

GENERAL ELECTION, 20 FOR

MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FORM OF

DECLARATION OF SECRECY

Representation of the People Act, Chapter 12 of the Laws
of Barbados

Election Rule 23, Paragraph (4)

I solemnly promise and declare that I will not do anything forbidden by subsections (1), (2), (3), and (5) of Section 5(1) of the Election Offences and Controversies Act, Chapter 3 of the Laws of Barbados, which have been read to me.

..... Declarer

Made before me,

this day of 20

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NOTE: The Declarer should keep with him his Declaration of Secrecy for presentation at Polling Stations to the respective Presiding Officers, as a Presiding Officer must be satisfied that such declaration has been legally made before he can admit anyone to a polling station, other than for the purposes of casting his vote. The Declarer will also be required to produce his Declaration of Secrecy before he can be admitted to the Counting of the Votes.

The Law specifically requires that, for admission to Polling Stations, the Declaration of Secrecy must be made BEFORE the opening of the poll.

ELECTION OFFENCES AND CONTROVERSIES ACT, CHAPTER 3
OF THE LAWS OF BARBADOS

Sec. 5 (1) The following persons, that is to say –

- (a) The Supervisor of Elections, Deputy Supervisor of Elections, every Returning Officer, Election Clerk and every Presiding Officer or Clerk attending at a polling station;
- (b) every candidate or election agent or polling agent so attending;

shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and shall not except for some purpose authorised by law communicate to any person before the poll is closed any information as to –

- (i) the name of any elector who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at a polling station;
- (ii) the number on the register of electors of any elector who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at a polling station;
- (iii) the official mark.

(2) Every person attending at the counting of the votes shall maintain the secrecy of voting and shall not –

- (a) ascertain or attempt to ascertain at the counting of the votes the number on the back of any ballot paper;
- (b) communicate any information obtained at the counting of the votes as to the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper.

(3) No person whosoever shall –

- (a) interfere with or attempt to interfere with a voter when recording his vote;
- (b) otherwise obtain or attempt to obtain in a polling station information as to the candidate for whom a voter in that station is about to vote or has voted;
- (c) communicate at any time to any person any information obtained in a polling station as to the candidate for whom a voter in that station is about to vote or has voted or as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to a voter at that station;
- (d) directly or indirectly induce a 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 whom he has or has not voted.

(4) No person having undertaken to assist a blind or incapacitated voter to vote shall communicate at any time to any person any information as to the candidate for whom that voter intends to vote or has voted or as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given for the use of that voter.

(5) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for six months.