons shall be deemed guilty of bribery within the meaning of this Act-

(a) every person who, directly or indirectly by himself or by any other person on his behalf, gives, lends or agrees to give or lend, or offers, promises, or promises to procure or to endeavour to procure, any money or valuable consideration to or for any voter, or to or for any person on behalf of any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce any voter to vote or refrain from voting, or corruptly does any such act as aforesaid on account of that voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election;

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(b) every person who directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, gives or procures, or agrees to give or procure or to endeavour to procure, any office, place, or employment to or for any voter, or to or for any person on behalf of that voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce that voter to vote or refrain from voting, or corruptly does any such act as aforesaid on account of any voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election;

(c) every person who directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, makes any such gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement or agreement as aforesaid to or for any person in order to induce that person to procure, or to endeavour to procure, the return of any person as an elected member of the House of Representatives or the vote of any voter at any election;

(d) every person who, upon or in consequence of any gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement or agreement, procures, or engages, promises or endeavours to persuade the return of any person as an elected member of the House of Representatives or the vote of any voter at any election;

(e) every person who advances or pays, or causes to be paid, any money to or for the use of any other person , with the intent that that money, or any part thereof, shall be expended in bribery at any election, or who knowingly pays, or causes to be paid any money to any person, in discharge or repayment of any money wholly or in part expended in bribery at any election;

(f) every voter who, before or during any election, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, receives, agrees, or contracts for, any money, gift, loan or valuable consideration, office, place or employment, for himself or for any

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other person, for voting or agreeing to vote, or for refraining or agreeing to refrain from voting at any election;

(g) every person who, after any election, directly or indirectly, by himself or any other person on his behalf, receives any money or valuable consideration on account of any person having voted or refrained from voting or having induced any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election.

(2) No person shall be guilty of bribery under subsection (1) who gives to any other person any article not exceeding twenty dollars in value. 9 of 1989.

Treating.

33. The following persons shall be deemed guilty of treating within the meaning of this Act-

(a) every person who corruptly, by himself or by any other person, either before, during, or after any election, directly or indirectly gives or provides, pays, wholly or in part, the expenses of giving or providing any food, drink, entertainment, or provision to or for any person for the purpose of corruptly influencing that person, or any other person, to vote or refrain from voting at that election, or on account of that person or any other person having voted or refrained from voting at the election;

(b) every voter who corruptly accepts or takes the food, drink, entertainment or provision aforesaid.

Undue influence.

34. Every person who, directly or indirectly, by himself or any other person on his behalf-

(a) makes use, or threatens to make use, of any force, violence or restraint, or inflicts or threatens to inflict, any temporal or spiri tual injury, damage, harm, or loss upon or against any person,

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in order to induce or compel that person to vote or refrain from voting or on account of that person having voted or refrained from voting, at any election, or

(b) by abduction, duress, or any fraudulent contrivance impedes or prevents the free exercise of the franchise of any voter, or thereby compels, induces or prevails upon any voter either to give or refrain from giving his vote at any election,

is guilty of undue influence within the meaning of this Act.

Personation.

35. Every person who at any election applies for a ballot paper or tenders a vote, in the name of another person whether the name is the name of a person living or dead, or of a fictitious person or who having voted at an election, applies for a ballot paper or tenders a vote at the same election in his own name, to which he is not entitled or which he is not entitled to tender by any law in force or by this Act, is guilty of personation.

Penalty for bribery, etc.

36.-(1) Every person who is guilty of bribery, treating or undue influence shall be guilty of a corrupt practice, and is liable on summary conviction thereof, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding one year, or to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

(2) Every person who is guilty of personation or of aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the commission of the offence of personation, shall be guilty of a corrupt practice, and is liable, on summary conviction thereof, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years.

Penalty for certain illegal practices at election.

37. Every person who-

(a) votes or induces, or procures any person to vote, at any election, knowing that he or that person is prohibited by this Act, or by any law in force, from voting at that election; or

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(b) before or during any election, knowingly publishes any false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate at the election for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of another candidate; or

(c) before or during any election, for the purpose of affecting the return of any candidate at such election, makes or publishes any false statement of fact in relation to the personal character or conduct of such candidate; or 9 of 1989.

(d) between the date of notification by the Chief Elections Officer of the issue by the Governor-General of a writ for the purposes of an election and the day after polling at such election, whether in a general election or in a by-election, acts in a disorderly manner with intent to prevent the transaction of the business of a public meeting called for the purpose of promoting the election of a candidate as a member to serve in the House of Representatives,

shall be guilty of an illegal practice, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and, in default, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding twelve months.

Offences in respect of ballot papers.

38.-(1) Every person who-

(a) forges or counterfeits, or fraudulently defaces, or fraudu lently destroys, any nomination paper, or delivers to the presiding officer any nomination paper, knowing the same to be forged; or

(b) forges or counterfeits, or fraudulently defaces, or destroys, any ballot paper or the official mark on any ballot paper; or

(c) without due authority, supplies a ballot paper to any person; or

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(d) fraudulently puts into any ballot box any paper other than the ballot paper which he is authorised by law to put in; or

(e) fraudulently takes out of a polling station any ballot paper; or

(f) without due authority destroys, takes, opens, or otherwise interferes with any ballot box or packet of ballot papers then in use for the purpose of any election,

shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable, if he is a presiding officer or clerk employed at the polling station, to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years, and, if he is any other person, to a fine, on summary conviction, not exceeding one thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three years.

(2) In any indictment or other prosecution for an offence in relation to the nomination papers, ballot boxes, ballot papers, and marking instruments at an election, the property in such papers, boxes, and instruments may be stated to be in the returning officer at such election.

Infringement of secrecy. 9 of 1989.

39.-(1) Every officer and clerk in attendance at a polling station shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting in that station, and shall not communicate to any person, except for some purpose authorised by this Act, before the poll is closed, any information as to the name or number on the register of voters of any voter who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at that station, and no person whoever shall interfere or attempt to interfere with a voter when marking his vote, or otherwise attempt to obtain in the polling station any information as to the candidate for whom any voter there is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to any voter there.

(2) Every clerk and agent in attendance at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting and shall not attempt to ascertain at the counting the number on the back of any ballot

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paper or communicate any information obtained at the counting as to the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper.

(3) No person shall directly or indirectly induce any voter to display his ballot paper after he has marked it, so as to make known to any person the name of the candidate for or against whom he has so marked his vote.

(4) Any person acting in contravention of this section shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and in default of payment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year.

Maintenance of or order at polling stations.

40.-(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2), during the hours when the poll is open upon election days no person shall assemble or congregate within one hundred yards of any building in which is situate any polling station.

(2) This section shall not apply-

(a) to any voters who are waiting to poll their votes at such polling station and who obey any instructions which may be given by the presiding officer or any constable for the purpose of forming a queue with other electors also so waiting; or

(b) to any person who may under the provisions of this Act lawfully enter or remain in such polling station.

(3) Every person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence against this section and is liable on summary conviction thereof to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

Disqualification for bribery, etc.

41. Every person who is convicted of bribery, treating, undue influence, or personation, or of aiding, counselling or procuring the commission of the offence of personation shall (in addition to any other punishment) be incapable

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during a period of seven years from the date of conviction-

(a) of being registered as a voter, or voting at any election of a member of the House of Representatives;

(b) of being a member of the National Assembly or, if elected or appointed before his conviction, of retaining his seat as such member:

Provided that in the event of any appeal the incapacity shall continue until the appeal is determined and thereafter, unless the conviction is quashed, remain in force for a period of seven years from the date of conviction.

Disqualifying effect of conviction for illegal practices.

42. Every person who is convicted of any illegal practice shall, in addition to any other punishment, be incapable during a period of six years from the date of conviction-

(a) of being registered as a voter or voting at any election of a member of the House of Representatives;

(b) of being a member of the National Assembly or, if elected or appointed before his conviction, of retaining his seat as such member:

Provided that in the event of any appeal the incapacity shall continue until the appeal is determined and thereafter, unless the conviction is quashed, remain in force for a period of six years from the date of conviction.

Attempts, how punishable.

43. Any attempt to commit any offence created by this Act shall be punishable in the same manner as the offence itself.

Aiding and abetting.

44. Any person who aids or abets the commission of any offence created by this Act shall, where there is no provision for the punishment of such aiding or abetting, be guilty of that offence and shall be punishable in the same manner

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as the offence itself.

PART VIII

Disputed Elections

Avoidance by conviction of candidate.

45. The election of a candidate as a member is avoided by his conviction for any corrupt or illegal practice.

Avoidance of election on election petition.

46.-(1) The election of a candidate as a member shall be declared to be void on an election petition on any of the following grounds which may be proved to the satisfaction of the Election judge-

(a) that by reason of bribery, treating, intimidation or misconduct, or other circumstances, whether similar to those before enumerated or not, the electors were prevented from electing the candidate whom they preferred;

(b) noncompliance with the provisions of this Act relating to election if it appears that the election was not conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in such provisions and that such noncompliance affected the result of the election;

(c) that bribery or treating was committed in connection with the election by the candidate or with his knowledge or consent or by any agent of the candidate;

(d) that the candidate personally engaged a person as his election agent, or as a canvasser or agent, knowing that such person had within seven years previous to such engagement been found guilty of bribery or treating by an Election Judge;

(e) that the candidate was at the time of his election a person dis-

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qualified for election as a member.

(2) No election shall be declared invalid by reason of any act or omission by the returning officer or any other person in breach of his official duty in connection with the election or otherwise of the provisions of this Act if it appears to the judge or the court having cognizance of the question that the election was so conducted as to be substantially in accordance with the law as to elections and that the act or omission did not affect its result.

Appointment and powers of Election Judge.

47.-(1) Every election petition shall be tried by the Chief Justice or by a judge of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chief Justice for the purpose.

(2) The Chief Justice or the judge so nominated is in this Act, referred to as the "Election Judge".

(3) For the purposes of summoning or compelling the attendance of witnesses at the trial of an election petition, the Election Judge shall have the same power, jurisdiction, and authority as are possessed and exercised by the judge of the Supreme Court in the trial of a civil action and witnesses shall be sworn in the same manner, as near as circumstances will admit, as in the trial of such an action, and shall be subject to the same penalties for the giving of false evidence.

(4) The Election Judge shall be attended on the trial of an election petition in the same manner as if he were a judge of the Supreme Court.

(5) Unless otherwise ordered by the Chief Justice, all interlocutory matters in connection with an election petition may be dealt with and decided by any judge of the Supreme Court.

Who may present petition.

48. An election petition may be presented to the Supreme Court by any one or more of the following persons-

(a) some person who voted or had a right to vote at the election

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to which the petition relates; or

(b) some person claiming to have been a candidate at such election.

Relief which may be claimed.

49. All or any of the following relief to which the petitioner may be entitled may be claimed in an election petition-

(a) a declaration that the election is void;

(b) a declaration that the return of the person elected was undue;

(c) a declaration that any candidate was duly elected and ought to have been returned;

(d) where the seat is claimed for an unsuccessful candidate, on the ground that he had a majority of lawful votes, a scrutiny.

Parties to a petition.

50.-(1) A petitioner shall join as respondents to his election petition-

(a) where the petition, in addition to claiming that the election of any returned candidate is void or was undue, claims a further declaration that he himself or any other candidate has been duly elected, all the contesting candidates, other than the petitioner, and where no such further declaration is claimed, the returned candidate; and

(b) any other candidate or person against whom allegations of any corrupt or illegal practice are made in the petition.

(2) Any candidate not already a respondent to an election petition

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shall, upon application in that behalf made by him to the Election Judge, be entitled to be joined as a respondent to such petition:

Provided that no candidate shall be entitled to be joined of his own motion as a respondent to such petition under the preceding provisions of this section unless he has given such security for costs as the Election Judge may determine.

Contents of the petition.

51. An election petition-

(a) shall state the right of the petitioner to petition within section 48 of this Act;

(b) shall state the holding and result of the election;

(c) shall contain a concise statement of the material facts on which the petitioner relies;

(d) shall set forth full particulars of any corrupt or illegal practice that the petitioner alleges, including as full a statement as possible of the names of the parties alleged to have committed such corrupt or illegal practice and the date and place of the commission of such practice, and shall also be accompanied by an affidavit in support of the allegation of such corrupt or illegal practice and the date and place of the commission of such practice;

(e) shall conclude with a prayer as, for instance, that some speci fied person should be declared duly returned or elected, or that the election should be declared void, or as the case may be, and shall be signed by all the petitioners:

Provided, however, that nothing in the preceding provisions of this section shall be deemed or construed to require evidence to be stated in the

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petition.

Special provisions relating to the procedure before an Election Judge.

52.-(1) The Election Judge may, upon such terms as to costs or otherwise as he may deem fit, allow the particulars of any corrupt or illegal practice specified in an election petition to be amended or amplified in such manner as may in his opinion be necessary for ensuring a fair or effective trial of the petition, so, however, that he shall not allow such amendment or amplification if it will result in the introduction of particulars of any corrupt or illegal practice not previously alleged in the petition.

(2) Every election petition shall be tried as expeditiously as possible and every endeavour shall be made to conclude the trial of such petition within a period of two months after the date of the presentation of such petition. The Election Judge shall make his order deciding such petition without undue delay after the date of the conclusion of the trial of such petition.

Determination of Election Judge.

53. At the conclusion of the trial of an election petition the Election Judge shall determine whether the member whose return or election is complained of, or any other, and what other person, was duly returned or elected, or whether the election was void, and shall certify such determination in writing under his hand.

Such certificate shall be kept in the custody of the Registrar of the Supreme Court to be dealt with as provided in section 58.

Report of Election Judge as to corrupt or illegal practice.

54. At the conclusion of the trial of an election petition the Election Judge shall also make a report under his hand setting out-

(a) whether any corrupt or illegal practice has or has not been proved to have been committed by or with the knowledge and consent of any candidate at the election, or by his agent, and the nature of such corrupt or illegal practice, if any; and

(b) the names and descriptions of all persons, if any, who have been proved at the trial to have been guilty of any corrupt or

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illegal practice:

Provided, however, that before any person, not being a party to an election petition nor a candidate on behalf of whom the seat is claimed by an election petition, is reported by an Election Judge under this section, the Election Judge shall give such person an opportunity of being heard and of giving and calling evidence to show why he should not be so reported.

Such report shall be kept in the custody of the Registrar of the Supreme Court, to be dealt with as provided in section 58.

Appeal on question of law against determination under section 53 and any other decision of Election Judge which finally disposes of election petition.

55. An appeal to the Court of Appeal shall lie on any question of law, but not otherwise, against-

(a) the determination of an Election Judge under section 53; or

(b) any other decision of an Election Judge which has the effect of finally disposing of an election petition.

(2) Any such appeal may be preferred, either by the petitioner or by the respondent in the election petition, before the expiry of a period of one month next succeeding the date of the determination or decision against which the appeal is preferred.

(3) Notice of the filing of a petition of appeal, accompanied by a copy of the petition, shall, within ten days of the filing thereof be served by the appellant on the other party or each of the other parties to the election petition and on the Attorney-General. Such service on a party may be effected in any manner prescribed for the service of the notice and copy of an election petition.

(4) Every appeal under this section shall, as far as practicable be given priority over other business of that Court. The Court may give all such directions as it may consider necessary in relation to the hearing and disposal of

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each appeal.

(5) The Attorney-General shall be entitled to appear or be represented in any appeal under this section.

Security by appellant for costs, etc., of appeal.

56.-(1) At the time of the filing of a petition of appeal, or within three days afterwards, security for the payment of all costs, charges and expenses that may become payable by the appellant shall be given on behalf of the appellant.

(2) The security shall be to an amount of twelve hundred dollars and shall be given by recognisance to be entered into by any number of sureties not exceeding four approved by the Registrar or by deposit of money in the Supreme Court or partly in one way and partly in the other.

(3) If the security as in this section provided is not given by the appellant, no further proceedings shall be had on the appeal, and the respondent may apply to the Court of Appeal for an order directing the dismissal of the appeal and for the payment of the respondent's costs. The cost of hearing and deciding such application shall be paid as ordered by the Court of Appeal and in default of such order shall form part of the general costs of the appeal.

(4) The deposit of money by way of security for the payment of the costs, charges and expenses payable by the appellant shall be made by payment to the Registrar of the Supreme Court. A receipt shall be given by the Registrar for the same.

(5) The Registrar shall file a carbon copy of such receipt and keep a book open to the inspection of all parties concerned in which shall be entered from time to time the amount and the appeal to which it is applicable.

(6) The security so deposited shall, if and when the same is no longer needed for securing the payment of the costs, charges and expenses payable by the appellant, be returned or otherwise disposed of as justice may require by order of the Registrar.

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(7) Such order may be made after such notice of intention to apply and proof that all just claims have been satisfied or otherwise sufficiently provided for as the Registrar may require.

(8) Such order may direct payment to the party to whose name the same is deposited or to any person entitled to receive the same.

Powers of the Court of Appeal.

57.-(1) The Court of Appeal may, upon any appeal preferred under section 55, affirm, vary or reverse the determination or decision of the Election Judge to which the appeal relates.

(2) Where the Court of Appeal reverses on appeal the determination of the Election Judge under section 53 that Court shall decide whether the member whose return or election was complained of in the election petition, or any other, and if so what person, was duly returned or elected, or whether the election was void, and a certificate of such decision shall be issued by that Court.

(3) The Court of Appeal may, in the case of any appeal under section 55, order that the election petition to which the appeal relates shall be tried anew in its entirety or in regard to any matter specified by that Court and give such directions in relation thereto as that Court may think fit.

(4) The Court of Appeal may make any order which it may deem just as to the costs of the appeal and as to the costs of and incidental to the presentation of the election petition and of the proceedings consequent thereon, and may by such order reverse or vary any order as to costs made by the Election Judge.

(5) The decision of the Court of Appeal on any appeal shall be final and conclusive.

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Transmission to Governor-General of certificate and report. 9 of 1989.

58.-(1) Where no appeal is preferred against the determination of an Election Judge under section 55 within the period specified in that behalf, or where in any appeal that is so preferred the Court of Appeal confirms the determination of the Election Judge, the Registrar shall transmit to the Governor-General the certificate of the Election Judge issued under section 53 together with the report of the Election Judge made under section 54.

(2) Where the determination of the Election Judge is reversed by the Court of Appeal, the Registrar shall transmit to the Governor-General the certificate of the decision of that court issued under section 57 together with-

(a) the report of the Election Judge made under section 54 if it is in the opinion of the Court of Appeal not affected by the decision in the appeal; or

(b) if the Election Judge considers it necessary, a report in respect of the matters referred to in section 54 made by the court in accordance with the provisions of that section.

Effect of certificate and report. 9 of 1989.

59.-(1) Upon the transmission to the Governor-General of the certificate of the determination of an Election Judge or of the decision of the Court of Appeal as required by section 58-

(a) the determination or the decision, as the case may be, shall take effect; and

(b) the return or the election shall be confirmed or altered or where the election has been declared void, the Governor-General shall, within one month of the receipt of the certificate, by notice in the *Gazette,* order the holding of an election in the electoral division concerned, as the case may require, in accordance with such certificate.

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(2) *(a)* The Governor-General shall, upon receipt of the report of the Election Judge or of the Court of Appeal transmitted to him under section 58, cause a copy of the report to be published in the *Gazette.*

(b) Where the report referred to in paragraph *(a)* is to the effect that a corrupt or illegal practice has been committed by any person, that person shall be subject to the same incapacities as if at the date of the said report he had been convicted of that practice.

(c) Where the report referred to in paragraph *(a)* is to the effect that such corrupt or illegal practice was committed with the knowledge and consent of a person who was a candidate at an election or by his agent, that person shall be subject to the same incapacities as mentioned in paragraph *(b).*

(3) It shall be the duty of every registering officer forthwith to peruse every such report which is published in the *Gazette* as provided in subsection (2), and forthwith to delete from the register of electors assigned to him the name of every person appearing from the report to be incapable of voting at an election.

Time for presentation.

60.-(1) Every election petition shall be presented within twenty-one days of the date of publication of the result of the election in the *Gazette:*

Provided that-

(a) an election petition questioning the return or the election upon the ground of a corrupt practice and specifically alleging a payment of money or other act to have been made or done since that date by the member whose election is questioned or by an agent of the member or with the privity of the member or his election agent in pursuance or in furtherance of such

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corrupt practice may, so far as respects such corrupt practice, be presented at any time within twenty-eight days after the date of such payment or act;

(b) an election petition questioning the return or the election upon an allegation of an illegal practice may be presented at any time within twenty-eight days after the date of such payment or other act if the election petition specifically alleges a payment of money or other act to have been made or done since the said day by the member whose election is questioned or by an agent of the member or with the privity of the member or of his election agent in pursuance or in furtherance of the illegal practice alleged in the petition.

(2) An election petition presented in due time may, for the purpose of questioning the return or the election upon an allegation of a corrupt or illegal practice, be amended with the leave of a judge of the Supreme Court within the time within which an election petition questioning the return or the election upon that ground may be presented.

Prohibition of disclosure of vote.

61. No elector who has voted at any election shall, in any proceeding to question the election, be required to state for whom he has voted.

Procedure and practice on election petitions. Fourth Schedule.

62.-(1) Subject to this section, the procedure and practice on election petitions shall be regulated by the rules contained in the Fourth Schedule.

(2) If any matter of procedure or practice on an election petition shall arise which is not provided for by this Act or by such rules, the procedure or practice followed in England on the same matter shall, so far as it is not inconsistent with this Act or any such rules and is suitable for application to Belize, be followed and shall have effect.

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Rejection of ballot paper by returning officer to be final.

63. Except on an election petition, the decision of a returning officer whether or not a ballot paper shall be rejected or not, shall not be questioned.

PART IX

Miscellaneous

Power to make regulations.

64.-(1) The Minister may make regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act, and without prejudice to the generality of the powers so conferred, he may make regulations-

(a) with respect to the incurring of expenses and the making of payments by or on behalf of a candidate, whether before, during or after an election, on account of or in respect of, the conduct or management of such election;

(b) requiring the appointment of an election agent through or by whom all such expenses or payments shall be incurred or made;

(c) fixing the maximum amount of expenses that may be incurred or paid, whether before, during or after an election, on account, or in respect, of the conduct or management of such election;

(d) fixing the time within which all election expenses shall be paid and barring all claims in respect thereof not made within the prescribed time;

(e) requiring a return of expenses and prescribing the form in which the same shall be made and verified;

(f) prescribing the fees and allowances to be paid to officers, enumerators and scrutineers; and

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(g) for any matter that may be incidental to or connected with the provisions of this Act.

(2) Contraventions of any regulations made under subsection (1) *(a)* to *(e)* shall be deemed illegal practices, and provision may be made in the said regulations for the punishment, on summary conviction, of persons committing or taking part in the commission of such illegal practices by-

(a) a fine, not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars; and

(b) disqualification from voting at any election under this Act and from being elected or appointed as a Member of the House of Representatives for six years from the date of his conviction.

(3) All regulations made under the provisions of this section shall be laid before the House of Representatives for approval and the House may, by resolution, rescind or approve (whether after amendment by the House or not) the regulations and upon approval, the regulations as approved shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall on the date of publication have the force of law.

Rules.

65.-(1) The Minister may make rules providing for matters as may be necessary or expedient for carrying the purposes of this Act into effect and in particular and without limiting the generality of the foregoing may make rules adding to, rescinding, varying or amending-

(a) any of the rules contained in the Second, Third and Fourth Schedules; Second, Third and Fourth Schedules.

(b) any of the forms contained in the Fifth Schedule. Fifth Schedule.

(2) Rules made under this section may provide that a person who commits any breach of the rules shall be guilty of an offence and upon summary

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conviction for such offence shall be liable to a fine of five hundred dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both.

(3) Any rule made pursuant to this section shall be laid before the National Assembly as soon as may be after the making thereof and if the Assembly by resolution request that the rule be rescinded that rule shall be rescinded by the Minister but without prejudice to the validity of anything done thereunder.

Expenses of elections.

66. All expenses properly incurred by, and all remuneration and travelling allowances payable to, officers under this Act, shall be defrayed out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

General penalty.

67. Any person who is guilty of an offence under this Act or any rules or regulations made hereunder for which no penalty has been prescribed shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

FIRST SCHEDULE

[Section 17]

FORT GEORGE DIVISION

16 of 1998.

THE FORT GEORGE DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the Northern Bank of Haulover Creek with Pickstock Street produced; thence Northeasterly along Pickstock Street to its intersection with New Road; thence Southeasterly along New Road to its intersection with Hydes Lane; thence Northeasterly along Hydes Lane to

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its junction with Barrack Road; thence Northerly along Barrack Road, to its junction with Victoria Street; thence Southwesterly along Victoria Street to its intersection with Castle Street; thence Westerly along Castle Street to its junction with Douglas Jones Street; thence Southwesterly along Douglas Jones Street to its junction with Cran Street; thence Northwesterly along Cran Street to its junction with Mapp Street; thence Northeasterly along Mapp Street into Simon Lamb Street, to its intersection with Kelly Street; thence Easterly along Kelly Street, to its junction with Wilson Street; thence Southerly across Cinderella Plaza to Freetown Road; thence Easterly along Freetown Road to its junction with Barrack Road; thence Northerly along Barrack Road to its junction with Eve Street at the sea coast; thence Southeasterly and Southerly along the sea coast to the Northern Bank of Haulover Creek; thence Northwesterly along the said Northern Bank, to the point of commencement.

PICKSTOCK DIVISION

THE PICKSTOCK DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows: 16 of 1998.

Commencing at the intersection of the Northern Bank of Haulover Creek with Pickstock Street produced; thence Northeasterly along Pickstock Street to its intersection with New Road; thence Southeasterly along New Road to its intersection with Hydes Lane; thence Northeasterly along Hydes Lane to its junction with Barrack Road; thence Northerly along Barrack Road to its junction with Victoria Street; thence Southwesterly along Victoria Street to its junction with Castle Street; thence Westerly along Castle Street to its junction with Douglas Jones Street; thence Southwesterly along Douglas Jones Street to its junction with Cran Street; thence Northwesterly along Cran Street to its intersection with Mapp Street; thence Northeasterly along Mapp Street to its intersection with Freetown Road; thence Westerly along Freetown Road to its intersection with the Northern Bank of Haulover Creek at the Farmers Market; 16 of 1998.

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thence Southwesterly along the said Northern Bank, to the point of commencement.

CARIBBEAN SHORES DIVISION

16 of 1998.

THE CARIBBEAN SHORES DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within the area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the junction of Barrack Road with Eve Street at the sea coast; thence Northerly and Westerly along the sea coast to the mouth of the Belize River where it empties into the sea; thence Westerly upstream along the Belize River to its junction with the Northern Highway at the Haulover Creek Bridge; thence Southeasterly along the Northern Highway to its intersection with Princess Margaret Drive; thence Northerly and Easterly along the Princess Margaret Drive to its junction with St. Thomas Street; thence Southerly along St. Thomas Street to its junction with 19th Street; thence Easterly along 19th Street to its junction with K-Street; thence Southerly along K-Street for a distance of 300 feet more or less to its junction with an unnamed street; thence Easterly along the said unnamed street to its junction with I-Street; thence Southerly along I-Street to 11th Street; thence Easterly along 11th Street to its junction with G-Street; thence Southerly along G-Street to its junction with 6th Street; thence Easterly along 6th Street to its junction with Hopkins Street; thence Southerly along Hopkins Street to its intersection with 3rd Street; thence Westerly along 3rd Street to its intersection with St. Peter Street; thence Southerly along St. Peter Street to its junction with St. Joseph Street; thence Easterly along St. Joseph Street to its intersection with Simon Lamb Street; thence Southerly along Simon Lamb Street to its junction with Kelly Street; thence Easterly along Kelly Street to its junction with Wilson Street; thence Southerly across Cinderella Plaza to Freetown Road; thence Easterly along Freetown Road to its junction with Barrack Road; thence Northerly along Barrack Road to the point of commencement.

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FREETOWN DIVISION

THE FREETOWN DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows: 16 of 1998.

Commencing at the intersection of the Belize River and the Northern Highway at the Haulover Creek Bridge; thence Southerly along the Northern Highway to its intersection with Princess Margaret Drive; thence Northerly and Easterly along Princess Margaret Drive to its junction with St. Thomas Street; thence Southerly along St. Thomas Street to its junction with 19th Street; thence along Easterly 19th Street to its junction with K-Street; thence Southerly along K-Street for a distance of 350 feet more or less, to its junction with an unnamed street; thence Easterly along the same unnamed street to its junction with I-Street; thence Southerly along I-Street to 11th Street; thence Easterly along 11th Street to its junction with G-Street; thence Southerly along G-Street to its junction with 6th Street; thence Easterly along 6th Street to its junction with Hopkins Street; thence Southerly along Hopkins Street to its intersection with 3rd Street; thence Westerly along 3rd Street to its intersection with St. Peter Street; thence Southerly along St. Peter Street to its junction with St. Joseph Street; thence Easterly along St. Joseph Street to its intersection with Simon Lamb Street; thence Southerly along Simon Lamb Street to its junction with Freetown Road; thence Westerly along Freetown Road around the roundabout to its junction with the Northern side of Haulover Creek at San Cas Plaza; thence Northwesterly along the said Haulover Creek to its intersection with the Belize River; thence Easterly and downstream along the Belize River to the point of commencement.

ALBERT DIVISION

THE ALBERT DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows:

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Commencing at a point where the Northerly limit of Regent Street West produced Northwesterly meets the Haulover Creek; thence Southeasterly along the Southerly bank of Haulover Creek to where it meets the Caribbean Sea; thence Southerly and Southwesterly along the sea coast to its intersection with Collet Canal; thence Northerly along the East limit of Collet Canal to its intersection with the South limit of Southside Canal; thence Northeasterly and Northerly along the South and East limits of Southside Canal to its intersection with the North limit of Water Lane; thence Westerly along the North limit of Water Lane and Bagdad Street to its intersection with the East limit of Alexandria Street; thence Northerly along the East limit of Alexandria Street and Turton Lane, to its intersection with the Northerly limit of Regent Street West; thence Northwesterly along the said Northerly limit to the point of commencement.

PORT LOYOLA DIVISION

2 of 1993.

THE PORT LOYOLA DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the junction of the Collet Canal and the Waterway; thence Northwesterly along the Waterway, across Central American Boulevard, and along the South Creek Road to its junction with an unnamed street 466 feet more or less from the Western limits of the said Boulevard; thence Southwesterly along the Eastern limits of said unnamed street and adjacent to lots numbered 6976, 6975, 6973 and 6969 as shown on Plan 1791 at the Lands and Survey Department, Belmopan, to its intersection with the Northern boundary of a parcel of land known now or formerly as Hood's Estate; thence Northwesterly along the Northern boundary of said estate to its most Northwesterly corner; thence Southwesterly along the Western boundary of said Hood's Estate extended to the Northern boundary of a parcel of land known now or formerly as Stephen's Estate; thence Northwesterly along the Northern boundary of said estate extended to Krooman's Road; thence Southeasterly along Krooman's Road to its junction with Faber's Road; thence Northwesterly along Faber's Road to its junction with the Western Highway; thence South-

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westerly and Northwesterly along the Western Highway to its intersection with Burdon Canal; thence Southwesterly along the Burdon Canal to its intersection with the Sibun Canal; thence due East along the Sibun Canal to the sea coast; thence Northerly and Easterly along the sea coast to the most Northeasterly point of a parcel of land known now or formerly as New Brighton; thence on a Westerly, Northerly and Easterly direction along the Yarborough Lagoon to its junction with the Collet Canal; thence Northerly along the said canal to the point of commencement.

MESOPOTAMIA DIVISION

THE MESOPOTAMIA DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the Southerly limit of Water Lane with the Westerly limit of West Canal Street; thence Southerly along the said Westerly limit to its intersection with the North limit of South Street; thence Westerly along the said North limit to and along the North limit of Basra Street to its intersection with the East limit of Euphrates Avenue; thence Northerly along the said East limit to its intersection with the North limit of Dean street; thence Westerly along the said North limit to its intersection with the Easterly limit of East Collet Canal Street; thence Northerly along the said Easterly limit to its intersection with the Southerly limit of Cemetery Road; thence Easterly along the said Southerly limit to its intersection with the Easterly limit of Mosul Street produced; thence Northerly along the said Easterly limit to its intersection with the Southerly limit of Vernon Street; thence Easterly along the said Southerly limit to its intersection with the Westerly limit of Alexandria Street; thence Southerly along the said Westerly limit produced to its intersection with the Southerly limit of Bagdad Street; thence Easterly along the said Southerly limit to and along the Southerly limit of Water Lane, to the point of commencement.

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COLLET DIVISION

2 of 1993. **THE COLLET DIVISION**, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the extension of Currasow Street at its junction with the Waterway; thence Northwesterly along the Waterway, across Central American Boulevard and along South Creek Road to its junction with an unnamed street 485 feet more or less from the Western limits of the said Boulevard; thence Southwesterly along the Western limits of said unnamed street and adjacent to lots numbered 6977, 6979, 6981 and 6982 as shown on Plan 1791 at the Lands and Survey Department, Belmopan, to its intersection with the Northern boundary of a parcel of land known now or formerly as Hood's Estate; thence Northwesterly along the Northern boundary of said estate to its most Northwesterly corner; thence Southwesterly along the western boundary of said Hood's Estate extended to the Northern boundary of a parcel of land known now or formerly as Stephen's Estate; thence Northwesterly along the Northern boundary of said estate extended to Krooman's Road; thence Southeasterly along Krooman's Road to its junction with Faber's Road; thence Northwesterly along Faber's Road to its junction with the Western Highway; thence Northeasterly and Easterly along the Western Highway to its junction with Vernon Street; thence Northeasterly and Easterly along Vernon Street to its intersection with Mosul Street; thence Southerly along Mosul Street to its intersection with Cemetery Road; thence Westerly along Cemetery Road to its intersection with Currasow Street; thence Southerly along Currasow Street produced to the point of commencement.

LAKE INDEPENDENCE DIVISION

2 of 1993. **THE LAKE INDEPENDENCE DIVISION**, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the Southerly limit of Regent Street West with the Westerly

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limit of Turton Lane; thence Southwesterly along the said Westerly limit to its intersection with the Northerly limit of Vernon Street; thence Westerly along the said Northerly limit to its intersection with the Northerly limit of the Western Highway; thence Westerly and Southwesterly along the said limit of the Western Highway to its intersection with the Easterly limit of Burdon Canal; thence Northeasterly along the said limit of Burdon Canal to its intersection with the Southerly Bank of Haulover Creek; thence Southeasterly along the said Southerly Bank to its intersection with the Southerly limit of Regent Street West produced Northeasterly; thence Southeasterly along the said produced limit to the point of commencement.

QUEEN'S SQUARE DIVISION

THE QUEEN'S SQUARE DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Belize City which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the Southerly limit of Cemetery Road with the Westerly limit of West Collet Canal Street; thence Southerly along the said Westerly limit to its intersection with the South limit of Dean Street produced; thence Easterly along the said South limit to its intersection with the West limit of Euphrates Avenue; thence Southerly along the said West limit to its intersection with the South limit of Basra Street produced; thence Easterly along the said South limit to and along the South limit of South Street to its intersection with the Easterly limit of West Canal Street; thence Southerly and Southwesterly along the said Easterly limit to and along the Southerly limit of Mex Avenue and Zeitown Street to its intersection with the Easterly limit of East Collet Canal Street; thence Northerly along the said Easterly limit to its intersection with the Southerly limit of North Creek Road produced; thence Westerly along the said Southerly limit to its intersection with the East limit of Curassow Street produced; thence Northerly along the said East limit to its intersection with the Southerly limit of Cemetery Road; thence Easterly along the said Southerly limit to the point of commencement.

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BELIZE RURAL NORTH DIVISION

THE BELIZE RURAL NORTH DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Belize District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at a point on the Western boundary of Belize District midway between the Western Highway and Big Falls; thence Northeasterly in a straight line to Sebastian Bridge on the Mussel Creek Road; thence Northeasterly in a straight line to the Northern boundary of St. James Boom on the Belize River; thence Southeasterly in a straight line to the junction of the Northern Highway and Boom Road; thence due East to the sea coast; thence Northerly along the sea coast to the Northern boundary of Belize District; thence Westerly along the said Northern boundary to the Western boundary of Belize District; thence Southerly along the said Western boundary, to the point of commencement.

BELIZE RURAL SOUTH DIVISION

13 of 1998

THE BELIZE RURAL SOUTH DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Belize District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at a point being Boca Bacalar Chico on the Belize Mexico boundary line; thence Westerly along the said boundary line; thence Northwesterly along the said boundary; thence Southwesterly along the said boundary; thence Northwesterly along the said boundary to a point; thence due West to a point on the sea coast approximately 5 kms South of condemned point; thence along the sea coast in a Southerly direction to a point being the intersection of the Southern Belize District boundary and the sea coast; thence due East along the said boundary to a point; thence due South along the Western boundary of the Belize District to a point; thence Easterly along the Southern boundary of the Belize District to the point of commencement.

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BELIZE RURAL CENTRAL DIVISION

THE BELIZE RURAL CENTRAL DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Belize District which lies within an area bounded as follows: 13 of 1998.

Commencing at a point on the Western boundary of the Belize District midway between the Western Highway and Big Falls; thence Northeasterly in a straight line to Sebastian Bridge on the Mosul Creek Road; thence Northeasterly in a straight line to the Northern boundary of St. James Boom on the Belize River; thence Southerly in a straight line to the junction of the Northern Highway and Boom Road; thence due East to the sea coast; thence Southerly along the sea coast to the mouth of the Belize River; thence Westerly and upstream along the Belize River to its junction with Haulover Creek; thence Southeasterly along the said Haulover Creek to its junction with Burdon Canal; thence Southwesterly along Burdon Canal to its intersection with Sibun Canal; thence Easterly along Sibun Canal to its mouth at the sea coast; thence Southerly along the sea coast to the Southern boundary of the Belize District; thence Southwesterly along the said boundary; thence Westerly along the said boundary to the Western boundary of the Belize District; thence Northeasterly and Northerly along the said Western boundary to the point of commencement.

COROZAL NORTH DIVISION

THE COROZAL NORTH DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Corozal District and Town which lies within an area bounded as follows: 13 of 1998.

Commencing at the Southwest corner of land now or formerly leased to Albert Vault, the said land being on the Southern boundary of the Town of Corozal; thence due West and in a straight line, a distance of 9,600 feet; thence Southwesterly for a distance of 3.8 miles to a point; thence Southeasterly for a distance of 1.6 miles to a point; thence due South for a distance of .8 miles crossing the Belize Corozal Road to a point; thence due West for a distance of 1.7 miles to a point; thence Northwesterly to the Southernmost point in the

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Village of San Pedro; thence due West and in a straight line to the Eastern Bank of the Rio Hondo; thence Northerly and Easterly downstream along the said bank of the Rio Hondo to the Caribbean Sea; thence Southeasterly and Southwesterly along the sea coast to its intersection with the Northern boundary of the new Corozal Bay Electoral Division at the Southern Eastern end of the Finca Solana Subdivision; thence Westerly and following the said Northern boundary of the Corozal Bay Electoral Division to its Western boundary; thence Southerly along the said Western boundary of the new Corozal Bay Electoral Division to the point of commencement.

COROZAL SOUTH EAST DIVISION

THE COROZAL SOUTH EAST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the South Eastern Section of the Corozal District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the Southern boundary of Corozal Town with the Caribbean Sea; thence Westerly along the said boundary of Corozal Town to its Southernmost corner; thence due West and in a straight line, a distance of 9,600 feet; thence Southwesterly and along the Southern boundary of the Corozal North Electoral Division, a distance of four miles; thence Southeasterly and in a straight line to a bend in the Northern Highway at San Francisco; thence continuing Southeasterly and along the said straight line a distance of three miles, more or less, to the Western Bank of New River; thence Southerly along the said bank of New River a distance of four and one-half miles, more or less, to a branch in the river that goes northerly towards Libertad; thence Westerly in a straight line to the junction of the Northern Highway with Caledonia Road; thence due South to the Southern boundary of the Corozal District; thence Southeasterly along the said boundary of the Corozal District, to the Caribbean Sea; thence Northerly and Westerly along the sea coast, to the point of commencement.

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COROZAL BAY DIVISION

THE COROZAL BAY DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Corozal Town and District which lies within an area bounded as follows: 13 of 1998.

Commencing on the sea coast of Corozal District approximately 6,000 feet in a Southwesterly direction from the junction of South Street and ByePass Road, Corozal Town at a concrete pillar on the said sea coast; thence on a bearing of S81° 07' 55" W for a distance of 958.01 feet to a concrete pillar at the Southwestern corner of land leased to Albert Vault; thence on a bearing of N00° 19' 15" E for a distance of 2747.28 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N15° 49' 10"E for a distance of 387.38 feet to a concrete pillar on the alignment of an access road reserve; thence along the alignment of the said access road on a bearing of N70° 15' 45"W for a distance of 459.13 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a circular curve of arc length 204.08 feet and radius 203.93 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 02° 55' 28" W for a distance of 218.70 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N16° 11' 22" W for a distance of 420.58 feet to a concrete pillar on the alignment of the Northern Highway; thence on a bearing of N 16° 11' 22" W for a distance of 100.79 feet across the said highway to a point; thence on a bearing of N 66° 37' 35" E along the alignment of the Northern Highway for a distance of 475.50 feet to a concrete pillar on the said highway alignment; thence on a circular curve of arc length 179.98 feet and radius 525.00 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 02° 32' 36" W for a distance of 4l2.16 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 40° 05' 05" E for a distance of 1287.61 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 17° 49' 55" E for a distance of 973.75 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N82° 35' 45" E for a distance of approximately 400 feet to a point; thence on a bearing of N23° 39' 25" E for a distance of approximately 105 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N82° 34' 30" W for a distance of 973.67 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 80° 01' 20" W for a distance of 988.94 feet to a concrete pillar, thence on a bearing S 67° 29" W for a distance of 36.56 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N 07° 40' 20" E for a distance of 1938.94 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N 82° 23' 40" W for a distance of

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1916.74 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N 08° 12' 50" E for a distance of 847.81 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N77° 30' E for a distance of 109.0 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N 28° 34' 30" E for a distance 357.95 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing S 82° 15' 55" E for a distance of 918.31 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing S 05° 01' 45" W for a distance of 171.54 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing S 84° 58' 15" E for a distance of 1597.11 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N 05° 01' 45" E for a distance of 478.65 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing N 57° 32' 25" W for a distance of approximately 390 feet to a point; thence on a bearing of N 40° 27' 15" E for a distance of 1219.47 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 09° 45' 10" E for a distance of 1966.55 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 55° 29' 50" for a distance of 1351.95 feet to a point; thence on a bearing of N 04° 33' 20" E for a distance of 477.01 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 16° 33' 00" E for a distance of 282.44 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 76° 17' 00" E for a distance of 2491.85 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of N 00° 00' 50" E for a distance of 478.39 feet to a concrete pillar; thence in the direction of East for a distance of 1026.44 feet to a wooden post; thence on a bearing of N 02° 25' 30" W for a distance of 5.95 feet to a wooden post; thence on a bearing of S 89° 59' 15"W for a distance of 452.29 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 00° 00' 45" W for a distance of 575.65 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 89° 59' 15" E for a distance of 515.96 feet to a concrete pillar; thence in the direction South for a distance of 2323.06 feet to a point; thence on a bearing of S 47° 27' 30" W for a distance of 229.40 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 42° 32' 30" E for a distance of 300.l6 feet to a concrete pillar; thence on a bearing of S 47° 42' 38" E for a distance of 1681.40 feet to a concrete pillar on the sea coast; thence along the sea coast in a Southwesterly direction back to the point of commencement; the above being delineated on a plan of surveys numbered 1394 executed by J. E. Hertular, Government Surveyor and lodged in the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, Belmopan.

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COROZAL SOUTH WEST DIVISION

THE COROZAL SOUTH WEST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Corozal District which lies within an area bounded as follows: 13 of 1998.

Commencing at a point 3.8 miles from the intersection of Corozal North and Corozal South East Electoral Division; thence in a Southeasterly and in a straight line to a bend in the Northern Highway at San Francisco; thence continuing Southeasterly and along the said straight line a distance of three miles, more or less**,** to the Western Bank of New River; thence Southerly along the said Bank of New River a distance of four and one-half miles, more or less, to a branch in the river that goes Northerly towards Libertad; thence Westerly in a straight line to the junction of the Northern Highway with Caledonia Road; thence due South to the Southern boundary of the Corozal District; thence Northwesterly along the said boundary of the Corozal District to the Eastern Bank of the Rio Hondo; thence Northerly and Northeasterly downstream along the said Bank of the Rio Hondo to its intersection with a line due West from the Southernmost point in the village of San Pedro; thence Southeasterly for a distance of 1 mile to a point; thence Easterly for a distance of 1.7 miles to a point; thence due North for a distance of .8 miles crossing the Belize Corozal Road to a point being the point of commencement.

ORANGE WALK NORTH DIVISION

THE ORANGE WALK NORTH DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Orange Walk Town and District which lies within an area bounded as follows: 16 of 1998.

Commencing at the intersection of the San Antonio Road and a line produced from a 206.6 Acre parcel being the Eastern boundary line of the said property; thence Northerly along the said boundary line; thence Easterly along the San Lorenzo Road to a point on the Orange Walk Town Northern boundary; thence Easterly along the said Northern boundary to its intersection with the Northern Highway; thence Southerly along the Northern Highway to its

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junction with Holy Trinity Street; thence Southwesterly along Holy Trinity Street to its junction with Clarke Street; thence Southerly along Clarke Street to its junction with Lyle Street; thence Easterly along Lyle Street to its intersection with Tate Street; thence Southeasterly along Tate Street to San Andres; thence Westerly along San Andres Street to its junction with Progress Street; thence Southerly along Progress Street to its intersection with Arthur Street; thence Southeasterly along Arthur Street to its junction with Lovers Lane; thence Northerly along Lovers Lane to its junction with Park Street; thence Easterly along Park Street to its junction with Main Street; thence Northerly along Main Street to its junction with Beytias Street; thence Westerly along Beytias Street to its junction with Queen Victoria Avenue; thence Northerly along Queen Victoria Avenue to its junction with Hospital Crescent; thence Easterly along Hospital Crescent to its junction with Main Street; thence Northerly along Main Street to its junction with the San Estevan Road; thence Easterly along the San Estevan Road a distance of one mile, more or less, to a curve to the left; thence due North to the Orange Walk-Corozal District boundary; thence Northwesterly along the said District boundary to the Eastern Bank of the Rio Hondo; thence Southwesterly along the said bank of the Rio Hondo to its intersection with the Northern boundary of the Orange Walk South Electoral Division; thence Southerly along the said Northern boundary to its intersection with the San Antonio Road South of Yo Creek; thence Easterly along the San Antonio Road to the point of commencement.

ORANGE WALK EAST DIVISION

THE ORANGE WALK EAST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of Orange Walk Town and District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of San Antonio Road with the Western boundary of Orange Walk Town; thence Easterly along San Antonio Road to its junction with the Northern Highway; thence Southerly along the Northern Highway to its junction with Mahogany Street; thence Easterly along Mahogany Street to its junction with Main Street; thence Northerly along Main

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Street to its intersection with Santa Maria Street; thence Easterly along Santa Maria Street to its junction with Muffles Street; thence Northerly along Muffles Street to its intersection with Cemetery Street; thence Easterly along Cemetery Street to its junction with Louisiana Farm Road; thence Northerly along Louisiana Farm Road and Riverside Street to Church Street; thence Westerly along Church Street to its junction with Main Street; thence Northerly along Main Street to its junction with Beytias Street; thence Westerly along Beytias Street to its junction with Queen Victoria Avenue; thence Northerly along Queen Victoria Avenue to its junction with Hospital Crescent; thence Easterly along Hospital Crescent to its junction with Main Street; thence Northerly along Main Street to its junction with San Estevan Road; thence Easterly along the San Estevan Road a distance of one mile, more or less, to a curve to the left; thence due North to the Orange Walk-Corozal District boundary; thence Southeasterly along the said District boundary to the Belize District boundary; thence Westerly along the Orange Walk-Belize District boundary to the Northern boundary of the Orange Walk South Electoral Division at the Northern Highway; thence Northwesterly along the said Northern boundary to its intersection with the San Antonio Road South of Yo Creek; thence Easterly along the San Antonio Road to the point of commencement.

ORANGE WALK SOUTH DIVISION

THE ORANGE WALK SOUTH DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Orange Walk District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the old Northern Highway with the Orange Walk-Belize District boundary; thence Northwesterly in a straight line to a point on the left bank of New River, the said point being one mile in a Southerly Direction from Tower Hill Bridge; thence Northwesterly in a straight line to the most Northeasterly limit in the village of Chan Pine Ridge; thence Northwesterly in a straight line to the most Northeasterly limit in the village of Yo Creek; thence Northwesterly in a straight line to the most Northeasterly limit in the village of San Antonio; thence continuing on the said straight line to the Right

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Bank of the Rio Hondo; thence Southwesterly and Westerly along the said Bank of the Rio Hondo and Blue Creek, to the Western Frontier Line; thence Southerly along the said Frontier Line to the Orange Walk-Cayo District boundary; thence Easterly along the said District boundary to the Belize District boundary; thence Northerly and Easterly along the Orange Walk-Belize District boundary, to the point of commencement.

ORANGE WALK CENTRAL DIVISION

16 of 1998. **THE ORANGE WALK CENTRAL DIVISION**, comprising all that portion of Orange Walk Town which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the San Antonio Road and a line produced from a 206.6 Acre parcel being the Eastern boundary line of the said property; thence Easterly along San Antonio Road to its junction with the Northern Highway; thence Southerly along the Northern Highway to its junction with Mahogany Street; thence Easterly along Mahogany Street to its junction with Main Street; thence Northerly along Main Street to its intersection with Santa Maria Street; thence Easterly along Santa Maria Street to its junction with Muffles Street; thence Northerly along Muffles Street to its intersection with Cemetery Street; thence Easterly along Cemetery Street to its junction with Louisiana Farm Road; thence Northerly along Louisiana Farm Road and Riverside Street to Church Street; thence Westerly along Church Street and Park Street to Lovers Lane; thence Southerly along Lovers Lane to Arthur Street; thence Northwesterly along Arthur Street to its intersection with Progress Street; thence Northerly along Progress Street to its junction with San Andres Street; thence Easterly along San Andres Street to Tate Street; thence Northerly along Tate Street to its intersection with Lyle Street; thence Westerly along Lyle Street to its intersection with Clarke Street; thence Northerly along Clarke Street to its junction with Holy Trinity Street; thence Northeasterly along Holy Trinity Street to its junction with the Northern Highway; thence Northerly along the Northern Highway to its intersection with the Northern boundary of Orange Walk Town; thence Westerly along the San Lorenzo Road to a point 1500 meters past the Orange Walk Town boundary; thence Southerly along a

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line being the Eastern boundary line of a 206.6 Acre parcel, produced back to the point of commencement.

CAYO NORTH DIVISION

THE CAYO NORTH DIVISION, comprising San Ignacio Town and all that portion of the Cayo District which lies within an area bounded as follows*:*

Commencing at the Southeastern corner of San Ignacio Town; thence Northerly along the Western Bank of the Eastern Branch of the Belize River produced to the Northern Bank of the Belize River at Branch Mouth; thence Easterly along the said Northern Bank to Duck Run; thence due North to the Cayo-Orange Walk District boundary; thence Southwesterly along the said District boundary to the Western Frontier Line; thence Southerly along the said Frontier Line to its intersection with a line due West from the point of commencement; thence due East along the said line to the point of commencement.

CAYO WEST DIVISION

THE CAYO WEST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Cayo District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the Southwestern corner of San Ignacio Town; thence due South a distance of twelve miles to a point; thence due West to the Western Frontier Line; thence Northerly along the said Frontier Line to its intersection with a line due West from the point of commencement; thence due East along the said line to the point of commencement.

CAYO CENTRAL DIVISION

THE CAYO CENTRAL DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Cayo District which lies within an area bounded as follows- 11 of 1997.

Commencing at the Southeastern corner of San Ignacio Town; thence due

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West to a point being the junction of Northern and Eastern Cayo West boundary lines; thence due South along the Eastern boundary line for a distance of 16.85 miles to a point; thence Easterly for a distance of 7.61 miles to Vaqueros Creek; thence Northerly for a distance of 23.77 miles crossing the Big Barton Creek bridge to a point; thence Easterly for an approximate distance of 7.30 miles to a point 1.00 miles from the Eastern limit of Teakettle Village; thence Northerly in a straight line to the most Westerly point in the village at Valley of Peace; thence due North to the Cayo-Orange Walk District boundary; thence Westerly along the said District boundary to its intersection with a line due North from Duck Run on the Belize River; thence due South to the Northern Bank of the said River; thence Westerly along the said Bank of the Belize River to its Eastern branch; thence Southerly to and along the Western bank of the said Eastern branch to the point of commencement.

CAYO SOUTH DIVISION

11 of 1997 **THE CAYO SOUTH DIVISION,** comprising all that portion of the Cayo District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at a point being the center of the Big-Barton Creek Bridge thence Southerly along a line for a distance of approximately 20.66 miles to a point where it intersects at Vaqueros Creek; thence Westerly for a distance approximately 7.61 miles to a point where it intersects with the Southern projection of Cayo West boundary; thence Northerly for a distance of approximately 6.85 miles to a point being the South East corner of Cayo West boundary; thence due West to the Western Frontier line; thence Southerly along the said Frontier Line to the Cayo-Toledo District boundary; thence Northeasterly along the said boundary to its junction with the Stann Creek District boundary; thence Northeasterly along the Cayo-Stann Creek District boundary to its junction with the Belize District boundary; thence Northerly and following the Cayo-Belize District boundary to its junction with the Orange Walk District boundary; thence Westerly along the Cayo-Orange Walk District boundary to its intersection with a line the most Westerly point in the Village at Valley of Peace; thence due South for a distance of 9.5 miles; thence Westerly for a

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distance of 7.30 miles to a point then in a Southerly direction for a distance of 3.11 miles to the point of commencement.

DANGRIGA DIVISION

THE DANGRIGA DIVISION, comprising the Town of Dangriga in accordance with Statutory Instrument No. 36 of 1983 and bounded as follows: 10 of 1989

Commencing at a wooden post which is the Northwest corner of Parcel No. 214A (Grant No. 36/1954); thence East for a distance of 1492.86 feet more or less to a point on the Western boundary of Parcel No. 693 (Grant No. 5/1952); thence South for a distance of 393 feet more or less to a concrete pillar; thence East for a distance of 492 feet more or less to a concrete pillar; thence South for a distance of 200 feet more or less to a wooden post; thence East for a distance of 1300 feet more or less to a point on the coast; thence in a South Easterly direction along the sea coast for a distance of 6360 feet more or less to where the North Stann Creek River enters the sea; thence in a Southerly direction along the sea coast for a distance of 5200 feet more or less to a concrete pillar, being the South Eastern corner of Grant No. 15/1926 now or formerly the property of James Lecruit; thence West for a distance of 1960 feet more or less to a point; thence North for a distance of 1640 feet more or less to a point; thence West for a distance of 3125 feet more or less to a point; thence North for a distance of 9400 feet more or less back to the point of commencement; and including all the cayes in the Stann Creek District from its Northern boundary Southwards to a line due East from Rum Point, on the Placencia Peninsular to the Eastern boundary of the Stann Creek District.

STANN CREEK WEST DIVISION

THE STANN CREEK WEST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Stann Creek District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at a wooden post which is the Northwest corner of Parcel No. 214A (Grant No. 36/1954); thence East for a distance of 1492.86 feet more

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or less to a point on the Western boundary of Parcel No. 693 (Grant No. 5/ 1952); thence South for a distance of 393 feet more or less to a concrete pillar; thence East for a distance of 492 feet more or less to a concrete pillar; thence South for a distance of 200 feet more or less to a wooden post; thence East for a distance of 1300 feet more or less to a point on the sea coast; thence Northerly along the sea coast to the Stann Creek-Belize District boundary; thence Westerly along the said boundary to its junction with the Cayo District boundary; thence Southerly along the Stann Creek-Cayo District boundary to its junction with the Toledo District boundary; thence Easterly and Southeasterly along the Stann Creek-Toledo Districts boundary to a point midway between Red Bank and Cowpen; thence Easterly in a straight line to Rum Point on the Placencia Peninsular; thence Northerly along the sea coast to the Southern boundary of Dangriga Town; thence West for a distance of 1960 feet more or less to a point; thence North for a distance of 1640 feet more or less to a point; thence West for a distance of 3125 feet more or less to a point; thence North for a distance of 9400 feet more or less back to the point of commencement.

TOLEDO WEST DIVISION

THE TOLEDO WEST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Toledo District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the Moho river with the Western Frontier Line; thence Easterly and in a straight line to the Northernmost point in the village of San Lucas; thence Easterly and in a straight line to the Southernmost point in the village of San Felipe; thence continuing on the said straight line produced, to its intersection with the Punta Gorda-San Antonio Road; thence Northeasterly in a straight line to a point on the Stann Creek-Toledo District boundary midway between Red Bank and Cowpen; thence Northwesterly and Westerly along the Stann Creek-Toledo District boundary, to its junction with the Cayo District boundary; thence Southwesterly along the Cayo-Toledo District boundary to the Western Frontier Line; thence Southerly along the said Frontier Line, to the point of commencement.

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TOLEDO EAST DIVISION

THE TOLEDO EAST DIVISION, comprising all that portion of the Toledo and Stann Creek District which lies within an area bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the Moho River with the Western Frontier Line; thence Easterly and in a straight line to the Northernmost point in the village of San Lucas; thence Easterly and in a straight line to the Southernmost Point in the village of San Felipe; thence continuing on the said straight line produced, to its intersection with the Punta Gorda-San Antonio Road; thence Northeasterly in a straight line to a point on the Stann Creek-Toledo District boundary midway between Red Bank and Cowpen; thence Easterly in a straight line to Rum Point on the Placencia Peninsular; thence due East in a straight line to the Eastern boundary of the Stann Creek District at U.T.M. Coordinates 400,000 Metres East; thence Southerly along the said Eastern boundary to the Southern boundary of the Stann Creek District; thence Westerly along the said Southern boundary to the sea coast at the mouth of Monkey River; Thence Southwesterly along the sea coast to the mouth of the Sarstoon River; thence Westerly along the said river to the Western Frontier Line; thence Northerly along the said line to the point of commencement, and including all the cayes in the Toledo District.

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SECOND SCHEDULE

[Sections 6 (2) and 65]

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE REGISTRATION RULES

Short title.

1. These rules may be cited as the Representation of the People Registration Rules.

PART I

11 of 1997.

Re-registration

Re-registration . S. I. 44 of 1978. 11 of 1997.

2.-(1) Any person who on the relevant date or the date fixed under rule 4, whichever be the later, is qualified to be an elector may apply to the proper registering officer to be registered as an elector.

S. I. 48 of 1989.

(2) The Governor-General shall upon the advice of the Minister, and by proclamation published in the *Gazette,* specify a date to be a relevant date for the purposes of paragraph (1).

Registering officer and other officers.

3. Each electoral division shall be a registration area, and there shall be a registering officer for each registration area and such number of other officers as may be necessary to assist the registering officer in the discharge of his functions under these rules.

Commencement of registration of electors. S.I. 48 of 1989. 11 of 1997.

4.-(1) For the purpose of the compilation of the new registers, the Governor-General may upon the advice of the Minister, and by Order published in the *Gazette,* fix the date on or before which any person eligible to be registered as an elector shall make his application therefor.

Fifth Schedule Form 5.

(2) The Chief Elections Officer shall thereupon publish a notice in the manner set out in Form 5 of the Fifth Schedule requiring every person qualified to be registered as an elector to make his application to the registering officer of the division in which the applicant resides.

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(3) The registering officer shall make such arrangements as he deems necessary for the acceptance of any application that may be made pursuant to the notice referred to in paragraph (2).

Application for registration. S. I. 48 of 1989. Fifth Schedule. Form 6A.

5.-(1) On or before the date fixed by the Governor-General under rule 4, every person eligible to be registered as an elector may make an application for registration in Form 6A, set out in the Fifth Schedule, to the registering officer of his electoral division.

(2) Where any person eligible to apply suffers from old age or any physical incapacity he shall notify the registering officer of his incapacity and the registering officer shall make such arrangements as he deems fit to obtain the application of that person.

(3) The applicant shall place his signature and date the application and shall produce such evidence as may be required by the registering officer, to authenticate the statements in the application. No person shall be registered as an elector unless he shall have with his own hand placed his signature on the application for registration before the registering officer or some other officer referred to in rule 3 above.

S. I. 48 of 1989.

(4) The official photographer shall take copies of photograph of every person at the same time as that person makes an application for registration under this rule and shall attach the photograph to the application after affixing the official stamp at the back of each such photograph. In the case of persons to whom sub-rule (2) of this rule applies, an official photographer shall accompany the registering officer and shall take three copies of photograph of every such applicant.

House to house inquiry.

6.-(1) The registering officer may if he thinks fit, for the purpose of enabling persons to be registered as electors, have a house to house inquiry made in the division, or any part thereof, for which he is the registering officer, as to the persons entitled to be registered as electors in his division and may make provision for the acceptance of their application for registration following upon

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such inquiry.

(2) Where any house to house inquiry is to be held under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this rule the registering officer shall apply to the Chief Elections Officer who with the approval of the Commission shall appoint such number of enumerators as he shall consider necessary for the purpose of carrying out such inquiry.

(3) Any person who in the course of any such inquiry hands over his application for registration shall be deemed to have made his application to a proper registering officer in accordance with the provisions of these rules and four copies of photograph shall be taken of him at the same time. For this purpose, an official photographer shall accompany the registering officer or enumerator on any house to house inquiry.

S. I. 48 of 1989.
11 of 1997.

(4) Nothing in paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) or paragraph (3) shall preclude any person who has not already made an application for registration from submitting an application for registration in accordance with rule 5 of these rules.

(5) Where an application has been made by a registering officer to the Chief Elections Officer for the appointment of enumerators and the Chief Elections Officer has with the approval of the Commission appointed such number of enumerators as he may consider necessary for the electoral division of which the registration officer is the proper registering officer the Chief Elections Officer shall divide such electoral division into as many areas as there are enumerators for such division and appoint one enumerator to conduct a house to house inquiry in each area.

(6) Every political party which is represented in the National Assembly at the time of any house to house inquiry may appoint one person, hereinafter called a scrutineer, to accompany each enumerator during such inquiry.

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(7) Where an enumerator visits any house in the area for which he has been appointed he may-

(a) accept an application for registration from any person who is in the house at the time of such inquiry and who is ordinarily resident in the electoral division in which the house stands whether that person resides in the house or not; and

(b) leave at any house any number of application forms as may appear to him necessary for persons who are ordinarily resident in the house but who are not present at the time of his visit.

(8) During the course of his enumeration an enumerator shall not speak to or question any person whom he finds at any house he visits other than for the purpose of deciding whether or not that person may be registered and for deciding how many application forms to leave at the house.

(9) A scrutineer shall not question any person who is found in any house during the course of an enumeration.

Duty of chief occupant to give information regarding occupants.

7.-(1) It shall be the duty of the chief occupant of every house, if required to do so, to furnish the registering officer of his division within 14 days of the date of such request with the names of every person living in that house who to the best of his knowledge is qualified to be registered as an elector for that division.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)-

"chief occupant" means the person who is responsible for the payment of rent from the entire house to the landlord if such house is a rented house or the person who owns that house; or any person who for the time being is in charge of the house;

"house" means a dwelling house and includes any structure or any building or a part of a building used as a residence, and where a building is let in

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separate apartments, flats or lodgings such apartments, flats and lodgings.

Registration to be done at polling stations. 11 of 1997.

8.-(1) Subject to rules 6 and 7 above, every registration of electors carried out under this Part shall-

(a) in the case of urban areas, be conducted at the polling stations in each electoral division; and

(b) in the case of villages and rural areas, be conducted at the respective village or area, or such other place as the Commission by notice in the *Gazette* may appoint.

(2) An official photographer shall be present at every polling station or area where registration is being carried out under this Part and shall take a photograph of every person applying for registration and make four copies thereof.

(3) The Chairman or other authorised officer of every political party which is represented in the National Assembly at the time of such registration, or which intends to contest an election, whichever the case may be, may appoint one or more persons hereinafter called "scrutineers" to observe the registration process:

Provided that only one of such scrutineers shall be allowed to be physically present at any one time at an area or a polling station where registration is being carried out.

(4) A scrutineer shall not question any person who comes to be registered as an elector, and shall direct all questions he may have, to the registering officer. Nor shall a scrutineer, while acting as such, accept any application for registration from any person or handle any other documents in any manner whatever.

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Registering officer to inquire into applications.

9.-(1) The registering officer shall, subject to directions as the Chief Elections Officer may give in that behalf, cause investigations to be made and hold inquiries as he deems necessary to satisfy himself as to the applicant's eligibility or otherwise to be registered as an elector. For that purpose, he may summon witnesses or order the production of any document that he may deem necessary and receive and record any evidence adduced.

S. I. 48 of 1989.

(2) A registering officer before registering any person as an elector may, where he is in doubt as to the age or nationality of the person, require that person to produce-

(a) either a certificate of birth or other certificate issued by the Registrar General showing that hat the person has attained the age of eighteen years; and

(b) a certificate of naturalisation, registration or other proof that he is either a citizen of Belize or a citizen of a Commonwealth country.

11 of 1997.

(3) Where a person desirous of being registered as an elector is unable to produce his birth certificate or other document as provided in subrule (2) above, he may be registered as an elector as follows:-

(a) he shall complete a form available at the polling stations and areas where registration of electors will be held, specifying his name, address, date and place of birth and such other particulars as may be necessary to enable the General Registry or the Immigration Department, as the case may be, to verify the correctness thereof; and

(b) if the particulars supplied by the applicant have been verified as correct by the General Registry or the Immigration Department, as the case may be, and the applicant is eligible to be registered as an elector he may be so registered notwithstand-

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ing that he was unable to produce the documents specified in subrule (2) above.

Registering officer may refuse registration.
Fifth Schedule. Form 7.

10.-(1) Where the registering officer is not satisfied with the applicant's claim to registration as an elector, he shall issue to that applicant a notice of disallowance in Form 7 as set out in the Fifth Schedule.

(2) Where a registering officer disallows an application for registration he shall record his reasons for the disallowance and a statement of his reasons shall be set out in the notice of disallowance.

(3) Any person who is aggrieved by the decision of the registering officer under paragraph (1) may within ten days from the date of the notice of disallowance deliver to the registering officer and the revising officer of the division concerned a statement of appeal, to be heard at the same time as objections made against the registration of electors.

(4) The registering officer shall maintain a book showing the names, addresses and other particulars of every applicant whose application for registration has been disallowed by him under this rule.

Manner of registration.

11. Where the registering officer is satisfied that the applicant is eligible to be registered he shall cause to be prepared, in respect of that person, in accordance with the provisions of the succeeding rules-

Fifth Schedule. Form 8.

(a) a registration record card in duplicate in Form 8 of the Fifth Schedule;

Fifth Schedule. Form 9
11 of 1997.

(b) an identification card in duplicate in Form 9 of the Fifth Schedule;

Fifth Schedule. Form 10.

(c) a certificate as to registration (in triplicate) in Form 10 of the Fifth Schedule; and

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(d) a name index card in Form 11 of the Fifth Schedule. Fifth Schedule. Form 11.

12. The registering officer may require any applicant for registration to give him such information as will facilitate him in the discharge of his functions under these rules. More information from applicant.

13. The registration record card shall bear a serial number. The particulars in the original shall be filled in ink; the duplicate by means of carbon paper, and the card shall be signed by the registering officer on completion. Registration record card.

14.-(1) The identification card in respect of the applicant shall be completed by the registering officer and signed by him. Identification card.

(2) Every identification card shall bear a serial number and such other identification features necessary to reasonably identify the applicant as the person whom he claims to be. Such "identification features" may be in the form of the applicant's facial photograph or an imprint of the applicant's right hand thumb. S. I. 11 of 1997

15. The name index card shall be completed and signed by the registering officer. It shall be maintained in the office of the registering officer in alphabetical order. Name index card

16.-(1) The registering officer shall then require the applicant to read the entries in the registration record card, to place his signature on both the original and duplicate relating to him and also on the identification card and the duplicate identification card. Applicant to sign record cards. 11 of 1997.

(2) Where the applicant cannot read the entries therein, the registering officer shall read them out to the applicant and if he agrees that the entries accurately reflect the information supplied by him his agreement shall be recorded by the registering officer and the applicant shall place his signature on it.

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Certificate as to registration. S. I. 48 of 1989.

17.-(1) In respect of every person whose registration record card has been completed, the registering officer shall prepare a certificate as to registration, in triplicate, of which the original shall be in ink and the duplicate and triplicate by means of carbon paper, stating that the applicant's registration record card has been completed and signed by him.

(2) The registering officer shall retain the original of the certificate attaching to it the photograph, and shall deliver the duplicate of the certificate to the applicant.

Photograph of the elector. S. I. 48 of 1989. 11 of 1997.

18.-(1) The registering officer shall, as soon as may be, and in any case within seven days of the completion of the applicant's registration record card, forward to the Chief Elections Officer the registration record card, the original and duplicate identification cards, the certificate as to registration, and four copies of the photograph relating to that applicant. The Chief Elections Officer may give instructions to the registering officer as to the manner in which the documents shall be forwarded to him.

(2) Where a photograph of an applicant has been spoilt or misplaced, the registering officer may require him to have his photograph retaken as many times as may be necessary to obtain a satisfactory photograph of that person.

Chief Elections Officer to return documents to registering officer. 11 of 1997.

19.-(1) On receipt of the documents referred to in rule 18(1), the Chief Elections Officer shall-

(a) cause copies of the photograph of the applicant to be attached to the original and duplicate identification cards, and to the original and duplicate of the registration record card of that person; and

(b) thereafter cause the original and duplicate identification cards to be laminated; and

(c) return the original of the registration record card and the

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identification card to the registering officer.

(2) Where a document required to be sent to the Chief Elections Officer under the provisions of paragraph (1) is not received by him or is lost or there is any error or insufficiency therein, the Chief Elections Officer may require the registering officer to cause the same to be remedied.

Filing of registration record cards in divisional registers.

20.-(1) On receipt of the originals of the registration record card and the identification cards from the Chief Elections Officer the registering officer shall file the registration record cards of the electors in the division in a binder designed for the purpose, in a manner to be prescribed by the Chief Elections Officer.

(2) The binder referred to in paragraph (1) shall be capable of being locked in such manner as the Chief Elections Officer may determine so that no registration record card filed therein may be removed or any registration record card inserted except by the application of force.

Filing of cards in Central Register.
S. I. 48 of 1989.
S. I. 56 of 1989.
11 of 1997.

21. The Chief Elections Officer shall place in an alphabetical or numerical series or a combined alphabetical and numerical series the duplicates of the registration record cards and duplicate identification cards received by him from the registering officers and perfected in his office by the affixing of the photographs of the applicants.

New register.
S. I. 48 of 1989.
11 of 1997.
Fifth Schedule.
Form 12.

22.-(1) The registering officer shall, on or before a date to be specified in consultation with the Chief Elections Officer by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*, prepare and publish a register substantially in Form 12 of the Fifth Schedule (hereinafter referred to as a new register) showing the serial number of the registration record cards, the names, dates of birth, addresses, code number and other particulars of all persons in respect of whom registration record cards have been prepared and to whom identification cards are to be issued.

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11 of 1997.

(2) Not later than seven days after the new registers have been published the registering officer shall publish a notice specifying the places where the registers are available for inspection.

Applications and objections.
S.I. 48 of 1989.
Fifth Schedule.
Form 13.

23.-(1) Any person who desires any particulars concerning him in the register to be rectified shall be entitled within fourteen days of the date of such publication to apply in Form 13 of the Fifth Schedule to the registering officer to have the particulars rectified. The registering officer shall from time to time publish or exhibit in conspicuous places in the electoral division a notice containing the name and address of each applicant, if any, for rectification.

11 of 1997.

(2) Any person whose name appears in the new register may either by himself or through his authorised agent, object-

(a) to any person whose name also appears therein as not being entitled to have his name therein; or

(b) to the rectification in the register of the particulars relating to any applicant,

and shall for that purpose deliver to the registering officer within fourteen days of the date of the publication of the new register notice of his objection in Form 14A of the Fifth Schedule.

Fifth Schedule.
Form 14A.
11 of 1997.

11 of 1997.

(3) Within one week after the expiration of the fourteen days mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this rule, or as soon as practicable thereafter, each registering officer shall publish a notice in the *Gazette* and in a local newspaper showing the names and other particulars of the persons whose names are objected to under subrule (2) above, and within one week of such publication shall forward to the revising officer of his division a list of the names of all persons who have made such application or whose names are being objected to together with a copy of the new register signed by him. If no applications or objections are received within the time prescribed in this rule the registering

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officer shall immediately upon the expiry of the prescribed time notify the revising officer in writing that there are no such applications or objections.

Chief Elections Officer to publish list of deceased and disqualified persons. 11 of 1997.

24.-(1) Within fourteen days after the publication of the new register the Chief Elections Officer shall publish in the *Gazette* a list of all persons listed by divisions, whose names appear in the new register and who are deceased or are disqualified by virtue of a conviction for any election offence.

(2) The Registrar of Births and Deaths shall afford such facilities to the Chief Elections Officer and his officers as are necessary to discharge the functions imposed on them by paragraph (1).

Fifth Schedule Form 15.

(3) Every person whose name appears in such register and who objects that he is not so deceased or disqualified shall give notice in writing to the registering officer of the division in which he resides in the form set out in Form 15 of the Fifth Schedule within ten days of the publication of such list.

(4) Within seven days after the expiration of the ten days mentioned in paragraph (3) of this rule the registering officer shall forward to each revising officer the list of deceased and disqualified persons as published by him and all objections made to such list. If in any division there are no persons deceased or disqualified, or if there are persons deceased or disqualified but there are no objections to the list within the time prescribed in this rule, the registering officer shall notify the revising officer of such fact.

(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph (4) of this rule the registering officer may, if he is satisfied that any objection is valid and before forwarding such list to the revising officer, remove the name of the objector from the list of deceased and disqualified persons and forthwith inform such person in writing of such fact.

Manner of revision of new registers. 11 of 1997.

25.-(1) An open court shall be held in each division by and before a revising officer for the purpose of revising the register.

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(2) The said court shall be held on such day as may be fixed by the revising officer being within four weeks after the receipt by him of the lists referred to in rules 23 and 24 or of the notification mentioned therein, as the case may be.

Fifth Schedule. Form 16.

(3) Six days' notice, in the form set out as Form 16 of the Fifth Schedule of the holding of the court and the place at which the same is to be held shall be given in the *Gazette*, in one or more newspapers published in Belize and by posting the notice on the outer doors of the court houses in the districts.

Revision of new registers. 11 of 1997.

26.-(1) The revising officers shall in open court hear and determine any appeal against disallowance by a registering officer under rule 10, any application for rectification of any particulars in any register and any objection to such an application and any objection to the retention or deletion of any name in the register for his division.

(2) Upon the production in court by the proper registering officer of the new register the revising officer shall go through the same and shall-

11 of 1997.

(a) enter in the new register the name of every person who in his opinion is entitled to have his name entered therein;

11 of 1997.

(b) correct any mistake in the new register of which he is satisfied;

11 of 1997.

(c) strike out of the new register the name of every person who is proved to his satisfaction not to be entitled to have his name retained in such register; and

(d) strike out the name of every person whose name appears in the list of deceased and disqualified persons and who has not objected thereto or who has objected thereto but has not satisfied the revising officer that his objection is valid.

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(3) Any person whose name appears on the list of deceased and disqualified persons furnished by the registering officers under the provisions of rule 24 and who has given notice of objection to the registering officer that he is not so deceased or disqualified may appear in open court and support his claim to have his name retained in the register.

(4) If in the case of an objection the objector does not appear to support his objection, the objection shall be overruled and the name retained on the register or list, as the case may be.

(5) The revising officer shall write his initials against any name struck out of the new register or inserted therein, and against any mistake or omission corrected therein, and shall when the register is finally settled sign his name to every page thereof. 11 of 1997.

(6) Every revising officer holding a court shall have power to adjourn the same to such time and as often as may be necessary and shall have the same powers for the keeping of order in his court as are given to a magistrate by the Inferior Courts Act. CAP. 94.

27. Every revising officer shall within one week after he has signed the new register of electors transmit it to the registering officer who shall upon receipt of it cause the names of the persons registered therein to be reproduced in a list in alphabetical order, and shall certify, sign and date the said list and the said list shall, subject to the determination of any pending appeal, be the register of electors for his division. Transmission of registers to registering officer. 11 of 1997.

(2) Subject to any pending appeal the registering officer shall, immediately on the receipt of the new register of electors signed as correct by the revising officer, make the necessary amendments in the registration record cards and the identification cards relating to his division. 11 of 1997.

(3) Where the revising officer allows any appeal against a notice of disallowance under rule 10 and inserts the name of the appellant in the relevant

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register, the provisions of rules 11 to 21 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of that appellant.

(4) Where the registering officer cancels the registration of a person under this rule he shall note on the registration record card the reason for the cancellation, stamp or write the word "cancelled" on the face of the registration record card and the identification card of that person and retain the identification card for destruction.

(5) Immediately on the cancellation of a registration under this rule the registering officer shall inform the Chief Elections Officer of the name of the person whose registration has been cancelled, the reason therefor and the date of cancellation; and the Chief Elections Officer shall thereupon cause the duplicate of the appropriate registration record card to be cancelled in the manner set out in paragraph (4) hereof.

(6) The registering officer may before certifying any register rectify any clerical error which appears to him to have been made therein.

Transmission of registers to Chief Elections Officer.

28.-(1) Every registering officer shall within seven days after he has signed and certified a register of electors of his electoral division transmit it to the Chief Elections Officer who shall upon the receipt of the several registers of electors of the several divisions countersign and date them and shall cause a copy of the same to be published.

(2) The registers so dated, signed and published shall, subject to the determination of any pending appeal, form the divisional registers and shall remain in force until new divisional registers are published as herein provided and they shall remain in the custody of the Chief Elections Officer.

(3) A copy of the register so published or any document purporting to be a register and purporting to be signed by the Chief Elections Officer as being correct shall on production be admitted as evidence of the existence and the contents of any such register in all courts.

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(4) Six copies of the register published under this subrule shall be supplied free of cost to every political party which is represented in the National Assembly, or which intends to contest an election, but where a party or person requires additional copies of the register, or copies in a special form, the same shall be supplied, if available, at such cost as may from time to time be determined by the Chief Elections Officer. 11 of 1997.

Delivery of identification cards.

29.-(1) The registering officer shall after the register of electors for his division has been certified by him under rule 27 cause to be delivered to each person whose name appears therein and in respect of which name there is no appeal pending, a completed identification card relating to that person in exchange for the duplicate of the certificate as to registration of such person issued to him by the registering officer and endorsed by the official photographer.

(2) Before delivery of an identification card to him the recipient shall place his signature on the duplicate or if the duplicate is not produced, on the original of the certificate as to registration forwarded by the photographer along with the photograph.

(3) Where the person delivering the identification card is satisfied -

(a) that the person to whom it relates is unable to produce the duplicate of his certificate as to registration; and

(b) that there is no doubt as to the identity of that person,

he may issue the identification card to such person on that person placing his signature on the original certificate of registration and on his giving a receipt therefor in a form approved by the Chief Elections Officer.

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PART II

Continuous Registration

Continuous registration.

30. Commencing from the 1st day of the month immediately following the publication pursuant to rule 28 of the divisional register, there shall be continuous registration of electors in the manner set out in this Part of these rules.

Application. Fifth Schedule Form 6A. 11 of 1997.

31.-(1) Any person who becomes qualified to be registered as an elector may apply in Form 6A of the Fifth Schedule to the registering officer of the division in which he resides to be registered as an elector. The provisions of rule 9 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to such applications.

(2) The registering officer may if he thinks fit, and if required so to do by the Chief Elections Officer shall, for the purpose of enabling persons to be registered as electors, have a house to house inquiry made in the division or any part thereof for which he is the registering officer as to the persons entitled to be registered as electors in his division and may make provision for the acceptance of their applications for registration following upon such inquiry. The provisions of rules 6 and 7 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to any inquiry made hereunder.

Investigation.

32. The registering officer shall conduct an investigation into the facts set out in each application received by him and shall on or before the fifteenth day of each month publish a notice setting out a list of the names of the persons whose applications he has decided, after investigation, satisfy the conditions necessary for registration, and stating his intention to register such persons as electors in his division unless he receives objections thereto by the 25th day of that month. The notice shall also set down a date on which a revising court will sit to hear and determine any objections received within the prescribed time.

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33. Where the registering officer decides, after investigation, that any person does not satisfy the conditions necessary to qualify as an elector he shall, on or before the 15th day of the month immediately following the receipt of the application, issue a notice of disallowance in Form 7 of the Fifth Schedule and the provisions of rule 10 shall apply to such a notice.

Refusal of registration. Fifth Schedule Form 7.

34. Where the registering officer is satisfied that the applicant is eligible to be registered as an elector he shall follow the procedure set out in rules 11 to 17 and shall issue the certificate as to registration immediately upon his decision and in any event before the 15th day of that month.

Registration.

35. The provisions of rules 18 to 21 shall apply to the certificate as to registration issued under section 34.

Certificate as to registration.

36.-(1) Every person who is himself a registered elector may, either by himself or through his authorised agent, within the prescribed time, object to the registration in the register of the division to which the person objecting belongs, of any person whose name appears in the list published by the registering officer under rule 32 as not being a person entitled to be so registered.

Objection to registration. S. I. 48 of 1989.

(2) Any person who makes any objection to paragraph (1) of this rule shall, within the prescribed time, deliver to the registering officer notice of his objection in Form 14A.

S. I. 37 of 1979. 11 of 1997. Fifth Schedule Form 14A.

(3) On or before the 10th day of each of the months of February, May, June, July and August of any year, every person who is himself a registered elector may, either by himself or through his authorised agent, object to the registration or continued registration in the register of the division to which the person objecting belongs, of any person whose name appears therein and shall deliver to the registering officer notice of his objection in Form 14A.

S. I. 57 of 1998. Fifth Schedule. Form 14A.

(4) The registering officer shall, on or before the 15th day of each of the months referred to in subrule (3) above, publish a list of the names of all persons whose registration or continued registration has been objected to under

S. I. 57 of 1998.

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subrule (3), or to whose continued registration the registering officer himself objects for the reason that he believes that they are dead or that they were disqualified to be registered or did not, on the date of their application for registration, possess the qualifications necessary for registration in his division.

Disposal of objections. 11 of 1997.

37.-(1) Where any objections are received within the time specified in the notice published under rule 32 or pursuant to rule 36 (1), the registering officer shall promptly publish a notice in the *Gazette* and in a local newspaper showing the names and other particulars of the persons whose names are objected to, and within one week of such publication shall prepare a list of the objections and the names of the persons who have made the same, and shall produce the same in open court.

(2) The registering officer shall add to the list so prepared by him the names of those persons who have delivered to him, within the prescribed time, a statement of appeal in terms of rule 10.

S. I. 57 of 1998.

(3) The registering officer shall, in the months of February, May, June, July and August of any year, add to the list of names so prepared, the list of names published by him under subrule (4) of rule 36.

Revision court.

38. On or before the last day of each month every revising officer shall hold an open court for the purpose of determining whether the persons who have delivered to him a statement of appeal in terms of Rule 10, and the persons whose registration or continued registration is objected to under Rule 36, are persons entitled to be registered or retained as electors within his division.

Hearing by revising court.

39. The court shall have power to adjourn to such time and as often as may be necessary:

Provided that the court shall complete its determination of the matters before it in any month before the 5th day of the month immediately following.

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Powers of revising court.

40. The court shall determine all appeals and all objections set out in the list before it and the revising officer shall-

(a) where he allows an appeal, enter the name of the appellant in the list; and

(b) where he upholds an objection, strike out the name of the person objected to,

and shall in either case write his initials against each such name.

Court to correct errors.

41. The court shall have the power to correct any clerical error or omission in the list before it, to administer oaths and to hear evidence relevant to the appeals and objections on oath. The revising officer shall initial any clerical error or omission corrected in the list before him.

Evidence of decision.

42. A certificate signed by the revising officer purporting to state his decision and his reasons for his decision shall in any proceedings be conclusive evidence thereof.

Certificate by revising officer.

43. Every revising officer shall at the conclusion of the proceedings in open court, sign and deliver to the registering officer the list of names before the court showing which names have been added and which names have been struck out by the court.

Action by registering officer, etc.

44.-(1) The registering officer shall, within forty-eight hours of the receipt of the list from the revising officer, cause those names that have been retained in the list or added thereto by the revising court to be reproduced in a list in alphabetical order and shall sign, certify and date the said list.

(2) The registering officer shall immediately upon certifying a list under paragraph (1), forward to the Chief Elections Officer a signed and certified copy thereof and, subject to any pending appeal, shall himself make the nec-

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essary changes in the binder of registration record cards maintained by him for his division.

(3) Where the revising officer allows any appeal against a notice of disallowance under rule 33 and inserts the name of the appellant in the relevant register, the provisions of rules 11 to 21 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of that appellant.

(4) The registering officer shall as soon as may be thereafter cause to be delivered to each person whose name appears on the list certified by him the completed identification card relating to such person in exchange for the duplicate of the certificate as to registration of such person issued to him by the registering officer and endorsed by the official photographer. The provisions of rule 29 (2) and (3) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the delivery of identification cards hereunder.

(5) The registering officer shall immediately upon the expiry of the time allowed for the lodging of an appeal to the Supreme Court cancel the registration of a person whose name has been struck out by a revising court unless he has received a notice of an appeal therefrom.

(6) Where the registering officer cancels the registration of a person whose name has been struck out by a revising court, he shall note on the registration record card of such person the reason for the cancellation, stamp or write the word "cancelled" on the face of the registration record card and retain the identification card of such person for destruction.

(7) Immediately on the cancellation of a registration under this rule the registering officer shall inform the Chief Elections Officer of the name of the person whose registration has been cancelled, the reason therefor, and the date of cancellation, and the Chief Elections Officer shall thereupon cause the duplicate of the appropriate registration record card to be cancelled in the manner set out in paragraph (6) hereof.

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Publication of lists by Chief Elections Officer.

45.-(1) The Chief Elections Officer shall, upon receipt of the several lists forwarded to him under rule 44(2), countersign and date them and cause a copy of the same to be published within seven days of the receipt thereof.

(2) Each list shall upon publication be incorporated in the register of the division to which the list relates and shall form part and parcel of that register.

PART III

Annual Revision

Annual revision.

46. On or before the 1st day of October in any year every registering officer shall publish a notice whereby he shall require all persons who are registered as electors in the register relating to his division and who may have objection to the retention in that register of the name of any other person entered therein prior to the 30th day of September of that year to state his objection thereto in Form 14A of the Fifth Schedule to the registering officer before the 1st day of November of that year.

Fifth Schedule. Form 14A.

Deceased and disqualified persons.

47.-(1) It shall be the duty of the registering officer of each division to ascertain the names of persons who, being registered as electors in the register, have since died or have become disqualified to be retained in that register of electors.

(2) The registering officer shall on or before the 1st day of October in any year publish a list of the names of any persons he believes to be dead or disqualified and shall state therein his intention to strike out those names from the register for his division.

Fifth Schedule. Form 15.

(3) Any person whose name appears on a list published under paragraph (2) hereof and who is not dead or disqualified as stated therein may on or before the 1st day of November of that year state in Form 15 of the Fifth Schedule his objection to the registering officer against the striking out of his

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name.

(4) The registering officer shall-

(a) where he has received no objection within the time prescribed therefor to the striking out of a name from the list published under paragraph (2), strike out the said name and shall cancel the registration of that person in the manner set out in rule 44 and inform the Chief Elections Officer about it; and the Chief Elections Officer shall cause the duplicate of the appropriate registration record card to be cancelled in the manner set out in that rule; and

(b) where he has received any objection within the time prescribed therefor and is not satisfied that the name should be retained in the register he shall prepare a list of all such objections and the names of the persons who have made the same and shall forward the said list to the revising officer.

Objection to retention of name, etc.

48.-(1) Any person whose name appears in a divisional register may object to any other person whose name also appears therein as not being entitled to have his name retained therein or as being a person who is deceased.

S. I. 54 of 1979.
11 of 1997.
Fifth Schedule.
Form 14A.

(2) Every person so objecting shall, on or before the 1st day of November next ensuing give or cause to be given to the registering officer notice in Form 14A of the Fifth Schedule.

11 of 1997.

(3) Immediately after the 1st day of November every registering officer shall prepare a list of all such objections and the names of the persons who have made it and shall cause a copy to be published in the *Gazette* and in a local newspaper.

(4) The registering officer shall forward a copy of the list to the revising officer.

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Revising court to revise registers.

49.-(1) On or before the 20th day of November in each year an open court shall be held in each district town by the revising officer for the divisions falling within that district. Six days' notice, in the form set out as Form 16 of the Fifth Schedule, of the holding of that court and the place at which it is to be held shall be given in the *Gazette,* in one or more newspapers published in Belize, and by posting the notice on the outer doors of the court houses and police stations in the district.

(2) The revising officer shall in open court determine the objections set out in the lists forwarded by the registering officer under rules 47 and 48 and shall strike out of the divisional register the name of any elector deceased or disqualified and write his initials against each name so struck out and shall, when the register is finally settled, sign his name to every page thereof.

(3) The court shall have the power, subject to the provisions of paragraph (1), to adjourn to such time and as often as may be necessary:

Provided that the court shall complete its determination of the matters before it in any year by the 25th day of November of that year.

(4) The court shall have the power to correct any clerical error or omission in the list before it, to administer oaths and to hear evidence relevant to the appeals and objections on oath. The revising officer shall initial any clerical error or omission corrected in the list before him.

Registers of electors. S.I. 54 of 1979.

50.-(1) Every revising officer shall within two days after he has signed the revised divisional register transmit it to the registering officer, who shall upon receipt of it cause the names of the persons retained therein to be reproduced in a list in alphabetical order according to streets or polling areas and shall certify, sign and date the said list and the list shall, subject to the determination of any pending appeal, be the register of electors for his division.

(2) The provisions of rule 28 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the register prepared under paragraph (1).

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(3) The registering officer shall immediately upon the expiry of the time allowed for the lodging of an appeal to the Supreme Court cancel the registration of a person whose name has been struck out by a revising court unless he has received a notice of an appeal therefrom.

(4) Where the registering officer cancels the registration of a person whose name has been struck out by a revising court he shall note on the registration record card of such person the reason for the cancellation, stamp or write the word "cancelled" on the face of the registration record card and the identification card of that person and shall retain the identification card for destruction.

(5) Immediately on the cancellation of a registration under this rule the registering officer shall inform the Chief Elections Officer of the name of the person whose registration has been cancelled, the reason therefor and the date of cancellation; and the Chief Elections Officer shall thereupon cause the duplicate of the appropriate registration record card to be cancelled in the manner set out in paragraph (4) hereof.

PART IV

Appeals from Revising Officers

Who may appeal, and procedure on appeal.

51.-(1) Any person who is dissatisfied, on any point of law material to the case, with any decision of a revising officer to insert, retain or remove any name from any register, may either in person or by some person on his behalf, give to the revising officer, not later than forty-eight hours after the decision is given, a notice of appeal in writing containing a short statement of the decision against which he is appealing.

(2) The revising officer shall within seven days state in writing the facts material to the matter in question which in his judgment have been established by evidence and his decision upon the whole case, for the opinion of the Supreme Court and this shall constitute an appeal under Part X of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act.

CAP. 91.

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(3) The revising officer shall endorse on the case stated the name of the electoral division to which the same relates and the respective first names and surname and place of abode of the appellant and the respondent (if any), and he shall sign and date the endorsement and transmit the case to the Registrar, and also deliver a copy of the case so endorsed to the appellant and respondent (if any) in the appeal if either requires the same.

(4) The Registrar upon receiving a stated case from a revising officer shall file it in the Supreme Court, and upon application to the Chief Justice, obtain from him an appointment for the hearing of the appeal and shall give notice thereof to the appellant and respondent, not less than fourteen days before the date fixed for the hearing of the appeal.

Person aggrieved may apply for order calling on revising officer to show cause.

52. If any person feels aggrieved by a revising officer's refusing or neglecting to state a case, he may within fourteen days after such refusal or neglect, apply to the Supreme Court upon affidavit of the facts, and the Supreme Court shall thereupon summon the revising officer and also the respondent (if any) to show cause why an order should not be made directing the appeal to be entertained and a case to be stated.

Powers of Supreme Court.

53. Upon receipt of an application under rule 52 the Supreme Court may make an order to show cause and may make the same absolute with or without costs, as may be just, and the revising officer on being served with any order absolute, shall state the case accordingly, and the case shall be stated and the appeal entertained and heard.

Decision of Supreme Court to be final.

54.-(1) Every judgment or decision made by the Supreme Court shall be final and conclusive in the case upon the matter adjudicated upon.

(2) The Registrar shall send a copy of such order to the registering officer of the relevant division.

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Order expunging name.

55.-(1) The registering officer, on the receipt of the order from the Supreme Court shall, if the order is for expunging the name of a person from the register of electors-

(i) strike out the name from the register;

(ii) cancel the registration record card in the manner hereinbefore prescribed;

(iii) call for the return of the identification card for cancellation, if it had already been issued to the person;

(iv) cancel the identification card; and

(v) make the necessary alterations in the divisional register and other records.

(2) Where the Court orders the insertion of a name in any divisional register, the provisions of rules 11 to 21 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of that appellant and the registering officer shall-

.

(i) notify the Chief Elections Officer of the said order and the necessary particulars thereof;

(ii) cause to be delivered to the person so added the completed identification card relating to such person in exchange for the duplicate of the certificate as to registration of such person issued to him by the registering officer and endorsed by the official photographer; and

(iii) make the necessary alteration in the divisional register and other records.

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(3) The registering officer shall notify the Chief Elections Officer without delay of the changes effected under paragraph (1), and the Chief Elections Officer shall make the necessary changes in the Central Register and other records.

List of names inserted on orders of Supreme Court.

56. The Chief Elections Officer shall, where any names have been inserted on the orders of the Supreme Court, cause a list of such names to be published as and when necessary.

Right of voting. S. I. 57 of 1998.

57.-(1) The persons entitled to vote at the election of a divisional representative shall be those persons whose names appear on the register for that division as existing on the Nomination Day.

(2) No right of voting at any election shall be affected by any appeal against the exercise of that right pending at the time of the issuing of the order directing an election to be held, but every person who could otherwise vote may exercise the right of voting at the election as effectually, and every vote tendered thereat shall be as good, as if no appeal were pending, and the subsequent decision of that appeal shall not in any way alter or affect the poll taken at the election nor the return made thereat by the returning officer.

PART V

General Provisions

Change of place of residence within the division. Fifth Schedule. Form 17.

58.-(1) An elector who has changed his place of residence from one address to another in the same division shall give notice of such change of residence in Form 17 of the Fifth Schedule to the registering officer of the division concerned.

(2) Upon receipt of a notice referred to in paragraph (1), the registering officer shall, if he is satisfied as to the identity of the person giving the notice and the correctness of the other particulars contained therein, make such alteration on the registration record card of such person as may be necessary to record

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the change.

(3) When a person has given a notice under paragraph (1) and the registering officer is not satisfied as to the identity of the person giving the notice or the correctness of the particulars contained therein he shall cause an investigation to be made in connection therewith, and upon receipt of any report thereon, he shall, if he is then satisfied, make such alteration on the registration record card of such person as may be necessary.

(4) The registering officer, after correcting a registration record card in accordance with paragraph (2) or paragraph (3) shall where the person has changed his place of residence within the same division-

(a) alter the registration record card of such person to show the change of residence;

(b) notify such change to the Chief Elections Officer who shall make the necessary correction in the registration record card of such person in the Central Register; and

(c) inform the person to whom such registration record card relates that such change has been noted.

Change of residence from one division to another.
Fifth Schedule. Form 17.

59.-(1) Where a registered person changes his place of residence from one division to another, he shall, after he has resided for a minimum period of two months at his new address, give written notice thereof in Form 17 of the Fifth Schedule, to the registering officer of the division in which he now resides as a result of his change of residence and thereupon, if the registering officer is satisfied of the correctness of the particulars in the notice, the registration record card of such person shall be transferred to the divisional register for that division in which he resides:

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Provided that an elector may only be transferred from one divisional register to another divisional register during the months of July and August in each year. 11 of 1997.

Provided further that no elector may be transferred from one divisional register to another divisional register at any time after the House of Representatives has been dissolved. 11 of 1997.

(2) Where a person who is registered as an elector for a division has ceased to reside in that division, he shall not on that account cease to be qualified to vote in that division unless and until his registration record card has been transferred therefrom to another division.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of rule 58 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the registration record cards transferred under paragraph (1).

(4) Where a registered person has changed his place of residence from one division to another on such a number of occasions as to render the registration record card relating to that person incapable of accommodating any further alterations, the registering officer of the division to which that person has last moved shall examine the registration record card and shall, if he is satisfied that no further entries can conveniently be made thereon notify that person accordingly and shall re-register such person in the manner set out for the registration of persons qualified to be registered, but so that his registration number shall not be changed.

(5) Subject to the proviso to subrule (1) above, where it comes to the notice of the Chief Elections Officer that an elector has changed his residence from one division to another and his new address is known or can be ascertained, the Chief Elections Officer shall give a written notice to that person at his new address asking him to show cause no later than the 31st May next ensuing as to why his registration record card should not be transferred to the new division, and unless the person concerned shows reasonable cause to the 11 of 1997.

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contrary, the Chief Elections Officer shall transfer the registration record card of such person to the division in which he now resides and notify the person concerned accordingly.

Change of name.

60.-(1) Where a registered person changes his name in a manner recognized by the law for the time being he shall-

Form 18.
Fifth Schedule.

(a) give notice thereof in Form 18 of the Fifth Schedule to the registering officer of the division in which he is registered;

(b) produce to the registering officer satisfactory evidence of such change; and

(c) surrender to the registering officer his identification card.

(2) If the registering officer is not satisfied as to the identity of the person giving the notice or as to his change of name, he shall cause an investigation to be made in connection therewith.

(3) If upon receipt of the notice under paragraph (1), or of the report of the investigation, if any, made under paragraph (2), the registering officer is satisfied as to the identity of that person and his change of name, he shall re-register or cause that person to be re-registered in the manner set out for the registration of persons qualified to be registered but so that his registration number shall not be changed.

(4) Where, following upon an investigation made under paragraph (2), the registering officer is not satisfied-

(a) that the person giving notice of a change of name is in fact the person to whom the identification card surrendered by him belongs; or

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(b) that there has in fact been no legal change of name,

he shall refuse to make any amendment in the registration of electors concerned and shall return the identification card to the person legally entitled to it.

Change to be certified and initialled.

61.-(1) The name, address and any other particulars of any elector in respect of whom a change is made under rules 58, 59 and 60 shall be published as so changed in the list of names published in terms of rule 45.

(2) The registering officer shall write his initials against any alteration made by him on any registration record card.

Correction of minor errors.

62.-(1) Any clerical error or omission in a registration record card and any other error in any such card that has been caused by the inadvertence of a registering officer or the person seeking registration may be corrected or inserted, as the case may require, by the registering officer who registered the person to whom the registration record card or identification card relates.

(2) Where the description of the address of a registered person has been altered by lawful authority, a registering officer may make the appropriate alteration on the registration record card of that person.

(3) A correction, insertion or alteration made under this rule shall be initialled by the registering officer and by the person to whom the card relates.

(4) The registering officer shall inform the Chief Elections Officer of any correction, insertion or alteration made under this rule and the Chief Elections Officer shall make or cause to be made the necessary changes in the appropriate duplicate registration record card.

Correction of errors in names and dates of birth.

63. Where a person is popularly known or called by a name which is other than that appearing on his certificate of birth and is registered under such popu-

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lar name, or where a person at the time that he is seeking registration gives as the date of his birth a date which he subsequently discovers to be inaccurate, he shall notify the registering officer of the division in which he is registered and the registering officer shall, if he is satisfied that the facts stated are true, re-register or cause that person to be re-registered in the manner set out for the registration of persons qualified to be registered but so that his registration number shall not be changed.

Replacement of lost, inaccurate, etc., identification cards.

64.-(1) Where an identification card which has been issued to any person-

(a) has been lost, stolen, destroyed, mutilated or defaced; or

(b) is discovered to contain information given by such person which is inaccurate or incorrect,

he may apply to the registering officer of the division in which he resides for the replacement of the identification card, and the registering officer, if he is satisfied that the application is a *bona fide* one, shall issue to that person a replacement identification card.

Fifth Schedule. Form 19.

(2) An application under paragraph (1) shall be in Form 19 of the Fifth Schedule and shall be accompanied by the fee specified in paragraph (9).

(3) The registering officer shall not issue a replacement identification card until, in the case of a card-

(a) which is discovered to contain inaccurate or incorrect information; or

(b) which has become mutilated or defaced;

such card has been delivered to him for destruction.

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(4) The registering officer for the division in which the applicant resides at the time of his application for a replacement identification card shall-

(a) endorse thereon a note to the effect that the card is a replacement identification card; and

(b) if he is satisfied that the contents thereof are correct, either sign the card himself or cause it to be signed by the registering officer for the time being assigned to that division.

(5) Subject to paragraph (6), a replacement identification card shall contain such particulars as were recorded on the identification card of the person to whom it relates.

(6) When a registering officer issues a replacement identification card he may-

(a) insert therein the print of a photograph different from that which was affixed to the identification card which it replaces if he is satisfied that it is a sufficiently good likeness of the person to whom it relates; and

(b) in a case where it is discovered that an identification card contains information which is inaccurate or incorrect, insert such alteration on the replacement identification card as, after an inquiry made for the purpose, he may consider necessary and proper:

Provided that where the registering officer accepts a photograph different from that which was on the identification card that is being replaced he shall cause copies of that photograph to be attached to the registration record card and to the duplicate registration record card maintained by the Chief Elections Officer.

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(7) Whenever a registering officer issues a replacement identification card, he shall make or cause to be made an entry in the space allocated for remarks on the appropriate registration record card showing the date of the issue of that card and shall-

(a) notify the Chief Elections Officer of the issue of the card and the Chief Elections Officer shall cause the necessary entries to be made in the duplicate of the registration record card of that person; and

(b) transmit, in cases where the original identification card is required by these rules to be surrendered, the surrendered identification card to the Chief Elections Officer.

(8) A registering officer, on being satisfied as to the death of any person registered in his division to whom an identification card was issued under these rules shall as soon as practicable after being so satisfied, require the personal representative of that person or any person in possession of the same to surrender to him the identification card that was issued to that person, if the registering officer is satisfied that it is within the power of any such person to do so.

(9) There shall be payable for every replacement identification card-

(a) in the case of a first issue, five dollars;

(b) in the case of any further issue, ten dollars;

but the Chief Elections Officer may, except where a replacement identification card is issued as a result of incorrect or inaccurate information given by the person to whom such card relates, on the ground of poverty or for other good cause, remit or refund the fee or any part thereof.

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Partial or total loss of registration record card.

65.-(1) If both the original and the duplicate of a registration record card of an elector is lost, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, the appropriate registering officer shall require that elector to be registered anew, and if he neglects or refuses to do so the registering officer shall require him to surrender his identification card.

(2) If either the original or the duplicate of a registration record card of an elector is lost, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, the Chief Elections Officer shall prepare a photostatic record from the remaining copy and that copy shall be deemed to replace the lost, mutilated, defaced or destroyed original or duplicate of the registration record card, as the case may be; and the Chief Elections Officer shall make and sign a certificate on the photostatic copy to the effect that it is a true and correct reproduction.

(3) If the registration record card of a person whose name is on the revised register of electors for a division and who produces his identification card does not appear in the binder of registration record cards for that division, the Chief Elections Officer shall cause a registration record card to be prepared for that person and the registration record card shall be included in the binder of registration record cards of electors for that division.

Substitution of identification cards.

66.-(1) The Commission may, not earlier than eight years nor later than ten years from the date of the issue of an identification card under these rules, require every holder of an identification card to surrender the card for inspection and may, if it considers it proper, substitute a new identification card with a fresh photograph for the identification card so surrendered.

(2) Any person who fails to surrender such card for inspection when required to do so under paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

Seeking registration more than once.

67.-(1) Any person who, being registered as an elector, applies for registration as an elector in any division and does not disclose in the application the fact of his being already registered as an elector, shall be guilty of an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine of one thousand dollars or to impris-

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onment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

(2) Where the Chief Elections Officer finds that an elector has been registered in more than one division and is qualified to be so registered he shall serve a notice upon the elector calling upon him to opt within fourteen days of the notice in which division he wishes to remain an elector and shall -

(a) if the elector exercises his option within the stipulated time, strike out his name from the register relating to the division in which the person concerned does not wish to remain as an elector; or

(b) if the elector does not exercise his option within the stipulated time, strike out the name of the elector from all but the register of the division in which he was last registered.

(3) Where the Chief Elections Officer finds that an elector has been registered more than once in any division, he shall, if he is satisfied that it is the same elector, strike out his name as many times as may be necessary to reduce the registration of the said voter to a single entry in the said register.

(4) Where an elector has been registered more than once, the Chief Elections Officer and the relevant registration officers shall-

(a) cancel the registration record cards relating to any entry in a register that may have been struck out by the Chief Elections Officer under subrule (2) or (3) ; and

(b) call for and retain for destruction the identification cards relating to the entries struck out by the Chief Elections Officer under subrule (2) or (3).

(5) Where any elector is called upon to return any identification card

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issued to him and does not do so within a reasonable time to be specified by the Chief Elections Officer, he shall, if he does not satisfy the Chief Elections Officer that he has lost or destroyed the said card, be liable upon summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

Inspection of documents.

68. Where a document is made available for inspection any person may make a copy of, or take extracts from, the document.

No misnomer to prejudice decision.

69. No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person or place in any register list, list of applications or objections or in any notice shall prejudice the operation of that document with respect to that person or place, in any case where the description of that person or place is such as to be commonly understood.

Effect of non-publication.

70. Any failure to publish a document in accordance with these rules shall not invalidate the document nor make any action taken thereafter on the strength of the document ineffectual.

Register to be kept accessible for perusal.
S.I. 73 of 1981
S.I. 10 of 1980

71.-(1) Every registering officer shall keep the original register during office hours to be perused by any person registered as an elector under these rules.

(2) Any person, being a person registered as an elector under these rules and who is authorised in that behalf by the Chairman of any political party which is represented in the National Assembly may, by prior permission of the Chief Elections Officer, peruse the binders of registration record cards maintained by the Chief Elections Officer in the presence of the Chief Elections Officer or a person authorised by him in that behalf:

Provided that the permission granted to any person to peruse the binder of registration record cards shall not confer on any person so perusing any right to make a copy of any such registration record card.

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(3) The Chairman of any political party which is represented in the National Assembly may, in writing, appoint a person to be a scrutineer for an electoral division and such person may after his appointment has been reported in writing to the Chief Elections Officer, be present during office hours in the office of the registering officer for the said division and observe the registering of persons therein or peruse any register or list of electors:

Provided that any person so appointed shall not interfere with or in any way intervene in the registration of any elector; the registering officer may call upon any officer of the Police Department to eject any person acting in contravention of this proviso.

42 of 1999.

Costs.

72. If the revising court is of opinion that the application or objection made by any person is without foundation or frivolous it may award costs to be paid by such person to the person resisting the application or objection. For the purpose of compelling the attendance of witnesses and for enforcing the payment of costs awarded, the court shall be deemed to be and have all the powers of a court of summary jurisdiction.

Evidence or opinion of court.

73. A certificate signed by the magistrate purporting to state the opinion of the court shall in any proceedings be conclusive evidence thereof.

Receipts.
Fifth Schedule.
Form 6B.

74. Every registering officer shall acknowledge every application, objection or notice received by him under these rules by giving to the person making such application or objection or giving such notice a receipt in Form 6B.

PART VI
Adjustment of electoral records on redivision of electoral divisions

Definitions applicable to this Part.
S. I. 76 of 1984.

75. In this Part of these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

"Electoral Records" includes the register of electors, binders of registration

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record cards, and any document useful to the exercise of the franchise, the registration of voters, the administration of the electoral system, the conduct of elections, and all matters connected therewith;

"provisional register" means a register of electors compiled by the Chief Elections Officer pertaining to electoral divisions affected by a delimitation of boundaries or created thereby and which has not been confirmed by a Revising Officer.

Chief Elections Officer to adjust electoral records. S.I. 76 of 1984.

76.-(1) Upon the redivision of any electoral divisions by the Elections and Boundaries Commission, the Chief Elections Officer shall from all the electoral records prepare provisional registers comprising the persons residing in and entitled to be registered in each division affected or created by the redivision aforesaid and shall adjust the binders of registration record cards and all other electoral records in conformity with the said provisional registers.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred on the Chief Elections Officer by paragraph (1) hereof, the Chief Elections Officer may-

(a) adjust the electoral registers of the electoral divisions affected by the redivision;

(b) compile new registers of electors in respect of new electoral divisions;

(c) adjust any existing binder of registration record cards;

(d) open new binders of registration record cards, if necessary;

(e) do or cause to be done such other things as may be necessary or required to reflect in the electoral records the changes made to electoral divisions by the redivision.

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Compilation and publication of provisional register.
S.I. 76 of 1984.
Fifth Schedule.
Form 12.

77. The Chief Elections Officer shall publish or cause to be published within thirty (30) days after the redivision of the electoral divisions has been enacted into law and published in the *Gazette* the provisional register for each division affected by the said redivision containing the particulars and prepared in the form prescribed in Form 12 of the Fifth Schedule.

Applications for correction and objections to entries in provisional register.
S.I. 76 of 1984.

78.-(1) Every person whose name appears on the register of an electoral division affected by a redivision of electoral divisions and whose name does not appear in the provisional list for the electoral division in which he resides or who desires any particulars appearing in the provisional register concerning himself to be rectified shall be entitled within ten days of the publication of the provisional register to apply to the Chief Elections Officer or to the Registering Officer for the electoral division in which he resides to have the provisional register therefor or the particulars therein rectified.

(2) Any person whose name appears in the provisional register for any electoral division may within ten days of the publication of the provisional register object to any person whose name also appears therein on the grounds that such person is not entitled to have his name therein and shall for that purpose deliver to the Registering Officer for the said electoral division within ten days of the publication of the provisional register therefor notice of his objections containing the particulars and prepared in the form prescribed in Form 14A of the Fifth Schedule.

Fifth Schedule.
Form 14A.

(3) In either of the cases provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) hereof the Registering Officer shall investigate the circumstances surrounding each application and objection and shall deliver to the Revising Officer for the said electoral division within three days after the time limited for applications and objections a list comprising all applications and a list comprising all objections together with a copy of the provisional register certified by the Chief Elections Officer.

Revision of provisional registers.

79.-(1) On or before the fifteenth day after the publication of the provisional register the Revising Officer for each electoral division shall hold an open court

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for the purpose of determining whether the persons who have delivered an application under rule 78(1) hereof and the persons who are the subject of an objection under subrule (2) hereof are persons who are entitled to be registered as electors within his electoral division and thereafter to confirm and certify the provisional register together with a list of such amendments thereof as to him shall seem just as the proper register for his electoral division. S. I. 76 of 1984.

(2) The proceedings held by each revising officer shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions *mutatis mutandis* of rules 39 to 43 (both inclusive).

80. The provision of rules 44 and 45 shall apply to the proper register of each electoral division duly certified by its revising officer. Divisional registers S. I. 76 of 1984.

81. Commencing from the day of the publication of the proper divisional register there shall be continuous registration of electors in the manner set out in rules 31 to 45 *mutatis mutandis*. Continuous registration. S. I. 76 of 1984.

82. Notwithstanding the provisions of rule 66 of these rules, the Chief Elections Officer may require every holder of an identification card, who is affected by a redivision in any electoral division, to surrender to the registering officer such card and the Chief Elections Officer shall issue a replacement identification card containing the new particulars. Substitution of identification cards. S. I. 76 of 1984.

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THIRD SCHEDULE

[Sections 21 and 65]

ELECTION RULES

Short title.

1. These rules may be cited as the Representation of the People Election Rules.

Copies of lists of electors to be obtained.

2. Before the day fixed for the nomination of candidates the returning officer shall obtain from the Chief Elections Officer the prescribed number of certified copies of the proper register for the time being in force.

Returning officer to attend from 10:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.

3.-(1) On the day and at the place or places fixed by the returning officer he or any assistant duly authorised by him shall attend between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon and receive the nomination of any duly qualified candidate or candidates for the seat to be filled.

(2) Every candidate shall be nominated in writing on one nomination paper signed by six persons whose names appear on the register of voters for the electoral division concerned.

(3) The candidate shall assent to the nomination in writing by affixing his signature to the nomination paper.

S. I. 48 of 1989.

(4) If at four o'clock in the afternoon only one candidate has been nominated for the seat to be filled the returning officer shall forthwith declare such candidate to have been elected, and shall immediately thereafter certify by endorsement on the writ of election the return of that candidate according to Form 20 of the Fifth Schedule and shall return the writ so endorsed to

Fifth Schedule. Form 20.

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the Commission for transmission to the Governor-General within the time for that purpose specified therein.

Withdrawal or death of candidate.

4.-(1) Any candidate duly nominated may, not less than seven clear days before the day fixed for taking the poll, withdraw from his candidature by giving notice to the effect, signed by him, to the returning officer, provided that on such withdrawal there remains not less than one duly nominated candidate.

S.I. 48 of 1989.

(2) If any such candidate withdraws in accordance with paragraph (1) of this rule before the day fixed for taking the poll, the returning officer shall forthwith give public notice of such withdrawal in the *Gazette*, in one or more newspapers published in Belize and by posting such on the outer doors of the court houses and police stations, if any, in the division, and if on such withdrawal there remains only one duly nominated candidate, the returning officer shall forthwith declare such candidate to have been elected, and shall immediately thereafter certify by endorsement on the writ of election the return of such candidate in the form set out as Form 21 of the Fifth Schedule, and shall return the writ so endorsed to the Commission for transmission to the Governor-General within the time for that purpose specified therein.

Fifth Schedule. Form 21.

(3) If any candidate duly nominated dies before the day fixed for the taking of the poll, the returning officer shall forthwith give public notice of such death in the manner prescribed in paragraph (2), and all proceedings with reference to the election shall be commenced afresh in all respects as if the writ had been received on the day of such death and the provisions of sections 19 to 21 inclusive of this Act and rules 2 and 3 of these rules shall have effect accordingly:

Provided that no fresh nomination shall be necessary in the case of any candidate who has been validly nominated in accordance with rule 3 of these rules.

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Candidate to be nominated in one division only.

5. No candidate shall assent to his nomination in more than one division at a general election and in the event of a candidate so assenting, he shall be deemed to have withdrawn himself as a candidate at that election.

Deposit of two hundred required.

6.-(1) A candidate for election, or someone in his behalf, shall on or before the date of his nomination deposit or cause to be deposited, with the returning officer, the sum of two hundred dollars, and if he shall fail to do so, the nomination of such candidate shall be deemed to be invalid.

(2) The deposit may be made by the deposit of any legal tender, or, with the consent of the returning officer, in any other manner.

(3) If after the deposit is made the candidate withdraws, the deposit shall be returned to the person by whom the deposit was made and if the candidate dies after the deposit is made and before the poll is commenced, the deposit, if made by him shall be returned to his legal personal representative, or, if not made by him, shall be returned to the person by whom the deposit was made.

If votes polled does not exceed one-tenth of total, deposit to be forfeited.

7.-(1) If a candidate who has made the required deposit is not elected, and the number of votes polled by him does not exceed one-tenth of the total number of votes polled, the amount deposited shall be forfeited but in any other case that amount shall be returned to the candidate as soon as practicable after the result of the election is declared.

(2) For the purposes of this rule the number of votes polled shall be deemed to be the number of ballot papers (other than rejected ballot papers) counted.

Registered elector may object to nomination paper.

8.-(1) It shall be lawful for any person whose name appears on the register of electors for any division to object to the nomination paper of any candidate and the returning officer shall decide on the validity of every objection made.

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(2) If the returning officer disallows the objection his decision shall be final, but if he allows the same his decision shall be subject to reversal on petition questioning the election or return.

Contested election.

9.-(1) If there shall be more than one candidate nominated a poll of electors shall be taken on the day specified in the writ, in the manner hereinafter provided.

Fifth Schedule. Form 22.

(2) The returning officer shall, as soon as practicable after adjourning the election, publish a notice according to Form 22 of the Fifth Schedule, of the day and time on which, and the addresses of the polling stations in the division at which, the poll will be taken and the names of the candidates nominated for election and of the place where, and the day and time when, the number of votes given to the several candidates for such division will be counted.

Establishment of polling stations.

10.-(1) The returning officer shall establish for each electoral division such number of polling stations as the Chief Elections Officer with the approval of the Commission shall determine.

(2) Where more than one polling station is established for any electoral division the returning officer shall divide the register of electors for the electoral division into as many separate parts as there are polling stations in that electoral division.

(3) Where only one polling station is established for any electoral division the registering officers shall make the binder of registration record cards available at the polling station for the purposes of checking the identity of electors. When more than one polling station is established for any electoral division the registering officer shall break up the binder of registration record cards relating to that electoral division into as many separate parts as there are polling stations in that electoral division and supply each such polling station with the part of the binder of registration record cards relating to that polling station. After the completion of the poll the registering officer shall ensure that the binder of registration record cards is re-

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stored to its original position.

(4) The returning officer shall provide each polling station with such number of compartments as he may consider necessary to enable electors to record their votes screened from observation.

Hours of voting.

11. The voting shall commence at each polling station at seven o'clock in the forenoon of the day appointed for the reception of votes and shall close at six o'clock in the afternoon of that day unless otherwise directed by the writ of election issued by the Governor-General.

Ballot boxes.

12.-(1) The Chief Elections Officer shall supply to each returning officer such number of ballot boxes as in his opinion may be necessary for taking the poll in that division.

(2) Every ballot box shall be made of some durable material with one lock and key and a slit or narrow opening in the top and so constructed that the ballot papers may be introduced therein but cannot be withdrawn therefrom unless the box is unlocked.

(3) The Chief Elections Officer shall also supply the returning officer of each electoral division with such number of ballot papers as in his opinion may be necessary for taking the poll in that division. The Chief Elections Officer shall also supply the returning officer of each electoral division with such quantities of materials as are enumerated in paragraph (2) of the next rule to enable the returning officer to discharge his functions under that rule.

Supplies of election materials.

13.-(1) The returning officer shall provide each presiding officer with such number of ballot boxes and ballot papers as in the opinion of the returning officer may be necessary.

(2) The returning officer shall provide each polling station with-

(a) the necessary materials to enable electors to mark the

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ballot papers;

(b) the necessary materials for putting the official mark on the ballot papers;

(c) at least three copies, which he shall certify, of the register of electors relating to the electoral division to which he is appointed;

(d) at least three copies of the directions for the guidance of electors in the form set out as Form 23 of the Fifth Schedule; Fifth Schedule. Form 23.

(e) a statement showing the number of ballot papers so provided, with their serial numbers;

(f) the several forms of oaths to be administered to elections officers; and

(g) such other things as may be necessary for conducting the election in the manner provided by this Act.

(3) Until the opening of the poll the presiding officer shall keep the official copies of the register of voters, forms of oaths, envelopes, ballot papers and other election supplies carefully locked up in the ballot box, and shall take every precaution for their safe keeping and to prevent any person from having unlawful access to them.

(4) Before the hour fixed for the opening of the poll, the presiding officer shall post up in each compartment of the polling station and in a conspicuous place outside of the polling station one copy of the directions issued by the Chief Elections Officer for the guidance of the electors in voting.

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Polling agent and counting agent S.I. 61 of 1989.

14.-(1) Each candidate shall have the power to appoint polling agents to be present at polling stations within the division:

Provided that not more than two such agents shall be present within a polling station at any one time.

(2) Each candidate may appoint not more than three counting agents to attend at the counting of votes.

(3) Every appointment of an agent shall be in writing and shall state the name and address of the person and it shall be given duly signed by the candidate to the presiding officer or the returning officer as the case may be.

Taking of poll and the ballot.

15.-(1) The poll shall be taken in each polling area by secret ballot in accordance with the provisions of rules 21 and 24 of these rules.

(2) The ballot of each elector shall be a printed paper (in these rules called a ballot paper) in which the names, descriptions and residences of the candidates alphabetically arranged in the order of their surnames and numbered accordingly shall be printed exactly as they are set out in the nomination paper.

Fifth Schedule. Form 24.

(3) Each ballot paper shall have a number printed on the back as in the form set out as Form 24 of the Fifth Schedule.

(4) The spaces on the ballot papers opposite the names of the candidates shall be printed in such colour or colours or with such symbols as the Commission may decide. The Commission, after consulting the political parties contesting the election, may if it thinks fit, allocate different colours or symbols to different parties and shall publish in the *Gazette*, not less than seven days before any election, the colours or symbols which have been allocated to the different parties.

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Printing, publishing, etc., of prescribed forms prohibited. S.I. 36 of 1979.

16.-(1) No one other than the Chief Elections Officer or a person authorised by him shall print or publish any form prescribed by these rules or print or publish any form which in the opinion of the Chief Elections Officer resembles or sufficiently resembles any form prescribed by these rules so as to be capable of misleading an elector into believing that that form was a form or a sample of a form printed or published by the Chief Elections Officer:

S.I. 61 of 1989. G. N. 683 of 1989.

Provided that it shall be lawful to print or publish a form or a sample of a form which has printed on it in a conspicuous manner the words: "This is NOT an official form and is NOT printed or published by or under the authority of the Chief Elections Officer. It is for the guidance of electors only."

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of paragraph (1) of this rule shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

(3) Any person who distributes any form printed or published in contravention of the provisions of paragraph (1) of this rule shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

Fifth Schedule. Form 24.

(4) For the guidance of electors the Chief Elections Officer may issue sample ballot papers conforming with Form 24 set out in the Fifth Schedule.

Presiding officer to provide ballot boxes, etc.

17. In cases where a poll is to take place the presiding officer shall take care that the polling station is provided with such proper doors, barriers, tables, chairs, lighting equipment and other conveniences for taking the poll as he may deem necessary.

Electors to vote only in division upon list for which their names appear.

18.-(1) All persons voting as electors at elections of the House of Representatives shall do so in person at the polling station in the polling area in which their

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names appear on the divisional register for that division.

(2) Any person contravening paragraph (1) of this rule shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for six months.

Voting by proxy. S.I. 73 of 1998.

19.-(1) Notwithstanding rule 18 above, a person falling in the categories specified in paragraphs *(a)* to (e) of subrule (2) below shall be eligible, subject to the provisions of this Rule, to vote by proxy.

(2) The categories referred to in subrule (1) above are:

(a) persons employed outside Belize in any Belizean Embassy, High Commission, Diplomatic Mission or Consulate, including their spouses and dependents;

(b) members of the Belize Defence Force;

42 of 1999.

(c) members of the Belize Police Department assigned for duty on polling day;

(d) persons acting as election officers;

(e) persons employed in transporting or in any other manner assisting election officers:

Provided that-

(a) a person shall not be eligible to be appointed as a proxy unless he is:-

(i) eighteen years of age or over;

(ii) registered as an elector under the Act; and

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(iii) not subject to any legal incapacity to vote at such election;

(b) a person shall not be entitled to have more than one person at any one time appointed as proxy to vote for him at the elec tion;

(c) a person shall not be appointed as proxy for more than person at any one election;

(d) a person for whom a proxy has been appointed to vote for him at an election shall not himself be entitled to vote at the same election;

(e) a person who is an agent for any political party shall not be entitled to be appointed as a proxy.

(3) A person desirous of voting by proxy as provided in this rule shall make written application to the Chief Elections Officer in the manner set out in Form 26 of the Fifth Schedule within seven clear days after the issue of the writ for an election and shall sign such application before and in the presence of a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public or Belize Honorary Consul, or in the case of members of the Belize Defence Force, before the Commandant of that Force, or in the case of members of the Belize Police Department, before the Commissioner of Police.

Fifth Schedule. Form 26.

42 of 1999.

(4) The Chief Elections Officer may, upon receipt of the application made under subrule (3) above, if satisfied that the applicant is eligible to vote by proxy under the provisions of subrule (1) above, approve such appointment by completing a proxy paper in the form set out in Form 25 of the Fifth Schedule.

Fifth Schedule. Form 25.

(5) No stamp duty shall be chargeable on any Instrument appointing a proxy under these rules.

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(6) If an elector falling in the categories referred to in paragraphs (a) to (e) of subrule (2) above appoints a proxy for an election pursuant to this rule and later dies at any time before such election, such death shall nullify the appointment of the proxy and the Chief Elections Officer shall, upon satisfactory proof of the death of the elector being presented to him, delete the names of the deceased elector and the proxy from the Proxy Register prepared by him under subrule (8) below.

(7) Notwithstanding the time limit specified in subrule (3) above, if a person appointed as proxy dies or otherwise becomes unable to act as proxy at any time before the election day, the Chief Elections Officer shall, on application made to him by the elector, allow the appointment of another proxy or in the alternative, allow the elector to vote in person. In considering whether to approve an alternative proxy or allow the elector to vote in person, the Chief Elections Officer shall have regard to all the relevant circumstances, including the time at which the application is made, the date on which the election is to be held, whether the elector is outside Belize at the material time, and the feasibility of amending the Proxy Register and other similar matters.

Fifth Schedule. Form 26A.

(8) For the purpose of this rule, the Chief Elections Officer shall prepare a "Proxy Register" in the form set out in Form 26A of the Fifth Schedule, comprising the names, registration numbers, electoral divisions and other particulars of all persons for whom proxies have been appointed in pursuance of this rule and the names, registration numbers, electoral divisions and other particulars of such proxies. The Proxy Register so prepared shall be used to verify the identification and other particulars of the proxy as well as of the person who appointed him.

(9) While preparing the Proxy Register referred to in subrule (8) above, the Chief Elections Officer shall ensure that the names of all persons for whom proxies have been appointed are removed from the main elector registers kept by him.

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(10) Any person who impersonates a proxy or in any manner acts in contravention of this rule commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

(11) Subject to subrule (7) above, any person who, having appointed a proxy, votes or attempts to vote in person at an election for which the proxy has been appointed commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

Manner of voting. S.I. 61 of 1989.

20.-(1) An elector duly qualified shall not vote for the election of more than one person, and shall mark a cross within the space opposite the name of the candidate for whom he intends to vote.

(2) The presiding officer shall on request give such instructions as may appear to be necessary to any elector as to the manner in which he should record his vote.

Proceedings at poll.

21.-(1) At the hour fixed for opening the poll the presiding officer and poll clerk shall, in the presence of the candidates, or their agents, and such of the voters as are present, open the ballot box and ascertain that there are no ballot papers or other papers therein, after which the box shall be locked, and the presiding officer shall keep the key thereof, and the box shall be placed on a table in full view of all present and maintained there until the close of the poll.

(2) Immediately after the ballot box is so locked, the presiding officer shall call on the voters to vote.

(3) The presiding officer shall secure the admittance of every voter in the polling station and shall see that he is not impeded or molested at or

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about the polling station.

11 of 1997.

(4) Every elector, upon entering the polling station, shall produce his identification card and shall declare his name and residence.

(5) The presiding officer shall mark the ballot on the back with his initials and, calling out the name of the voter in an audible voice, and marking the voter in such manner as is prescribed by this rule, deliver the paper to him within the polling station.

(6) Any candidate or the polling agent of any candidate may challenge the identity of any elector, and shall upon so challenging the identity of any elector be entitled to examine the identification card of that elector and to compare the same with the registration record card relating to such elector.

S.I. 61 of 1989.

(7) Before requiring a voter to dip the forefinger of his right hand (or any other finger of either hand) in indelible ink, the presiding officer shall require him to show such finger to ascertain that it is not already marked with such ink. If a voter refuses or omits to show his finger as aforesaid, or if the forefinger of his right hand (or any other finger if there is no such forefinger) is already marked with indelible ink, the presiding officer shall refuse to receive his vote unless he is satisfied that the voter has not previously voted at the same election.

(8) A voter shall be marked by the dipping of the forefinger of his right hand up to at least the first joint in indelible ink. If a voter has no forefinger on his right hand or if for any other reasons it is, in the opinion of the presiding officer, not practical to mark such forefinger such other finger as the presiding officer shall direct shall be marked in the manner prescribed or, if in the opinion of the presiding officer it is not practical to mark any finger of a voter, such voter shall be marked with indelible ink in such way as the presiding officer may deem fit.

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(9) The voter shall then retire to one of the compartments provided for the purpose, but within the polling station, and having privately marked his vote on the ballot paper in the manner prescribed by the preceding rule and folded it up so as to conceal his vote, but so as to show the initials of the presiding officer on the back, shall place it in the ballot box in the presence of the presiding officer after having shown to him the official mark on the back, and the voter, having voted, shall forthwith leave the polling station.

(10) The presiding officer, after having delivered to the voter a ballot paper and while the voter is recording his vote, shall make a mark against the name of the voter on his copy of the proper register of voters to indicate that the vote of that person has been received, but not so as to show the particular ballot paper given to him.

Who are to be admitted within the polling station.

22.-(1) The presiding officer shall keep order at the polling station and shall regulate the number of voters to be admitted at a time, and shall exclude all other persons except his assistant, the Chief Elections Officer, the returning officers, the candidates, two agents for each candidate appointed by the candidate in accordance with the provisions of rule 14 of these rules and the police officers on duty.

(2) The agents shall be posted in such a place that they can see each person who presents himself as a voter and hear his name as given in by him, but so that they cannot see how any voter votes.

(3) The agents shall not interfere in the proceedings save in so far as they may be allowed by these rules.

(4) If any person persists, after being warned, in disobeying the directions of the presiding officer or in acting in contravention of this rule the presiding officer may cause him to be removed from the polling station.

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Presiding officer to receive votes.

23. The presiding officer at any polling station shall receive the votes of all duly qualified person whose names are on the proper register of voters and who appear and apply for a ballot paper.

Questions which may be put to voters.

24.-(1) The presiding officer may, at his discretion, and shall, if required by any candidate, or any person representing a candidate at the time of the votes being received, put to any voter, who is in possession of an identification card, at the time of tendering his vote, the following questions, or either of them, and no other-

(a) are you the same person whose name appear as (A. B. as the case may be) on the proper register of voters now in force?

(b) have you already voted at this election either here or else where for the election of a divisional representative?

S.I. 61 of 1989.

(2) Where any voter is, at the time of tendering his vote not in possession of an identification card, the presiding officer may at his discretion ask any question relating to his identity, his place of residence, his age and any other matter that may be of assistance in establishing the identity of such voter, and may, before asking any questions, require the voter to take an oath in the following form which the presiding officer is hereby authorised to administer-

"You swear that you shall true answer make to all such questions as the presiding officer shall demand of you to establish your identity. So help you God."

S.I. 61 of 1989.

(3) If any person refuses to answer any question so put to him, or refuses to be so examined on oath, the presiding officer may refuse to receive his vote.

S.I. 61 of 1989.

(4) If any person-

(a) makes a false answer to any such question as

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aforesaid, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment;

(b) wilfully and falsely deposes to any matter or thing on oath, he shall be liable to be prosecuted for the offence of perjury under the Criminal Code and punished accordingly. CAP. 101.

Spoilt ballot paper.

25.(1) A voter who has so inadvertently dealt with his ballot paper that it cannot be conveniently used as a ballot paper may, on delivering it to the presiding officer and proving the inadvertence to the satisfaction of that officer, obtain another ballot paper in place of that so delivered (hereinafter called a "spoilt ballot paper").

(2) The spoilt ballot papers shall immediately be cancelled by the presiding officer by writing the word "cancelled" across the face and installing it, and he shall retain the same.

Provisions as to voting where a voter incapacitated from voting in the ordinary way.

26. If any voter is incapacitated by blindness or other physical cause from voting in the manner prescribed by these rules, the presiding officer shall, at the request of that voter, in the presence of the agents (if any) of the candidates, cause his vote to be marked on a ballot paper in the manner directed by the presiding officer, and the ballot paper so marked to be placed in the ballot box, and the name and number on the proper register of voters of every voter is so marked for him and the reason why it is so marked shall be entered on a list which shall be kept by the presiding officer.

Ballot box and papers to be sealed.

27.-(1) Except when there is only one polling station, every presiding officer shall, immediately after the close of the poll, in the presence of the agents (if any) of the candidates, make up into separate packets or parcels and seal-

(a) the ballot box or boxes in use at his station which shall not be

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opened by him and shall be so sealed as to prevent the introduction of additional ballot papers;

(b) the key or keys of the ballot box or boxes used at the poll;

(c) the unused and spoilt ballot papers; and

(d) the marked copies of the register of voters.

(2) Every presiding officer shall, with all convenient speed and trustworthy means, forward the packets or parcels to the returning officer in his division.

S.I. 61 of 1989

(3) The agents of the candidates (if any) shall have the right to accompany the ballot boxes to the place where such boxes are to be kept and shall also have a right to stay at such place pending the counting of votes.

Opening of ballot boxes.

28. The returning officer shall open the sealed ballot boxes as soon as practicable after they have all been received from the polling stations throughout his division.

Procedure thereafter.

29.-(1) Each returning officer shall, in the presence of the candidates or their agents (if any), if they or any of them desires to be present, and of such other person or persons as he may deem proper, proceed respectively as follows-

(a) he shall, before opening any ballot box, compare the several marked copies of the register of voters used at the polling station or stations, so as to ascertain whether a vote has been taken in the name of the same voter at more stations than one, and, if any vote has been so taken, shall record in writing the stations at which it has been taken and the number of the voter on the register of voters;

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(b) he shall then proceed to examine the ballot boxes, papers, and documents in his possession (examining the ballot boxes, papers, and documents received from each division polling station one station at a time) in the following manner-

(i) he shall count the ballot papers in the ballot box and the unused and spoilt ballot papers, so as to ascertain whether these papers account for all ballot papers issued for the purpose of the election in the particular polling station with which he is dealing and shall record in writing the result of the examination;

(ii) he shall count the ballot papers contained in the ballot boxes recording as he proceeds, the number of votes for each candidate; S.I. 61 of 1989

(iii) after counting the votes, he shall make up into one packet the ballot papers, and all other papers and documents from the same divisions, and the record of the result of the examination mentioned in this subparagraph and shall write on the packet the name of the division from which those papers and documents came, and shall seal up the packet so that it cannot be opened without breaking the seals;

(c) he shall, so far as is practicable, proceed continuously with the counting of the votes, allowing only time for refreshment, and during the excluded or allowed time the returning officer shall place the ballot papers and other documents relating to the election under seal and otherwise take proper precaution for their security.

(2) Any candidate or his agent may at any time during the counting of the votes request the Returning Officer to recount or again recount all or any of the

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ballot papers or to recheck or again recheck any figures recorded by the counting clerks or the Returning Officer, but the Returning Officer may refuse to do so if in his opinion the request is unreasonable.

S.I. 56 of 1979.

(3) The Returning Officer may also at his discretion himself recount or direct the recount of votes either once or more often in any case in which he is not satisfied as to the accuracy of any previous count or may himself recheck or direct the re-checking of any figures recorded by the counting clerks or by himself in any case in which he is not satisfied as to the accuracy of such figures:

Provided that nothing herein shall make it obligatory for the Returning Officer to count or to recheck or cause to be rechecked the same figures more than once.

(4) If upon an election petition-

(a) any ballot papers are declared valid; or

(b) any ballot papers counted are rejected as invalid,

the Court may direct the ballot papers to be recounted and the results of the election ascertained in accordance *mutatis mutandis* with these rules.

Ballot paper, when void and not counted.

30.-(1) Any ballot paper-

(a) which does not have the presiding officer's initials on the back of it; or

(b) in which the elector has voted for more than one candidate; or

(c) which is not marked for any candidate; or

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(d) which contains any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified; or

(e) which is unmarked or void for uncertainty;

shall be void and shall not be counted.

(2) The returning officer shall endorse "rejected" on any ballot paper which he may reject as void, and shall add to the endorsement "rejection objected to" if an objection be in fact made to his decision by any person entitled to be present.

Report regarding rejected ballot papers.

31.(1) The returning officer shall report to the Chief Elections Officer the number of ballot papers rejected and not counted by him under the several head set out in rule 30.

(2) The returning officer shall on request allow any candidate or candidates for whom the rejected vote was given, or his agent, to copy the report before it is submitted.

Decision of returning officer to be final.

32. Subject to reversal on petition questioning an election or return, the decision of a returning officer as to any question arising in respect of any ballot paper shall be final.

Procedure where two candidates have equal votes.

33.-(1) When the ballot papers have been counted, compared and recorded, the returning officer shall proceed to add up the number of votes given to each candidate, and shall forthwith declare to be elected the candidate to whom the majority of votes have been given.

S.I. 61 of 1989
G. N. 683 of 1989.

(2) If there is given to two or more candidates an equal number of votes in excess of those given to any other candidate, there shall be held a re-election in that electoral division as soon as practicable but no later than three months after the date on which counting of votes took place.

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S.I. 36 of 1979.

(3) Each returning officer shall forthwith after the declaration of the result of the election in respect of his division make a return to the Chief Elections Officer showing-

(a) the particulars of the candidates;

(b) the number of votes polled by each of the candidates; and

(c) which one of the candidates was elected.

(4) The Chief Elections Officer shall forthwith, on the receipt of the returns from the returning officers referred to in paragraph (3) above, publish the same in the *Gazette*.

Returning officer to report to Chief Elections Officer.

34.-(1) Each returning officer shall, as soon as may be after the election, make a report to the Chief Elections Officer showing the number of persons who appear to have voted at each polling station, the number of spoilt ballot papers delivered to him from the station, and the number of persons to whom voting papers have been supplied.

(2) Any returning officer who is unable to make the report required by paragraph (1) of this rule shall immediately after the ballot papers have been counted, compared and recorded make into one parcel the parcels of voting papers, marked copies of the register of electors and all other papers used at the polling station and in his possession and shall place such parcel in the ballot box and seal the said box which, if he is in Belize City, he shall deliver to the Chief Elections Officer, or if he is in any other district, to the magistrate of that district for safe custody until such time as he prepares a report under the provisions of paragraph (1).

Voting papers, etc., to be sent under seal to Chief Elections Officer.

35. Each returning officer shall, as soon as may be after making the report in the last preceding rule mentioned, make up into one parcel the voting papers, marked copies of the register of voters and other papers used at the polling stations and in his possession and shall seal the said parcel so that the

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parcel cannot be opened without breaking the seals. The returning officer shall send the parcel containing the voting papers, marked copies of the register of electors and other papers to the Chief Elections Officer who shall keep the parcel sent to him in safe custody and shall allow no person to have access thereto:

Provided that-

(a) when an election petition has been presented questioning the validity of any election or return the Chief Elections Officer shall, on an order of the Supreme Court, deliver to the proper officer of that court the papers in his possession relating to the election that is in dispute; and

(b) after the expiration of twelve months from the date of any election the Chief Elections Officer shall burn the papers used at that election.

Return to be made.

Fifth Schedule. Form 27.

36.(1) On or before the date appointed for the return of a writ of election each returning officer shall forward to the Commission for transmission to the Governor-General the writ of election with his return endorsed thereon according to Form 27 of the Fifth Schedule.

(2) If any returning officer wilfully delays, neglects or refuses duly to return any person who ought to be returned to serve in the House of Representatives for any division, and if it has been determined on the hearing of an election petition respecting the election for such division that such person was entitled to have been returned, the returning officer who has so wilfully delayed, neglected or refused duly to make such return of his election shall forfeit to the person aggrieved the sum of five hundred dollars and costs in addition to all damages sustained.

Candidate to have privileges conferred on his agent.

37. Any candidate may himself do, or aid in doing anything which his agent may do under this Act and may be present at any place at which his agent may under this Act be present.

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Non-attendance of candidate or his agent not to invalidate proceedings.

38. The non-attendance of any candidate or of any agent nominated by him shall not in any wise invalidate any act or thing done under this Act, if that act or thing is otherwise duly done, notwithstanding that the act or thing is required or authorised to be done in the presence of a candidate or of his duly authorised agent.

FOURTH SCHEDULE
[Sections 62 and 65]

ELECTION PETITION RULES

Short title.

1. These rules may be cited as the House of Representatives Election Petition Rules.

Interpretation.

2. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires-
"Judge" means the Election Judge;

"Registrar" means the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Manner of presentation of petition.

3.-(1) The presentation of an election petition shall be made by delivering it at the office of the Registrar, and the Registrar or the officer of his department to whom the petition is delivered shall, if required, give a receipt in the following form-

Received on the day of , 20 at the Registry of the Supreme Court, a petition touching the election of A. B., Member for

(State the electoral division.)

purporting to be signed by

(Insert the names of petitioners.)

C. D.
Registrar.
(or as the case may be).

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(2) With the petition two copies thereof shall also be left.

4. The following form, or one to the like effect, shall be sufficient- Form of election petition.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BELIZE

(Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9)

Election for (state the electoral division)
held on the day of , 20
The petition of A., of (or of A., of
and B., of as the case may be),

whose names are subscribed.

1. Your petitioner A, is a person who voted (or had a right to vote, as the case may be) at the above election (or claims to have had a right to be returned at the above election or was a candidate at the above election) and your petitioner B. (here state in like manner the right of each petitioner).

2. And your petitioners state that the election was held on the day of , 20 , when A. B., C. D., and E. F. were candidates and the Returning Officer has returned A. B. as being duly elected.

3. And your petitioners say that (here state the facts and grounds on which the petitioners rely).

Wherefore your petitioners pray that it might be determined that the said A. B. was not duly elected or returned, and that the election was void (or that the said E.F. was duly elected and ought to have been returned, or as the case may be).

(Signed) A
B.

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Where more than one petition is presented in relation to same election.

5. Where more petitions than one are presented relating to the same election or return, all such petitions shall be dealt with as one petition, so far as the inquiry into the same is concerned.

List of votes objected to where seat claimed by unsuccessful candidate.

6.-(1) When a petitioner claims that seat for an unsuccessful candidate, alleging that he had a majority of lawful votes, the party complaining of the election or return and the party defending the election or return shall, six days before the day appointed for trial, deliver to the Registrar, and also at the address, if any, given by the petitioners and respondent, as the case may be, a list of the votes intended to be objected to, and of the heads of objection to each such vote, and the Registrar shall allow inspection and office copies of such list to all parties concerned.

(2) No evidence shall be given against the validity of any vote, nor upon any head of objection not specified in the list, except by leave of the Judge, upon such terms as to amendment of the list, postponement of the inquiry, and payment of costs, as may be ordered.

List of objections in recriminatory case.

7. The respondent in a petition complaining of an undue return and claiming the seat for some other person may lead evidence to prove that the election of that other person was undue and in such case the respondent shall, six days before the day appointed for trial, deliver to the Registrar, and also at the address, if any, given by the petitioner, a list of the objections to the election upon which he intends to rely, and the Registrar shall allow inspection of office copies of such list to all parties concerned and no evidence shall be given by a respondent of any objection to the election not specified in the list, except by leave of the Judge, upon such terms as to amendments of the list, postponement of the inquiry, and payment of costs, as may be ordered.

Appointment of agent by petitioner.

8. With the petition the petitioner shall leave at the office of the Registrar a notice in writing, signed by him, giving the name of some person entitled to practise as a solicitor of the Supreme Court whom he authorizes to act as his agent or stating that he acts for himself, as the case may be, and in either case giving an address within Belize City at which notices may be left; and if no

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notice in writing be left or address given, then all notices may be given by leaving the same at the office of the Registrar. Every notice in writing shall be stamped with the duty payable thereon under the law for the time being in force.

Appointment of agent by respondent.

9. Any person returned as a member may at any time, after he is returned, send or leave at the office of the Registrar a notice in writing, signed by him or on his behalf appointing a person entitled to practise as a solicitor of the Supreme Court to act as his agent in case there should be a petition against him, or stating that he intends to act for himself, and in either case giving an address within Belize City at which notices addressed to him may be left, and if no notice in writing be left or address given, all notices and proceedings may be given or served by leaving the same at the office of the Registrar.

Registrar to keep book with addresses and names of agents.

10. The Registrar shall cause to be kept a book at his office in which shall be entered all addresses and the names of agents given under either rule 8 or 9, which book shall be open to inspection by any person during his office hours.

Security by petitioner for costs, etc., of election petition.

11. If security as is required by the Act is not given by the petitioner, no further proceedings shall be had on the petition, and the respondent may apply to the Judge for an order directing the dismissal of the petition and for the payment of the respondent's costs. The costs of hearing and deciding such application shall be paid as ordered by the Judge, and in default of such order shall form part of the general costs of the petition.

Service of notice of petition and copy of petition on the respondent.

12.-(1) Notice of the presentation of a petition, accompanied by a copy thereof shall, within ten days of the presentation of the petition-

(a) be served by the petitioner on the respondent; or

(b) be delivered at the office of the Registrar for service on the respondent, and the Registrar or the officer of his department to whom such notice and copy is delivered shall, if required, give a receipt in such form as may be approved by the Chief

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Justice.

(2) The service under paragraph (1) of notice of the presentation of a petition and a copy thereof by the petitioner on the respondent may be effected either by delivering such notice and copy to the agent appointed under rule 9 or by posting them in a registered letter to the address given under rule 9 at such time that, in the ordinary course of post, the letter would be delivered within the time above mentioned, or by a notice published in the *Gazette* stating that such petition has been presented and that a copy of it may be obtained by the respondent on application at the office of the Registrar.

(3) Where notice of the presentation of a petition, accompanied by a copy thereof is delivered under paragraph (1) at the office of the Registrar for service on the respondent, the service may be effected in the same manner as the service of a notice issued by a court of civil jurisdiction.

List of petitions.

13. The Registrar shall make out the election petition list. In it he shall insert the names of the agents of the petitioners and respondents appointed under rule 8 and rule 9 respectively, and the addresses to which notices may be sent, if any. The list may be inspected at the office of the Registrar at any time during office hours, and shall be affixed for that purpose upon a notice board.

Time and place of trial of petition.

14. The time and place of the trial of each election petition shall be fixed by the Judge, and not less than fourteen days' notice thereof shall be given to the petitioner and respondent by letter directed to the address left by such petitioner or respondent with the Registrar or, if no address has been left, by notice in the *Gazette.*

Postponement of trial.

15. The Judge may from time to time, by order made on the application of a party to the petition, postpone the beginning of the trial to such day as he may name; and such order, when made, shall forthwith be published by the Registrar in the *Gazette.*

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Adjournment and continuation of trial.

16. No formal adjournment of the court for the trial of an election petition shall be necessary but the trial is to be deemed adjourned, and may be continued from day to day until the inquiry is concluded; and in the event of the Judge who begins the trial being disabled by illness or otherwise, it may be recommenced and concluded by another Judge.

Withdrawal of election petition.

17.-(1) An election petition shall not be withdrawn without the leave of the Judge; and leave may be given upon such terms as to the payment of costs and otherwise as the Judge may think fit.

(2) Before leave for the withdrawal of an election petition is granted, there shall be produced affidavits as required by this rule by all the parties to the petition and their solicitors, and by the election agents of all the said parties who were candidates at the election; but a Judge of the Supreme Court may on cause shown dispense with the affidavit of any particular person if it seems to the Judge on special grounds to be just so to do.

(3) Each affidavit shall state that, to the best of the deponent's knowledge and belief, no unlawful agreement or terms of any kind whatsoever has or have been made, and no unlawful undertaking has been entered into in relation to the withdrawal of the petition; but if any lawful agreement has been made with respect to the withdrawal of the petition, the affidavit shall set forth that agreement, and shall make the foregoing statement subject to what appears from the affidavit.

(4) The affidavits of the applicant and his solicitor shall further state the ground on which the petition is sought to be withdrawn.

Form of application to withdraw petition.

18.-(1) An application for leave to withdraw a petition shall be in writing signed by the petitioner or petitioners or his or their agent or agents. It shall state the ground on which the application is supported.

(2) The following form shall be sufficient-

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(Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9)
Electoral Division petition of (state name of petitioner) presented
day of , 20 .
The petitioner applies to withdraw his petition upon the following ground (here state the ground), and prays that a day may be appointed for hearing his application.

Dated this day of 20
(Signed.)

(3) The application for leave to withdraw shall be left at the office of the Registrar.

Copy of application to be given to respondent.

19. A copy of such application shall be given by the petitioner to the respondent, and a notice in the following terms signed by the petitioner shall be published forthwith in the *Gazette* by the petitioner at his own expense-

(The Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9)
the election petition for in which
is petitioner and respondent.
Notice is hereby given that the above petitioner did on the day of , 20 , lodge at the office of the Registrar of the Supreme Court an application for leave to withdraw the petition, of which application the following is a copy-

(set it out)

And take notice that under the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9, any person who might have been a petitioner in respect of the said election may within five days after the date of publication of this notice, give notice in writing to the Registrar of the Supreme Court of his intention on the hearing of the application to be substituted as a petitioner.

(Signed)

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Application to be substituted as petitioner, on withdrawal.

20. Any person who might have been a petitioner in respect of the election to which the petition relates may, within five days after a notice under rule 19 is published by the petitioner, give notice in writing, signed by him or on his behalf, to the Registrar, of his intention to apply at the hearing to be substituted for the petitioner, but the want of such notice shall not defeat such application, if in fact made at the hearing.

Time and place of hearing of application.

21. The time and place of hearing the application shall be fixed by the Judge but shall not be less than a week after the application for leave to withdraw has been left at the office of the Registrar as hereinbefore provided, and notice of the time and place appointed for the hearing shall be given to such person or persons, if any, as shall have given notice to the Registrar of an intention to apply to be substituted as petitioners, and otherwise in such manner and such time as the Judge directs.

Substitution of another petitioner.

22.-(1) On the hearing of the application for withdrawal any person who might have been a petitioner in respect of the election to which the petition relates, may apply to the Judge to be substituted as a petitioner for the petitioner so desirous of withdrawing the petition.

(2) The Judge may, if he thinks fit, substitute as a petitioner any such applicant as aforesaid; and may further, if the proposed withdrawal is in the opinion of the Judge induced by any corrupt bargain or consideration by order direct that the security given on behalf of the original petitioner shall remain as security for any costs that may be incurred by the substituted petitioner, and that to the extent of the sum named in such security the original petitioner shall be liable to pay the costs of the substituted petitioner.

(3) If no such order is made with respect to the security given on behalf of the original petitioner, security to the same amount as would be required in the case of a new petition and subject to the like conditions, shall be given on behalf of the substituted petitioner before he proceeds with his petition, and within three days after the order of substitution.

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(4) Subject as aforesaid, a substituted petitioner shall stand in the same position as nearly as may be, and be subject to the same liabilities as the original petitioner.

(5) If a petition is withdrawn, the petitioner shall be liable to pay the costs of the respondent.

(6) Where there are more petitioners than one, no application to withdraw a petition shall be made except with the consent of all the petitioners.

Non-abatement of election petition by reason only of a dissolution of National Assembly.

23. Any election petition shall not be abated by reason only of a dissolution of the National Assembly and accordingly in the event of such dissolution the petition shall be heard or continued to be heard, and determined as though the National Assembly had not been dissolved but was in session.

Abatement of petition by death.

24.-(1) An election petition shall be abated by the death of a sole petitioner or of the survivor of several petitioners.

(2) The abatement of a petition shall not affect the liability of the petitioner or of any other person to the payment of costs previously incurred.

Application to be substituted as petitioner on abatement.

25.-(1) Notice of abatement of a petition by the death of the petitioner or surviving petitioner, shall be given by any party or person interested in the same manner as a notice is given of an application to withdraw a petition, and the time within which application may be made to a Judge to be substituted as a petitioner shall be one calendar month, or such further time as upon consideration of any special circumstances the Judge may allow.

(2) Any person who might have been a petitioner in respect of the

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election to which the petition relates may apply to the Judge to be substituted as a petitioner.

(3) The Judge may, if he thinks fit, substitute as a petitioner any such applicant who is desirous of being substituted and on whose behalf security to the same amount is given as required in the case of a new petition.

On death, resignation or notice not to oppose of respondent, the petition to continue.

26.-(1) If before the trial of an election petition a respondent dies or resigns, or gives notice in writing to the court that he does not intend to oppose the petition, the petition shall not be abated but shall continue whether or not any person applies to be admitted as respondent as hereinafter provided.

(2) Notice of the fact that a respondent has died or resigned, or that he has given notice in writing that he does not intend to oppose the petition, shall be published in the *Gazette* by the Registrar.

(3) Any person who might have been a petitioner in respect of the election to which the petition relates may apply to the Judge to be admitted as a respondent to oppose the petition within ten days after such notice has been published in the *Gazette* or such further time as the Judge may allow.

(4) The manner and time of the respondent's giving notice to the court that he does not intend to oppose the petition, shall be by leaving notice thereof in writing at the office of the Registrar, signed by the respondent not less than six days before the day appointed for trial, exclusive of the day of leaving such notice.

Respondent not opposing petition not to appear as party.

27. A respondent who has given notice of his intention not to oppose a petition shall not be allowed to appear or act as a party against such petition in any proceedings thereon.

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Countermanding notice of trial where petition abated, etc.

28. After receiving the petitioner's application for leave to withdraw or notice of the respondent's intention not to oppose or of the abatement of the petition by death, if such notice be received after notice of trial shall have been given, and before the trial has commenced, the Registrar shall forthwith countermand the notice of trial. The countermand shall be given in the same manner, as near as may be, as the notice of trial.

Costs.

29. All costs of and incidental to the presentation of a petition and to the proceedings consequent thereon shall be defrayed by the parties to the petition in such manner and in such proportions as the Judge may determine, regard being had to the disallowance of any costs which may, in the opinion of the Judge, have been caused by vexatious conduct, unfounded allegations or unfounded objections, on the part of either the petitioner or the respondent and regard being had to the discouragement of any needless expense by throwing the burden of defraying the same on the parties by whom it has been caused, whether such parties are or are not on the whole successful.

Taxation and recovery of costs.

30.-(1) Costs shall be taxed by the Registrar upon the order by which the costs are payable in such manner as shall be specified in such order; and costs when taxed may be recovered in the same manner as the costs of an action at law.

(2) The Chief Justice may direct that the whole or any part of any moneys deposited by way of security under the provisions of rules 11 and 12 may be applied in the payment of taxed costs.

(3) The office fees payable for inspection, office copies and other proceedings under these rules shall be such as may be prescribed by the Chief Justice.

Solicitor may act as agent under these rules.

31. Any person who is on the roll of solicitors of the Supreme Court may act as agent for any party to an election petition.

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32. An agent shall, immediately upon his appointment as such, leave written notice thereof at the office of the Registrar.

Notice of appointment of agent.

33. Service of notices and proceedings upon such agents shall be sufficient for all purposes.

Service of notice on agents.

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FIFTH SCHEDULE

[Section 15]

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 1

OATH OF OFFICE AS CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER AND ASSISTANT CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER

I, ... the undersigned having been appointed Chief Elections Officer/Assistant Chief Elections Officer do* swear/solemnly affirm that I will act faithfully in that capacity in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9 and of any Regulations and rules made thereunder without partiality, fear, favour or affection and to the best of my ability.

So help me God . . . .

(Signature)

*Sworn/Affirmed before me this . . . . . day . . . . . of 20 . . . ..

*Strike out whatever is inapplicable.

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 1A

OATH OF OFFICE AS . . . . . .

I, ... the undersigned, having been appointed

. . . . . .(for the polling station) of the electoral
(Give details of appointment)

division of . . . . . do *swear/solemnly affirm that I will act faithfully in that capacity in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9 and of any Regulations or Rules made thereunder without partiality, fear, favour or affection and to the best of my ability. I do so *swear/solemnly affirm that I will keep secret the name of the candidate for whom any of the voters voted at the election held in the above division on . . . . . .

So help me God . . . .
Signature

*Sworn/Affirmed before me this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . .

Justice of the Peace.

***Strike out whatever is inapplicable.**

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S. 19.
S.I. 73 of 1998.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
CHAPTER 9
FORM No. 2
WRIT OF ELECTION

By His Excellency

The Governor-General of Belize

Governor-General

To the Returning Officer of the Electoral Division of . . . .

WHEREAS, by section 19 of the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 9, it is provided that for the purposes of every general election of members of the House of Representatives and for the purposes of the election of members to supply vacancies caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor-General shall issue writs under the public Seal of Belize, addressed to the Returning Officers of the respective electoral divisions for which members are to be returned;

***AND WHEREAS**, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 84 of the Belize Constitution, 1981, and acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, by Proclamation dated the _____ day of _____ 20 ____, I did dissolve the National Assembly with effect from the _____ day of _____, 20____,

***AND WHEREAS**, I think it expedient that writs should be issued for the election of members to serve in the House of Representatives;

****AND WHEREAS**, the seat of the member for the Electoral Division of . . . . . has become vacant in consequence of . . . . . ,

NOW THEREFORE, I, ... Governor-General as aforesaid, do appoint the_____ day of _____,20____ as the day and _____ as the place of nomination of candidates and do hereby require that notice of the time and place fixed for the nomination of candidates having been first duly given as required by law, you do, if necessary, cause a poll to be taken according to law for the election of a member of the House of Representatives of Belize on the _____ day of 20_____, and that you do cause the name of such member when so elected to be certified to me not later than the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of Belize this _____ day of _____, 20___

*To be included in a writ for general election.
**To be included in a writ for bye- election.

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S 20 (1)

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 3

NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION

Notice of Election for a Member of the Electoral Division
of . . . .

His Excellency the Governor-General having issued his writ for the election of a member of the House of Representatives for the electoral division of ..... the Returning Officer of the said division will on the . . . . . day of . . . . . .20. . . now next ensuing between the hours of 10 in the forenoon and four in the afternoon at ..... proceed to the nomination, and if there is no opposition, to the election of a member for the electoral division of . . . .

Forms of nomination papers may be obtained at the office of . . . . . at . . . . between the hours of . . . . . and . . . . daily except on Saturday when the office is closed at . . . . . p.m. (Sunday also excepted).

Every nomination paper must be signed by six persons whose names appear on the register of electors and be handed to the Returning Officer between the said hours of 10.00 a. m. and 4.00 p.m.

In the event of an election being contested the pollwill take place between the hours of 7.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. on . . . . and the counting of votes will take place thereafter at . . . . . on . . . . . at the hours of . . . . and at such places as may hereafter be appointed.

The office of the Returning Officer for the electoral division of …..... is situate at . . . . . .

Date….....

._____
Returning Officer for the Division

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S 20 (2)

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT

CHAPTER 9

Form No. 4

FORM OF NOMINATION PAPER

We, the undersigned being registered electors for the….....

Electoral Division do hereby nominate the following person as a proper person to serve as an elected member for the….....

Electoral Division.

S.I. 49 of 1989.

Surname	Other Names	Abode	Profession or Occupation	Date of Birth
Smith	Henry John	Queen Street Belize City	Merchant	

I assent to the above Nomination.

(Signed by the person assenting the nomination)
(Registered Elector)
(Registered Elector)
(Registered Elector)
(Registered Elector)
(Registered Elector)
(Registered Elector)

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
CHAPTER 9

R.R. 4 (2).

Form No. 5

NOTICE REQUIRING PERSONS QUALIFIED TO MAKE APPLICATION TO REGISTER

Every person qualified to be registered as an elector for the election of a representative to the House of Representatives of Belize is hereby required to make his application in writing for that purpose on or before the . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . ..

Applications may be delivered at the office of the relevant Registering Officer between the hours of . . . . . .

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . . .

Chief Elections Officer

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R.R. 5 (1).

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 6A

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS AN ELECTOR

To the Registering Officer for the Electoral Division of

... .

I, ... of . . . . . .

(Address)

whose occupation is . . . . . do hereby apply to be registered as an elector for the electoral division of . . . . and do declare that the particulars entered on the reverse of this form are to the best of my knowledge and belief true and correct in all respects.

I declare that I am not already registered as an elector nor have I applied for registration as an elector in any other division.

Signature of Applicant.

Dated: . . . . . .

(The particulars on the reverse of this form must be filled out by or on behalf of the applicant.)

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Back of Form No. 6A
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS AN ELECTOR

11 of 1997.

I . Applicant's name in full
Surname and style of title (Mr., Mrs., or Miss) . . . . . .
Other Names . . . . . .

2. *(a)* Applicant's Address on the relevant date — Number or Name . . . . . Street, Road etc. . . . . City, Town, Village . . . . . .

(b) Applicant's present Address if different from above — Number or Name . . . . . Street, Road, etc. . . . . .

(c) Period of residence in that particular division . . . . . .

3. (a) Was applicant aged 18 or over on the qualifying date. — Yes or No . . . . . .

(b) Applicant's date and place of birth . . . . . .

(c) Applicant's height . . . . . .

(d) Colour of eyes . . . . . .

(e) Colour of Skin . . . . . .

4. Was applicant a British citizen or a Commonwealth citizen on the qualifying date — Yes or No. . . . . .

The relevant date is the . . . . . 20 . . . .

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No.6B

RECEIPT

I, ... Registering Officer for the Electoral Division of . . . . . acknowledge receipt of . . . . . from . . . . . of . . . . . .

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . .

Signature . . . . . .

Registering Officer.

….....Electoral Division

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 7

NOTICE OF DISALLOWANCE OF REGISTRATION

Electoral Division of . . . . . .

Take notice that the registration of . . . . . .

of . . . . . as an elector in

the above electoral division has this day been disallowed by me on the

grounds that . . . . . .

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . .20. . .

To: . . . . . .
(*Name)*

. . . . . .
(Address)

Signature . . . . . .
Registering Officer.

…..... Electoral Division.

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R.R. 11 (a).
11 of 1997.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT, CHAPTER 9
Form No. 8
REGISTRATION RECORD CARD

Surname	Christian	Middle	Other			
Residential Address		Postal Address				
Date of Birth		Place of Birth		Nationality (if any)	Disability	
Marital Status	Sex	Height Eyes	Colour of Skin	Colour of Marks	Distinguishing residence in Electoral Division	Date took up
Particulars of naturalization registration		Date of Certificate and		No.		
		Name and Relationship through whom registration acquired				

Photograph

. . . . . .
Signature of Registered Person

. . . . . .
Signature of Registering Officer

Remarks:

BACK
Whether included on list of cancellations . . . . . .
Reasons for cancellation . . . . . .
Changes of Address

. . . . . .
. . . .
. . . . . Signature of Registering Officer
. . . . . .

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE

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REVISED EDITION 2000

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT

R.R. 11 (b)
11 of 1997.

CHAPTER 9
Form No. 9
FORM OF IDENTIFICATION CARD
BELIZE

COAT OF ARMS

Space for Photograph

. . . . . .
Signature
of Elector . . . . . .

Back of Form No. 9

IDENTIFICATION CARD

Date issued Registration No.

Name
Date & Place of Birth
Sex Height Ft. ins.
Colour of Eyes Colour of Skin
Distinguishing Marks

. . . . . .
Signature of Registering Officer
. . . . . Electoral Division

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R.R. 11 (c)

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 10

CERTIFICATE AS TO REGISTRATION
(to be completed in triplicate)

Electoral Division . . . . . Registration No. . . . . .
This is to certify that the registration of . . . . . .
(Name)
of . . . . . as an elector has been allowed by me and that
(Address)
all entries required to be made by me upon the identification card of the said

. . . . . of . . . . . have been made.

Dated this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . .

. . . . . .
Registering Officer

To the above Registrant

You are required to have your photograph taken by the official photographer stationed at . . . . . or by any other official photographer.

Take notice that your photograph must be taken in order that your registration may be completed.

Date photograph taken . . . . . .

. . . . . .
Signature of Official Photographer.
. . . . . .
Signature or impression of Registrant.

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

R.R. 11 (d).
11 of 1997.

Form No. 11
NAME INDEX CARD

Name . . . . . INDEX CARD.

Serial No. of Registration Card . . . . . .

Name of Elector . . . . . Date of Birth . . . . . .

Address . . . . . Sex . . . . . .

Remarks . . . . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . .
Registering Officer.

. . . . . .
Electoral Division

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R.R. 22 (1)
11 of 1997.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 12

LIST OF PERSONS registered as electors for the election of a Representative for the Electoral Division of . . . . . .

No.	Date of Registration	Reg. No.	Surname and Christian Name or Names in full	Date of Birth	Code No.	Residence	Remarks

I, ..., Registration Officer for the registration area of . . . . . certify that the above is a true copy of the . . . . . for the said registration area.

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . , 20 . . . . .

Registering Officer. . . . . .
Electoral Division . . . . . .
Office at . . . .

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT, R.R. 23 (1).
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 13

APPLICATION FOR THE RECTIFICATION OF PARTICULARS

To: The Registering Officer of the . . . . . Electoral Division

I, ... seek to have the
(Name of person seeking rectification)
particulars given in Column I below relating to me in the electoral register for the electoral division of . . . . . rectified in the manner set out in Column II below:

Column I	Column II
(Here give particulars to be rectified)	(Here give the manner in which the particulars in Column I are to be rectified)

.. . .
Signature of Elector

Date: . . . . . .

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R.R. 23 (2), 32,36 (2) and 46.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 14A

OBJECTION TO A PERSON ON NEW REGISTER

To the Registering Officer of the Electoral Division of . . . . . .

I, ... a person whose name
(Name of Objector)

appears in the list of electors of the Electoral Division of . . . . . .

. . . . . hereby give you notice that I object to the name of

. . . . . being included/retained in the
(Name of Person Objected to)

said list/register on the ground that . . . . . .
(state ground of objection)

DATED the . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . ..

.....
Signature of Objector

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

R.R. 24 (3) and 47 (3).

Form No. 15

OBJECTION TO NOTICE AS BEING A DECEASED OR DISQUALIFIED PERSON

To the Registering Officer of the Electoral Division of ..... S.I. 55 of 1979.

. . . . . .

I, ... of . . . . . .
(Name of Elector) *(Address)*

whose name appears in the register of deceased or disqualified persons published under rule 24/47 of the Representation of the People Registration Rules do hereby give you notice that I object to my name appearing therein on the ground that I am not the person shown as deceased or disqualified.

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . . .

. . . . . .
Signature of Objector

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R.R. 25 (3), 49 (1).

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 16

REVISION NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the list of electors for the Electoral Division of . . . . . will be revised by me the undersigned on the . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . . . at . . . . . o'clock at . . . .

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . .

. . . . . .
Revising Officer

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9
Form No. 17

R.R. 58 (1) & 59 (1).

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF RESIDENCE OR ADDRESS

To: The Registering Officer of the division of . . . . . .
at . . . . . .
(Address of Registration Office)

TAKE NOTICE that I have changed my place of residence as follows:

From . . . . . .

To . . . . . .

on the . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . . .

My name is . . . . . and
(Print in block letters)

my registration number is . . . . . .

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . .

. . . . . .
Signature of Registrant

(Perforation)

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your notice of change of residence dated the . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . . and wish to inform you that your registration record card has been amended accordingly/has been transferred to the . . . . . Division.*

. . . . . .
Registering Officer for the Division of . . . . . .

*Delete if inapplicable

To: . . . . . .

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R.R. 60 (1).

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 18

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF NAME

From . . . . . of . . . . . .
(Name) *(Address)*

whose registration number is . . . . . .

To: The Registering Officer for the registration area of . . . . . .

at . . . . . .
(Address of registration office)

TAKE NOTICE that my name which now appears as: . . . . . .

. . .. in the register of electors for the
(Here insert name in the register)

division of . . . . . in which I am

registered, has been changed to . . . . . .

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20. . .

. . . . . .
. *Signature of registered person or*
mark of registered person and
signature of witness to such mark

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R.R. 64 (2).

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 19

APPLICATION FOR REPLACEMENT OF
IDENTIFICATION CARD
(To be accompanied by the prescribed fee)

To the Registering Officer of the division of . . . . . .

at . . . . . .
(Address of registration office)

I, ... of . . . . . .
(Name) *(Address)*

. . . . . of the division of . . . . . .
hereby inform you that my identification card has been lost/ stolen/destroyed/mutilated/defaced* and I do hereby apply for a replacement identification card.

DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . 20 . . . .

. . . . . .
Signature of Applicant

*Delete if inapplicable

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E. R. 3 (4)
S.I. 38 of 1979.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 20

RETURN OF UNCONTESTED ELECTION

I hereby certify that the member elected for the electoral division of . . . . . in pursuance of the within writ is . . . . . (insert name, address and occupation of member elected as stated in the nomination paper) no other candidate having been nominated.

DATED at . . . . . this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20. .

. . . . . .
Returning Officer

To: H.E. the Governor-General
(Through the Commission)

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

E. R. 4 (2).

Form No. 21

RETURN WHERE CANDIDATE WITHDRAWS

I hereby certify that the member elected for the electoral division of .....
..... in pursuance of the within writ is .....
.....
(insert name, address and occupation of member elected as stated on the nomination paper) the other of all other candidates having withdrawn.

DATED at ..... this ..... day of ..... 20 ..

.....
Returning Officer

To: H. E. the Governor-General
(Through the Commission)

S.I.38 of
1979.

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E. R. 9 (2).

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9
Form No. 22
NOTICE THAT A POLL WILL BE TAKEN

The Electoral Division of . . . . . .

NOTICE is hereby given to the Voters of the electoral division aforesaid that a Poll will be taken for the election now pending for the said electoral division and that such Poll will be opened on the . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . . at the hour of seven in the forenoon and kept open till the hour of six in the afternoon in the following Polling Stations established in the various Polling Areas comprised in the said electoral division:

Polling Station: . . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .

and that the candidates in the above electoral division are as follows:

Candidates: . . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .

of which all persons are hereby required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

The counting of votes will take place at . . . . on the . . . . day of . . at the hour of . . .

Given under my hand at . . . . . this . . . day of . . . 20 . .

. . . . . .
Returning Officer

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,

E. R. 13 (2) (d).

CHAPTER 9

Form No. 23

DIRECTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF VOTERS

1. Each voter may vote only at one polling station and for only one candidate.
2. The voter will go into one of the compartments and, with the pencil provided in the compartment, mark a cross on the right hand side of the ballot paper given to him by the presiding officer, opposite the name of the candidate for whom he votes.

For example:- Supposing John Jones and George Smith are the candidates for election and the voter wishes to vote for Jones, he must place a cross opposite Jones' name as follows:-

	Surname	Other Names	Address	Colour	
1.	JONES	John	North Street		X
2.	SMITH	George	Highgate Street		

3. The voter shall then fold the ballot paper so as to conceal his vote but so as to show the initials of the presiding officer on the back; he shall then place it in the ballot box in the presence of the presiding officer after having shown to him the initials on the back. The voter shall then forthwith leave the polling station.
4. If the voter inadvertently spoils a ballot paper, he can return it to the presiding officer, who will, if satisfied of such inadvertence, give him another paper.
5. If the voter votes for more than one candidate or places any mark on the paper by which he may be afterwards identified, his ballot paper will be void and will not be counted.
6. If the voter takes a ballot paper out of the polling station or deposits in the box any paper than the one given him by the presiding officer, he shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for three months or to a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars.

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E. R. 15 (3) & 16 (4)
11 of 1997.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 24

. . . . . Electoral Division

	Surname	Other Names	Address	Colour	
1.	JAMES	John			
2.	ROBINSON	Peter			
3.	SMITH	George			

(Back of Form No. 24)

BALLOT PAPER NO. . . . . .

Signature: . . . . . .
Presiding Officer

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E. R. 19 (4)
S.I. 73 of 1998.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 25
PROXY PAPER

Electoral Division . . . . . .

Polling Station . . . . . .

Name of Proxy . . . . . of

Address of Proxy . . . . . .

is hereby appointed as proxy for

Name of elector . . . . . of

Address of elector . . . . . .

Who is registered as an elector for the . . . . . .

. . . . . Electoral Division to vote for him/her at the abovenamed polling station.

APPROVED this . . . . . day of . . . . . 20 . . . .

. . . . . .
(CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER)

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E. R. 19 (3)
S.I. 73 of 1998.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9
Form No. 26

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I, ...
.. (Full christian names and surname)
of . . . . . am registered as an elector
for the . . . . . .
..
(State electoral division)
and I am assigned for duty as . . . . . .
. . . . . .
(State nature of employment in regard to the election)
and will be absent from my polling area on election day. I therefore apply for the person named below to be appointed as proxy to vote for me.
I clearly understand that if I vote or attempt to vote at an election after having appointed a proxy I will be committing an offence and will be liable to the penalties prescribed by the law.

PERSON TO BE APPOINTED PROXY

The elector must fill this up:-
Full names .. . . . .
Address . . ..
Relationship, if any, to elector. . . . . .
Signature .. . . . . Date . . . . . .
Signed before me this . . . . . day of. . . . . .

*Justice of the Peace
Commissioner of Police
Commandant of Belize Defence Force
Notary Public
Belize Honorary Consul

*Delete as appropriate

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E. R. 19 (8)
S.I. 73 of 1998.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT,
CHAPTER 9

Form No. 26A

PROXY REGISTER

PARTICULARS OF ELECTOR								PARTICULARS OF PROXY						
No.	Date of Registration	Reg. No.	Surname, Christian Name and other Names in full	Date of Birth	Code No.	Residence	Remarks	Date of Registration	Reg. No.	Surname, Christian Name and other Names in full	Date of Birth	Code No.	Residence	Remarks

I, _____ CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER, do hereby certify that the above entries reflect a true copy of the Proxy Register prepared and kept by me in accordance with Rule 19 of the Representation of the People (Election) Rules.
DATED this . . . . . day of . . . . . , 20 . . . . .

_____
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER

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E. R. 37 (1).

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
CHAPTER 9

Form 27

RETURN AFTER POLL HAS BEEN TAKEN

I HEREBY certify that the member for the .. . .
Electoral Division in pursuance of the within writ as having received the majority of votes lawfully given is . . . . . .
(Name, address and occupation as stated in Nomination paper)

. . . .
Returning Officer

To: H. E. The Governor-General
(Through the Commission)

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