



**ELECTORAL  
COMMISSION**  
Papua New Guinea

► July 2022

# 2022 NATIONAL ELECTION

## Counting & the Role of Joint Security Forces





It is the prime function of the Electoral Commission to organize and conduct all elections for the Parliament and the legislative arms of the Local-level Governments Organic Law No 3 of 1993, Article 15

At Counting Centers, the **RO & ARO** are the **senior representatives** of the PNGEC

Commission's General Order, 21 October 2021

**Mission 2.1.1.**

To ensure the JSTF provides a safe and secure environment for the National Election 2022

JSTF Personnel will be present at the count, **in consultation with the RO & ARO**, to ensure the security of ballot papers and the peaceful conduct of the count.

JSTF Personnel are also responsible for supporting PNGEC to ensure the safe storage of ballot material.

## Role of the Returning Officer - RO

At the start of (each day's) counting, the RO or ARO will:

- Make note of the Security Force Commander's Name and contact detail and list all Joint Security Forces present in their daily log.
- Provide a brief on the day's events for the Security Force Commander

# Role of the Security Force Commander

Report incidents and escalate critical events through their Chain of Command to the JSTF Command Centre

Communicate with Returning Officers on the security environment

Respond to local events as required, including arresting offenders  
Police have the authority to deal with criminal matters independently

Provide security for counting staff and materials

Assist in securing and managing access to the counting centre

Security Forces must not discuss their own political views and must remain politically neutral when undertaking their election roles.

## Role of the Security Forces

Security Forces are to maintain a safe, calm and controlled area.

They are to monitor the ballot boxes, count centre and the behaviour of scrutineers, observers and members of the public to ensure they are not touching or interfering with ballot papers.

They must ensure that scrutineers and observers remain within their designated area and that ballot boxes and ballot papers remain secure at all times.

**Security Forces are to report any incidents to the RO.**

## Access to Count Centres

The Electoral Commissioner may authorise other persons to observe the count. JSTF are to ensure the **safe entry** to count facilities, for:

- International and domestic observers
- Government officials
- Journalists
- Photographers
- Other persons as designated by the RO & ARO

All authorised personnel will carry appropriate accreditation and must conduct themselves in an orderly manner.

**Members of the public may observe the count from a set-aside area.**



# 2022 NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTION



- ✓ MY COUNTRY!
- ✓ MY RIGHT!
- ✓ TO VOTE!

- EVERY VOICE MATTERS
- MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY
- BE HEARD



**“MY COUNTRY MY RIGHT TO VOTE FOR A HEALTHY NATION”**

**Thank you for working with the Election Commission to secure the interests of the voting population of Papua New Guinea**

Simon Sinai, ML  
Electoral Commissioner