

CHRISTOPHE CASTANER INTERIOR MINISTER ANNOUNCE MEASURES & GUIDANCE FOR THE VOTER

MAYORAL ELECTIONS 15-23 MARCH 20

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USPA NEWS - This Saturday, March 14 in the morning, a few hours before the first round of the municipal elections, the Minister of the Interior, Christophe Castaner, visited the polling station in Lévis-Saint-Nom (Yvelines). His message was very clear: reassure voters about the very conditions of the vote. The Minister of the Interior noted that "In Lévis-Saint-Nom, 1358 voters, everything is already ready to welcome the public." who will come to vote tomorrow, all day, with a peak of frequentation between noon and two o'clock. The biggest measure consists in avoiding "any contact" between the voters and the staff of the polling stations. This is why, at the entrance, a water point is accessible for people who would like to wash their hands. Markings on the ground (with adhesive tape) indicate the directions and the famous distance of 1 m between two people.

Bottles of hydroalcoholic gel are placed on each of the tables reserved for assessors. The voting booths are facing the wall to prevent voters from having to draw the curtain. Identity cards will be held by their owners but not taken by those who maintain the office. Voter cards will not be stamped, which is not required anyway. Everything is done so that voters can go to vote without making any physical contact. The other instruction consists in not receiving more than 100 people gathered in the same office, however unique. "If I calculate compared to the participation of 2014 (which was 47%), that makes about 600 voters. That is to say 60 people per hour. This is not an influx difficult to organize," estimated Christophe Castaner. The Interior Minister Christophe Castaner acknowledged that "we could expect an increase in the rate of absenteeism. "For this election, the participation rate is quite high. We hope that it will be at a good level. I am calling for voter participation". As for the powers of attorney the minister explained that we must wait "At the end in the morning, he had no figures on proxy requests. "

WITHDRAWALS OF ASSESSORS AT THE POLLING STATIONS ANNOUNCES THE INTERIOR MINISTER CASTANER

Interior Minister Christophe Castaner, visiting this polling station, reported having encountered some "difficulties in the constitution" of certain polling stations, after the withdrawal of assessors in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. "In case of deficiency, the mayor can turn to the prefect who can compel certain people to hold polling stations," he said.

MEASURES AND GUIDANCE FOR GOING TO VOTE IN MAYORAL ELECTIONS-----

The right gestures to adopt when going to vote tomorrow To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the authorities call on voters to adopt "barrier measures" during the first round of municipal elections tomorrow, namely:

- “☿ Washing hands before and after the vote. Water points and hydroalcoholic gel will be made available.
- “☿ It is possible to bring your own pen (indelible and black or blue in color), as well as the ballot papers received by mail.
- “☿ Tables, polling booths, ballot boxes, voting machines will be regularly washed throughout the day.
- “☿ Respect a distance of one meter between people in the polling station and possibly in the queue outside.
- “☿ Give priority to the busiest time slots (9 am to 11 am and 1 pm to 4 pm).

THE FIRST CASE TESTED POSITIVE IN THE FRENCH SENATE-----

The French Senate has registered its first case of coronavirus, the senator from Lozère Guylène Pantel, 56, having been diagnosed positive on Covid-19, she announced in a press release. "Her state of health is good and she has no particular symptoms," said the entourage of the senator on Saturday. As recommended, she will remain homebound for the next fourteen days.

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