

# Referendums

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## Election Year, Ballot Language and Results

### November 3, 1970

Shall the County Judge of Martin County be required to be a member of the Florida Bar?

**Yes – 4,684 votes**

No – 915 votes

### November 5, 1974

Do you approve the adoption of the act which would require governing boards and taxing districts in Martin County to reduce the millage to be levied on property from the amount in the preceding year in proportion to the increase in the assessed value of the property over the preceding year and which would provide a procedure, including public hearings, for any subsequent increase?

**For – 7,822 votes**

Against – 1,724 votes

### November 2, 1976

Do you approve of the adoption of the Act which would provide for nonpartisan election of School Board members and prohibit the use of political party affiliation by any candidate for the School Board during the campaign or on the ballot?

**For – 10,082**

Against – 2,887

### November 7, 1978

Shall Martin County impose, for five (5) years beginning March 1, 1979 a one cent (\$0.01) tax on the sale of every gallon of motor fuel and special fuel sold in Martin County for the purpose of paying the cost and expenses of establishing, operating, and maintaining a transportation system and related facilities and the cost of acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of roads and streets?

For – 3,130

**Against – 12,982**

### June 29, 1982

Shall Martin County, Florida, issue not exceeding \$5,000,000 principal amount of general obligation bonds, bearing interest at not exceeding the maximum legal rate of interest at the time of the sale of the bonds, maturing not later than thirty (30) years from the date of issuance thereof, payable from ad valorem taxes levied on all taxable property in the County without limit as rate or amount, for the purpose of financing the cost of the acquisition of ocean front land within the County for preservation, recreation, and open space purposes, as more specifically described and provided in the Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, adopted on April 22, 1982?

**For – 6,826**

Against – 3,459

### June 12, 1983

Shall a Tourist Development Tax be levied and collected throughout Martin County at a rate of two (2%) percent on hotel, motel and similar accommodations rented for a term of six (6) months or less pursuant to Section 125.0104, Florida Statutes, to pay the cost of a sports stadium and related facilities (all revenues when revenues do not exceed \$300,000.00 per annum and ninety-five (95%) percent of the revenues when revenues are in \$300,000.00 per annum), and other purposes as provided in Section 125.0104, Florida Statutes, the date of imposition of said tax and other details as more specifically provided in Ordinance No. 200, duly enacted by the Board of county Commissioners of Martin County on May 19, 1983, Heretofore published in full as part of the notice of this election?

For – 4,925

**Against – 10,032**

### September 2, 1986

Shall Martin County issue General Obligation Bonds to finance the cost of a courthouse, as described in a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, adopted on July 1, 1986, in the principal amount of \$11,100,000, bearing interest at not exceeding the maximum legal rate, maturing not later than 30 years from date thereof, and secured by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the county?

**Yes – 8,994**

No – 3,028

### September 2, 1986

Shall Martin County issue General Obligation Bonds to finance a Jail and Sheriff's Administration Facility, as described in a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, adopted on July 1, 1986, in the principal amount of \$25,000,000, bearing interest at not exceeding the maximum legal rate, maturing not later than 30 years, from the date thereof, and secured by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the county?

**Yes – 9,485**

No – 3,490

### September 2, 1986

Do you approve of the School Board proposition to change the Office of Superintendent of Schools from elective to appointive, with the change becoming effective upon the completion of the incumbent superintendent's current four year term or sooner if the office becomes vacant?

Yes – 11,945

**No – 17,020**

### March 8, 1988

Should the Martin County School Board be authorized to levy an additional one mill ad valorem tax for two years? The proposed two year levy of one mill per year requested by the School Board is for the purpose of educational improvement. The one mill levy would be for operating expenses of the Martin County School Board. The funds would be utilized for computer assisted programs, additional equipment and materials, and salary increases for the instructional staff.

Yes – 8,609

**No – 12,299**

### **November 8, 1988**

Shall the Children's Services Council of Martin County be granted the authority to fund the improvement of children's developmental, health and other juvenile welfare services by the levying each year of an ad valorem tax not to exceed one-half (1/2) mill for services for children?

**Yes – 23,048**

No – 14,152

### **November 8, 1988**

Shall Martin County issue bonds to finance acquisition and improvement of the F.I.T. property for educational, recreational, cultural and other public purposes, as provided by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, adopted August 23, 1988, in the principal amount not to exceed \$12,000,000, bearing interest at not exceeding the maximum legal rate, maturing not later than 20 years from their date, and secured by the full faith, credit and taxing power of the County?

**Yes – 21,564**

No – 15,625

### **May 16, 1989**

Shall Martin County Issue bonds to finance the cost of acquisition of recreational or environmentally sensitive lands as described in a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, adopted on February 28, 1989, in principal amount not to exceed \$20,000,000, bearing interest at not exceeding the maximum legal rate, maturing not later than 20 years from the date thereof, and secured by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the County?

**Yes – 5,867**

No – 5,148

### **March 12, 1996**

Shall Martin County, Florida, levy a one percent (1%) local government infrastructure sales surtax in the county for a period of one (1) year for the purpose of paying the cost of the following infrastructure projects, including land, buildings and/or equipment for:

- County Libraries;
- County and Municipal Public Recreational Purposes;
- County and Municipal Public Safety Purposes.

**For – 13,339**

Against – 12,210

### **March 12, 1996**

Shall Martin County issue bonds to finance the acquisition and improvement of the Florida Institute of Technology property for educational, recreational, cultural and other public purposes, as provided by resolution of the Board of county Commissioners, adopted January 9, 1996, in the principal amount not to exceed \$7,000,000, bearing interest at not exceeding the maximum legal rate, maturing not later than 15 years from the date, and secured by full faith and credit and taxing power of the County?

**Yes – 14,265**

No – 10,939

### **November 5, 1996**

Appoint Superintendent of Schools?

**Yes – 2,954**

**No – 25,713**

### November 3, 1998

Land for healthy rivers and natural resources protection one percent (1%) infrastructure sales tax to acquire lands identified in the Everglades restudy to restore and preserve the St. Lucie River and Indian River Lagoon, and provide matching funds for the state and federal land acquisition programs for conservation and protection of natural resources (Priorities are: Pal-Mar, Atlantic Ridge, Allapattah, Indian River Blueways), and provide municipal infrastructure allowed by law, shall Martin County levy a one percent (1%) sales tax in the county from January 1, 1999 through December 31, 2001?

**For – 21,058**

Against – 20,033

### March 14, 2000

Shall the Superintendent of Schools be appointed by the School Board for the Martin County School District?

Yes – 7,131

**No – 8,254**

### November 7, 2000

Shall the method of selecting circuit court judges in the 19<sup>th</sup> judicial circuit be changed from election by a vote of the people to selection by the judicial nominating commission and appointment by the Governor with subsequent terms determined by a retention vote of the people?

Yes – 19,191

**No – 31,141**

### November 7, 2000

Shall the method of selecting court judges in Martin County be changed from election by a vote of the people to selection by the judicial nominating commission and appointment by the Governor with subsequent terms determined by a retention vote of the people?

Yes – 8,840

**No – 31,892**

### September 10, 2002

Shall Martin County, Florida levy a two percent (2%) tourist development tax on overnight lodging in the County? This tax would be applied to stays in Martin County of six (6) months or less. This tax will be collected and placed in a trust fund for the purpose of advancement, promotion, generation and development of overnight tourism.

**For – 16,028**

Against – 14,013

### November 2, 2004

Shall Martin County protect its unique character, discourage sprawl, provide open space, protect wildlife habitat, protect water storage/recharge areas and improve recreation by : 1) purchasing and restoring environmentally significant land and 2) purchasing passive and active recreational lands, and also make municipal infrastructure investments allowed by law by levying a one percent (1%) sales tax for a period of three years?

For – 33,839

**Against – 35,985**

### November 7, 2006

To purchase conservation lands to protect the Indian River Lagoon, St. Lucie river and drinking water sources; to preserve and restore natural areas, wildlife habitat and beaches; to create and improve parks, other recreational opportunities and trails for walking, hiking and biking; and for municipal prioritized conservation, recreation or infrastructure projects; subject to citizen oversight, zero spending on administration and annual independent audit, shall Martin County levy a ½ cent sales tax for 5 years?

**For – 15,554**

Against – 11,821

### August 24, 2010

These exemptions would allow Martin County to encourage job creation by granting property tax exemptions on assessed value of new improvements and personal property for eligible businesses. Exemptions last up to 10 years and don't apply to school, city, or voter approved taxes. Shall Martin County Board of County Commissioners be authorized to grant pursuant to Section 3, Article VIII of the State Constitution, property tax exemptions to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses?

**Yes – 12,400**

No – 11,705

### November 2, 2010

Shall the Superintendent of Schools be appointed by the School Board for the Martin County School District?

Yes – 24,732

**No – 26,480**

### November 2, 2010

Shall the School Board of Martin County be authorized to levy an additional 0.5 discretionary millage for school operational purposes for the 2011-2012 through the 2014-2015 fiscal years?

Yes – 16,752

**No – 34,007**

### November 4, 2014

Shall Martin County levy an Additional One-Cent Sales Tax for Four (4) Years to Fund Reconstruction of Existing Roads, Drainage and Bridges to meet Required Codes and Standards? Each County Expenditure Shall be Approved at an Advertised Public Hearing. Martin County's City and Towns will receive Funds, as provided by Law, from the One-Cent Sales Tax for Infrastructure Projects.

For – 30,271

**Against – 30,343**

### November 4, 2014

The Children's Services Council of Martin County is an independent special taxing district approved by Martin County in 1988 to enhance the health and wellbeing of Martin County's children. Shall the Children's Services Council of Martin County be reauthorized to fund services for Martin County's children unless dissolved by the County Commission or special act of the Legislature as provided by law?

**Yes – 45,740**

No – 13,708

### August 29, 2017

In order to protect the environment and safeguard Martin County's quality of life, shall Martin County levy an additional one cent sales surtax for 10 years to provide funding for: Water quality projects that reduce pollutants to our estuaries; Projects to construct and reconstruct county facilities including Sheriff, Fire Rescue, and Public Works facilities; and for reconstruction of road infrastructure? Projects subject to annual review and approval at a public hearing?

Yes – 7,798

**No – 13,273**

### August 28, 2018

Shall the Martin County School District increase ad valorem millage by one-half mill per year, beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2022, to fund essential operating expenses for: School safety and security for all schools, mental health programs, recruiting and training qualified teachers, professional development for teachers and staff, and academic initiatives; with annual reporting to the county's citizens to ensure fiscal stewardship?

**Yes – 22,187**

No – 17,586

### August 28, 2018

Shall the Town of Hobe Sound be created and its charter adopted?

Yes – 1,393

**No – 2,574**

### November 6, 2018

Shall a half-cent per dollar school sales surtax for critical capital needs be levied for a seven-year period beginning January 1, 2019, to provide security upgrades and enhancements at all schools, replace Jensen Beach Elementary and Palm City Elementary, and repair or renovate district-owned school buildings; with annual reporting to the county's citizens to ensure fiscal stewardship?

**Yes – 42,291**

No – 31,702

### November 6, 2018

Shall the Superintendent of Schools be appointed by the School Board for the Martin County School District?

**Yes – 42,805**

No – 29,153

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