



ELECTION HANDBOOK

*Statewide Direct
Primary Election
June 8, 2010*

Prepared by:

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San Bernardino County REGISTRAR OF VOTERS Needs Poll Workers

Serving as a poll worker is a great way to serve your community and get involved with the democratic process, while earning extra money. We recruit Clerks and Inspectors to staff each election held throughout the year. **The next election is June 8, 2010.**

Inspectors' Duties

- Organize Set-Up of Polling Place
- Assign Clerks to Precincts, Duties and Breaks
- Resolve Voting Issues
- Return Ballots to a Pick-Up Location at the End of Election Night

Clerks' Duties

- Assist in Set-Up of Polling Place
- Greet the Voter
- Locate Voter on Roster
- Issue Ballot Cards
- Direct Voter to Voting Machines
- If Necessary, Demonstrate to the Voter How to Vote
- Retrieve the Ballot Card Once the Voter Has Completed the Voting Process

Training

For each election, all Poll Workers must attend a training class. Training classes are held throughout the County at various times and locations. Inspectors are required to attend a training class, as well as receive and return supplies.

Pay

- Inspector - \$135.00, Clerk - \$100.00
- Bilingual Poll Workers will receive an additional \$10.00.

Election Day Hours are 6:00 a.m. to approximately 9:30 p.m. The polls are set up between 6:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. and are open at 7:00 a.m. The polls are closed at 8:00 p.m. and closing procedures may take up to one hour to complete.

If you can help, please contact Poll Worker Recruitment at (909) 387-8300 or (800) 881-VOTE.

I. INFORMATION

A. Primary and General Elections—What's the Difference?

A Primary Election is a **nominating** election in which voters in each political party choose the nominee who will run against the other political parties' nominees in the General Election. For example, Republicans run against other Republicans and Democrats run against other Democrats for their respective party's nomination. For a list of qualified political parties, please visit the Secretary of State's web site at http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_f.htm.

California has adopted a Modified Closed Primary system which restricts voters affiliated with a political party to the choice of candidates of that party. Under California law, political parties may determine whether to allow non-partisan voters (or who declined to state a political party affiliation when they registered to vote) the opportunity to cast a ballot for their party's candidates.

A notice is included in the Sample Ballot mailed to all non-partisan voters informing them of this option, with an application they may complete and mail to our office requesting another party's ballot. The California Elections Code requires our poll workers to provide non-partisan voters with a non-partisan ballot unless they ask for a ballot that would allow them to vote in a particular party's primary.

For the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary election, the following parties have approved "cross over" voting:

Democratic Party

Republican Party

A General Election is held for voters to choose among the candidates nominated in a primary election for federal, state and local offices. The purpose of a general election is to make a **final choice** among the candidates nominated at the previous Primary Election.

During a General Election, all voters in an assigned precinct vote the same ballot regardless of party affiliation, selecting from among the candidates of the various political parties.

B. Partners in Democracy:

The Registrar of Voters first implemented "Partners in Democracy" for the November 4, 2008 Presidential General Election. This new program offers businesses or community organizations an opportunity to take part in a team-building exercise that will develop a commitment to the democratic process while enhancing the group's reputation as a civic-minded organization.

Groups taking advantage of this partnership will be responsible for staffing a polling place on Election Day. A fully staffed polling place will be paid a stipend for their time and commitment. The stipend, paid directly to each worker, may in turn be used to support projects sponsored by the organization or as a tax-deductible donation to a charity of their choice.

Staff assigned to these polling places must attend a two-hour Registrar of Voters training class, held at locations throughout the County.

Businesses or organizations interested in becoming a Partner in Democracy should contact the Polls Section at 909-387-8300 for more information.

C. Early Voting:

Early voting for the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary Election will be available at the following location:

LOCATION	DATES/TIMES
Registrar of Voters 777 E. Rialto Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415	May 10 – June 8 Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm and Saturday, June 5 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

D. Working with the Media

Media releases are available on the ROV web site so that information can be more easily distributed within your organizations. We also send them to everyone on our media distribution list. If you are not currently on our list and would like to be added, please contact Kathy Jackson at (909) 387-2083.

Election results will be posted on the ROV Web site at (<http://www/sbcrov.com>).



II. WHO CAN I CALL?

News Releases	News releases are sent to members of the media and to City Clerk's offices from a mailing list we have compiled. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, contact Kathy Jackson at (909) 387-2083. News releases are also posted to our web site at www.sbcrov.com .
Web Site	<p>Internet users can access the Registrar of Voters' home page at www.sbcrov.com. Select the Current Election tab, then the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary Election link.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive polling place/sample ballot locator – voters can simply point and click on the interactive locator and enter their residence address. The locator provides the name and address of their polling place, a map, and a link to their sample ballot pamphlet. • Election results – results will be posted on election night starting shortly after 8 p.m. The first results are from mail ballots only. • Links to other sites – we provide a link to the Secretary of State's web site for statewide totals on our web site. From that site you can also link to many other elections offices throughout the state.
Media Interviews	Interviews may be scheduled with Kari Verjil, Registrar of Voters by calling Kathy Jackson at (909) 387-2083.
Election Mailings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County of San Bernardino Sample Ballot Pamphlet – is mailed to all registered voters. It contains: voting page facsimiles; text, arguments, and rebuttals of local measures; candidates' statements for local nonpartisan races; voting instructions; location and accessibility of polling location; and an application for a mail ballot. It is printed in English and Spanish in accordance with Federal and State mandates. • State of California Voter Information Guide – mailed by Secretary of State to registered voters (one to a household), and contains information on state measures only. Available in English, Spanish and several other languages. Also available on the internet at http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm
Bilingual	There are Spanish-speaking operators to assist voters at the Registrar of Voters office and at many of our polling places throughout the County.

III. IMPORTANT DATES/STATISTICS

A. Key June 8, 2010 Dates

First Day Mail Ballots Available	5/10
Early Voting	5/10-6/8
Last Day to register to vote	5/24
Last Day to request a Mail Ballot	6/1
ELECTION DAY	6/8
Official Canvass Period	6/10-7/6

B. Key Election Statistics on Ballot Content:

Number of Cities	1
Number of Elective Positions to be Voted on	81
Number of State Propositions	5
Number of Local Measures	5
Number of Qualified Political Parties	6

C. Voting History Information

ELECTION TITLE	ELECTION DATE	REG VOTERS	TOTAL VOTERS	% OF TURNOUT	MAIL BALLOT ISSUED	MAIL BALLOT VOTED	% OF VBM VOTED	VBM % OF TOT VOTED
<i>Consolidated Election</i>	11/3/09	438,542	45,820	10.45	155,520	33,240	21.37	72.54
<i>Statewide Special</i>	5/19/09	806,589	195,725	24.27	294,743	119,691	40.61	61.15
<i>Presidential General</i>	11/4/08	829756	616320	74.28	302957	229185	75.65	37.19
<i>Statewide Primary</i>	6/3/08	754978	154977	20.53	254618	97965	38.48	63.21
<i>Presidential Primary</i>	2/5/08	723661	376614	52.04	224250	147520	62.78	39.17
<i>Consolidated Election</i>	11/6/07	583567	77315	13.25	168741	54352	32.21	70.29
<i>General Election</i>	11/7/06	751652	358417	47.8	209891	138167	65.82	38.55
<i>Direct Primary Election</i>	6/6/06	748385	185579	24.8	180834	86111	47.61	46.4
<i>Consolidated Spec. Statewide</i>	11/8/05	753616	323860	42.97	178721	119584	66.91	36.92
<i>Presidential General</i>	11/2/2004	737559	528387	71.64	186627	142781	76.51	27.02
<i>Presidential Primary</i>	3/2/04	649501	172267	26.52	124272	83499	67.19	48.47
<i>Statewide Special Election</i>	10/7/03	632948	387030	61.15	120068	95293	79.00	24.62
<i>General Election</i>	11/5/02	616402	294361	47.75	98715	74195	75.16	25.21
<i>Direct Primary Election</i>	3/5/02	621144	178396	28.7	70945	46084	65	23.7
<i>Consolidated Election</i>	11/6/01	640349	88651	13.84	46659	26959	57.78	30.41

D. Registering To Vote

The last day to register to vote in the Statewide Direct Primary Election is May 24, 2010. **New citizens** (naturalized after the close of registration) may register and vote a complete ballot at the ROV until June 1, 2010.

If you move into or out of the county, change your name (due to marriage or court order) or wish to change your political party affiliation, you **must** re-register prior to the 15-day close of registration to be eligible to vote in the next election.

Voter registration forms can be downloaded from the Secretary of State's website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/nvrc/fedform/> or picked up DMV offices, County libraries, post offices or call the Registrar of Voters office at 909-387-8300.

Registration statistics (effective April 1, 2010):

COUNTYWIDE	VOTER COUNT	PERM MAIL BALLOT
American Independent	24,423	8,291
Democrat	317,166	106,693
Green	2,778	836
Libertarian	3,747	1,262
Non-Partisan	143,708	44,460
Peace and Freedom	2,528	639
Republican	296,364	118,010
DISTRICT TOTAL	790,714	280,191

IV. SERVICES TO CANDIDATES/CAMPAIGNS

All Candidates receive a Candidate Handbook with information on what is necessary to run for office, election deadlines, and the rules/regulations that apply. Candidates are invited to attend Campaign Service Seminars, which are held at various locations throughout the County to discuss all the important information relevant to running a campaign and let them know what services are available from the Registrar of Voters.

V. VOTING MATERIAL

A. Sample Ballot Pamphlets

The Sample Ballot Pamphlet contains facsimiles of the voting pages, text/arguments/rebuttals of local measures, candidate statements for local non-partisan races, voting instructions, locations and accessibility of polling location, and applications for mail ballots. This information is available in English and Spanish.

B. State Voter Information Guides

The State Voter Information Guide contains information on State measures and were printed and mailed by the Secretary of State (one to a household) to all voters registered to vote by the close of registration. There are five state propositions included in the State Voter Information Guide for this election. They are available in English and Spanish in San Bernardino County and in several other languages through the Secretary of State. State measure information is available on audiotapes at the ROV office, Lighthouse for the Blind, and California Council for the Blind. The Secretary of State also sends them to libraries.

C. State Propositions

State Propositions are consecutively numbered from year to year. There are five state propositions to be voted on.

Proposition 13

LIMITS ON PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT. SEISMIC RETROFITTING OF EXISTING BUILDINGS. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Provides that construction to seismically retrofit buildings will not trigger reassessment of property tax value. Sets statewide standard for seismic retrofit improvements that qualify. Fiscal Impact: **Minor reduction in local property tax revenues related to the assessment of earthquake upgrades.**

Proposition 14

ELECTIONS. PRIMARIES. GREATER PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS.

Reforms the primary election process for congressional, statewide, and legislative races. Allows all voters to choose any candidate regardless of the candidate's or voter's political party preference. Ensures that the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will appear on the general election ballot regardless of party preference. Fiscal Impact: **No significant net change in state and local government costs to administer elections.**

Proposition 15

CALIFORNIA FAIR ELECTIONS ACT.

Creates a voluntary system for candidates for Secretary of State to qualify for a public campaign grant if they agree to strict spending limits and no private contributions. Each candidate demonstrating enough public support would receive the same amount. Participating candidates would be prohibited from raising or spending money beyond the grant. There would be strict enforcement and accountability. Funded by voluntary contributions and by an annual fee on lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers. Fiscal Impact: **Increased revenues (mostly from charges related to lobbyists) totaling over \$6 million every four years. These funds would be spent on public financing for campaigns of Secretary of State candidates for the 2014 and 2018 elections.**

Proposition 16

IMPOSES NEW TWO-THIRDS VOTER APPROVAL REQUIREMENT FOR LOCAL PUBLIC ELECTRICITY PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Requires two-thirds voter approval before local governments provide electricity service to new customers or establish a community choice electricity program using public funds or bonds. Fiscal Impact: **Unknown net impact on state and local government costs and revenues—unlikely to be significant in the short run—due to the measure's uncertain effects on public electricity providers and on electricity rates.**

Proposition 17

ALLOWS AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES TO BASE THEIR PRICES IN PART ON A DRIVER'S HISTORY OF INSURANCE COVERAGE. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Permits companies to reduce or increase cost of insurance depending on whether driver has a history of continuous insurance coverage. Fiscal Impact: **Probably no significant fiscal effect on state insurance premium tax revenues.**

D. Local Measures

Local measures are given letters in alphabetical order, beginning with the next letter after the last measure in a previous election, in accordance with County policy.

Following are all of the local ballot measures for San Bernardino County. Each Measure appears ONLY on the ballots in the district, city, or agency affected.

**Measure O
City of Redlands**

Shall the Initiative Ordinance of the People of Redlands Adding Chapter 18.275 to the Redlands Municipal Code to prohibit the Approval of "Mega-Retail Development" be adopted?

**Measure P
City of Needles**

Shall Charter Section 910 be amended to read as follows: "The City Hospital may be sold pursuant to relevant provisions of the California Government Code."

**Measure Q
City of Needles**

"Shall the ordinance to mandate the Board of Hospital Trustees and the Needles City Council to sell the Colorado River Medical Center Pursuant to Government Code Section 37615.1(o) be adopted?"

**Measure RR
City of Rialto
Advisory Vote**

"Should the Rialto City Council restore the rate of the special tax imposed in 1958 to fund the entire required City contribution to the statewide PERS retirement system for its employees previously approved by the City voters, from the current zero amount to an amount that will fund only a portion of such contribution, but which is the maximum amount of such tax now permitted by law?"

**Measure S
IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL QUALITY; SCHOOL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION**

To continue improving the quality of education in local schools, by refunding certificates of participation, which financed school facilities and equipment, shall the Lucerne Valley Unified School District issue \$7,950,000 of bonds at legal interest rates, with independent citizens' oversight and audits, and no money for salaries?

E. Candidates' Names on the Ballot

The placement of names on the ballot is determined by a random alphabetical drawing which was held by the Secretary of State and the Registrar of Voters on March 18, 2010.

California Elections code stipulates the drawing of a separate random alphabet by election officials of each county sharing State Senate or Member of the Assembly districts. The results of the Registrar of Voters Random Alphabetical Drawing will be used only to arrange the names of candidates when that district is shared with more than one county.

(Applies to shared districts)

<u>SECRETARY OF STATE</u>					<u>REGISTRAR OF VOTERS</u>				
<u>RANDOM ALPHABETICAL DRAWING</u>					<u>RANDOM ALPHABETICAL DRAWING</u>				
1. Y	7. W	13. Q	19. G	25. H	1. Q	7. H	13. T	19. P	25. K
K2. B	8. L	14. A	20. D	26. E	2. M	8. Z	14. F	20. I	26. G
G3. N	9. P	15. I	21. C		3. A	9. D	15. V	21. U	
4. F	10. Z	16. O	22. U		4. E	10. J	16. N	22. B	
5. T	11. V	17. J	23. M		5. C	11. S	17. Y	23. R	
6. S	12. X	18. R	24. K		6. X	12. O	18. L	24. W	

F. Partisan Offices To Appear On The Ballot

FEDERAL OFFICES

OFFICE TITLE	INCUMBENT/PARTY
United States Senator (6-year term)	Barbara Boxer (D)
Representatives in Congress (2-year terms)	
25 th District	Howard P. Buck McKeon (R)
26 th District	David Dreier (R)
41 st District	Jerry Lewis (R)
42 nd District	Gary Miller (R)
43 rd District	Joe Baca (D)
STATE OFFICES	
OFFICE TITLE	INCUMBENT/PARTY
Governor (4-year term)	Arnold Schwarzenegger (R)
Lieutenant Governor (4-year term)	John Garamendi (D)
Secretary of State ((4-year term)	Debra Bowen (D)
Attorney General (4-year term)	Jerry Brown (D)
Controller (4-year term)	John Chiang (D)
Treasurer (4-year term)	Bill Lockyer (D)
Insurance Commissioner (4-year term)	Steve Poizner (R)
Superintendent of Public Instruction (4-year term)	Jack T. O'Connell (NP)
Board of Equalization (4-year terms)	
2 nd District	Bill Leonard (R)
3 rd District	Michelle Steel (R)
State Senate (4-year terms)	
18 th Senate District	Roy Ashburn (R)
32 nd Senate District	Gloria Negrete Mc Leod (D)
State Assembly (2-year terms)	
32 nd District	Jean Fuller (R)
34 th District	Bill Maze (R)
36 th District	Sharon Runner (R)
59 th District	Anthony Adams (R)
60 th District	Robert Huff (R)
61 st District	Nell Soto (D)
62 nd District	Wilmer Carter (D)
63 rd District	William Emmerson (R)
65 th District	Paul Cook (R)
COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES (2-year terms)	
OFFICE TITLE	OFFICE TITLE
Democratic Assembly Districts	Republican Supervisorial Districts
61 st District (6)	1 st District (8)
62 nd District (6)	2 nd District (7)
63 rd District (6)	3 rd District (9)

G. Non-Partisan Offices to Appear on the Ballot

COUNTY ELECTIVE OFFICES (4-year terms)

OFFICE TITLE	INCUMBENT
Board of Supervisors, 2 nd District	Paul Biane
4 th District	Gary Ovitt
Assessor/Recorder	Dennis Draeger
Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector	Larry Walker
County Superintendent of Schools	Gary Thomas
District Attorney	Mike Ramos
Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator	Rod Hoops
SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES (6-year terms)	INCUMBENT
Office #11	Robert Lemkau
Office #29	Raymond P. VanStockum
Office #31	Linda M. Wilde
CITY ELECTIVE OFFICES	OFFICE TITLE
City of Loma Linda (4-year term)	Council Member (2)

VI. VOTING BY MAIL

A. Who can vote by mail?

Any registered voter may vote a mail ballot at the Registrar of Voters office beginning 29 days before the election and continuing until polls close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

B. Military and overseas voters

Ballots are mailed to requestors beginning 60 days prior to the election.

C. Requested mail ballots

Voters may request a vote by mail ballot by sending a letter or application – either the ROV application on the back cover of the sample ballot pamphlet, one provided by a campaign, or one downloaded from the Registrar of Voters web site. All applications must be received no later than June 1, 2010. Ballots are mailed beginning 29 days prior to the election.

D. Emergency mail ballot

Voters may request a ballot in person (or through a designated representative) at the ROV office from June 2nd through 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. These ballots cannot be mailed to the voter and the voter cannot mail them back to the ROV. They must be delivered to the ROV office or any polling place no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

E. Declared mail ballot precincts (no polling place)

These are precincts in which no polling place was established because there were 250 or fewer voters. These precincts are sometimes referred to as NPP or “no polling place”. Ballots are automatically mailed to these voters approximately three weeks prior to the election.

F. Permanent mail ballot

These are voters who applied for this status and are automatically mailed a mail ballot approximately four weeks prior to the election. There are approximately 280,190 permanent mail ballot voters in this election.

G. Return of mail ballots

ALL mail ballots must be received at the ROV office or polling place no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted – postmarks do not extend this deadline. All signatures are verified before counting.

VII. POLLS AND POLL WORKERS**A. Establishing Polling Places/Polls Publication**

The ROV tries to maintain consistency by using the same polling place for each election whenever possible; however there are times when polling places unexpectedly change. When this occurs, voters are notified by mail and notices are posted when a polling place is changed.

A full listing of polling places will be published on or before Friday, May 28th in *The Sun* newspaper and posted on the Registrar of Voters web site.

B. Recruiting And Training Poll Workers

The number of poll workers required for this election is approximately 1,750. Letters are sent to past poll inspectors and workers asking if they are willing to serve again. In addition, we rely on media releases, outreach programs and newsletters. Inspectors are required to attend a training class, receive and return supplies and they earn \$135 per election. Other poll workers earn \$100 for Election Day plus \$15 for attending a training class. We also actively recruit bilingual poll workers.

Training is conducted by Registrar of Voters staff. A total of 65 classes will be conducted over a three-week period using 12 sites located throughout the county, with make-up classes as needed.

C. Student Poll Worker Program

The student poll worker program began in 1997 to address the shortage of poll workers and to provide voter outreach. It continues to serve the voters in San Bernardino County. These students perform the same duties as other workers and earn the same pay. They must be at least 16 years of age, with a grade-point average of 2.5 or above, must be citizens and must have approval of the school district. During the November 2008 Presidential Election a total of 1,738 students volunteered to work at the polls from 48 County high schools. This outreach prepares students to become voters when they are 18 years of age, and it is a true service to the community.

D. Exit Polls

Media or polling agencies conduct exit polls as the voters “exit” the polling places, asking voters how they voted on certain contests. Pollsters must conduct their interviews at least 25 feet from the entrance of the polls, and the participation of voters is voluntary.

E. Election Day/Night Assistance To Poll Workers

ROV'er/Troubleshooters - Specially trained workers that are dispatched countywide to respond to calls for assistance from poll workers and to conduct routine inspections of assigned polls.

VIII. ELECTION NIGHT BALLOT/SUPPLY RETRIEVAL

Post office pickup - Mail ballots received by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day at the Redlands (main) post office will be picked up by ROV staff and processed during the canvass.

Sheriff's aviation will transport ballot boxes from outlying areas via fixed wing aircraft (weather permitting) flying into Rialto Airport where they are transferred to Sheriff's helicopter and flown to the ROV. In case of bad weather (snow), ballots from Big Bear will be driven to ROV by Sheriff's vehicle.

IX. HOW BALLOTS ARE COUNTED

The Registrar of Voters office is designated as Election Central and is the counting site for the entire county – it is open to the public to observe all testing procedures, counting procedures and to receive election results.

Before any ballots may be counted, the system is subject to Logic and Accuracy Testing, witnessed by an Official Observer Panel. These same computer tests are run after the count is finished. Official Observers are solicited from the County Grand Jury, the League of Women Voters, media, the political parties, city clerks, and civic organizations.

There are ten 400C Optech ballot reading machines that are connected to a WinEDS election data system at the Registrar of Voters office. Bulletin updates occur as soon as the information is available.

Electronic ballot cartridges are logged in, inspected, prepared for computer counting, counted and stored. Damaged mail ballots that cannot be machine tabulated are set aside to be counted in the official canvass.

NOTE: There is a difference between ballots cast and votes cast. A voter may “under vote” his/her ballot (i.e. skip any of the races/measures). Voters may “over vote” (i.e. vote for the YES and NO on a measure) which voids the vote cast on that one measure alone.

X. OFFICIAL RESULTS AND CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION

A. Semi-official Results

All results are available at www.sbcrov.com. The first Election Night Results (semi-official) should be available at approximately 8:30 pm. Results will also be given out by phone until (15) minutes after the last count. Election night results are cumulative only - not by precinct.

B. Additional Ballot Counting

There are three categories of ballots which cannot be processed on Election Night:

Mail ballots turned in at polls – some mail ballot voters wait until the last minute to make voting choices and then drop their ballots off at polling places on Election Day. We receive these ballots very late on election night. All of these ballots must be processed – this includes verifying voter’s signatures, opening the envelopes and sorting the ballots into the appropriate precinct for tabulation.

Provisional votes – are voted at the polls when a voter’s registration cannot be confirmed at the polling location, or when our records indicate the voter was already sent a mail ballot. The Help America Vote Act allows any voter to vote provisionally.

Write-in-ballots – are those where the voter has chosen to write-in a candidate’s name on the write-in portion of the ballot. These must be set aside and researched after Election Day to determine whether or not the write-in vote is for a qualified/ unqualified candidate and whether or not the voter over voted (i.e. voted for a candidate for an office listed on the ballot and also voted for a write-in candidate for that same office.) In this event, neither vote can be counted for that one office, although the rest of the ballot selections will be counted. When a write-in ballot is set aside on election night it means that none of the races/measures appearing on that ballot can be counted until the research is complete. Vote counts for write-in candidates do appear on election night bulletins. Counts for qualified write-in candidates will be available when the final results are certified.

C. Official Results

The last *semi-official report* election night will contain pages of statistics showing registration/turnout numbers and percentage. Turnout represents the ballots cast.

The law allows 28 days after the election to complete the ballot tally and official audit of the election, known as the Canvass. When the canvass is complete and all records have been reviewed, official results will be prepared and the election results (count) will be certified. Certified results are then sent to the County Board of Supervisors and consolidating jurisdictions in order that they may “declare” results (winners). The Board of Supervisors will declare the results of the election for races and measures under the Board’s jurisdiction. Cities declare their own results.

XI. COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. When is the last day I can register to vote for the election?

A. The **15th day before the election**. We encourage early voter registration to help ensure receipt of election materials in a timely manner.

Q. Who can register to vote?

A. Any citizen can register to vote if he or she is 18 years old by Election Day, a resident of California, and is not imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

Q. I have just moved. Do I need to re-register?

A. Not if you moved within San Bernardino County, but your voter registration should always reflect your current residence and mailing address. Requests for address changes to voter registration must be in writing with a signature for verification purposes. Contact the Registrar of Voters office for a form to complete.

Q. I did not vote in the last election. Do I have to re-register to be eligible to vote again?

A. Generally you are registered to vote as long as you remain at the same address. However, if you have not voted in the last several elections you may be sent a request to confirm that you have not moved.

Q. When do I have to re-register?

A. The only reason for re-registering is if you move into or out of the county, change your name (due to marriage or court order) or change your political party affiliation.

Q. I will be 18 years old before the day of the election, but after the close of registration. Can I register to vote?

A. Yes. As long as you are 18 by Election Day and you have registered on or before the 15th day prior to the election, you will be eligible to vote.

Q. Do I have to vote all of my ballot? I only know about some of the candidates and some of the measures.

A. You may vote on as many offices and/or as many measures as you choose. Voting only part of your ballot does not void your vote.

Q. I received my ballot, but don't have any candidates to vote for in the Statewide offices?

A. If you do not select a political party affiliation when you register, or chose "decline to state", you are registered as non-partisan. In a **primary** election, voters with that political designation will receive ballots with only the non-partisan contests and measures.

Q. Why can't I vote for any candidates running for office, regardless of what my party affiliation is?

A. Primary elections are held to determine which nominee in each political party will represent that party in the General (November) election. California has adopted a Modified Closed Primary system which restricts voters affiliated with a political party to the choice of candidates of that party. Under California law, political parties may determine whether to allow non-partisan voters (or who

decline to state a political party affiliation when they registered to vote) the opportunity to cast a ballot for their party's candidates. This is called "cross-over" voting.

A notice is included in the Sample Ballot mailed to all non-partisan voters informing them of this option, with an application they may complete and mail to our office requesting another party's ballot. The California Elections Code requires our poll workers to provide non-partisan voters with a non-partisan ballot unless they ask for a ballot that would allow them to vote in a particular party's primary.

For the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary election, the Democratic and Republican parties have approved "cross over" voting. During the November 2, 2010 General Election, all voters in an assigned precinct vote the same ballot regardless of party affiliation, selecting from among the candidates of the various political parties.

Q. I will be out of town on Election Day and prior to receiving my Sample Ballot. How can I get a mail ballot?

A. A written request can be mailed to the Registrar's office. The written request must contain your printed name, residence address, address where you want the ballot mailed (if different than your residence address) and your signature.

Q. When are mail ballots available?

A. Ballots are available beginning 29 days before the election.

Q. What is the latest I can apply for a mail ballot?

A. All applications for mail ballots must be received at least seven (7) days prior to the election. Emergency voting starts on the 6th day prior to an election.

Q. How soon can I return my voted ballot?

A. As soon as possible; however, the ballot must be received by the Registrar's office before the close of the polls at 8:00 pm on Election Day.

Q. I have a mail ballot and am unable to get it mailed in time to reach your office. What can I do?

A. The mail ballot can be dropped off at any polling place location within San Bernardino County on Election Day or at the Registrar of Voters office on or before Election Day at 8:00 p.m. It cannot be dropped off at polling places in another county.

Q. How can I become a permanent mail ballot voter, and do I qualify?

A. Any voter may apply for permanent vote by mail status and automatically receive a mail ballot by mail each time there is an election within their precinct. To apply, a voter must complete an application which can be obtained from the Registrar's office, on the Registrar of Voters web site, or check the permanent mail ballot block on the back cover of the Sample Ballot booklet.

XII. ELECTION DEFINITIONS

- **Canvass** – State law requires an official canvass (audit of the election). This entails numerous manual processes that verify the accuracy of the computer count, including a hand tally of ballots cast in 1% of the precincts. When this audit is complete, election results are certified to the various jurisdictions, which then declare the winners. The law allows 28 days to complete the official canvass process.

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- **DRE** – Direct Recording Electronic voting system, the touchscreen AVC Edge® units used in San Bernardino County precincts beginning March 2, 2004.
 - **NPP** - No polling place was assigned because there were fewer than 250 registered voters. These voters are "declared" vote by mail and ballots are automatically mailed approximately four weeks prior to the election.
 - **Official Results** - Final election tabulation is issued after completion of the official canvass and the Registrar of Voters certifies the results.
 - **Provisional Ballot** - Voted at polls when a voter's registration is in question. These ballots are verified and counted after Election Night.
 - **Random Draw** – The placement of names on the ballot is determined by a random alphabetical drawing held by the Secretary of State or the Registrar of Voters.
 - **Requested VBM** - Voters who choose to vote by mail instead of going to the polls.
 - **Unofficial Results/Semi-official** - All election results issued prior to completion of the official canvass. First reporting of unofficial results begins Election Night approximately 15 minutes after polls close.
 - **VBM** – Vote by mail (formerly referred to as Absentee voting).
 - **VVPAT** – Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail, the VeriVote printer attached to the DRE voting system which allows voters to vote using touch screen technology with the added convenience of reviewing a paper record of their selections before they leave the polls.
 - **Write-in Ballot** - When a voter chooses to manually write-in a vote for a candidate(s) not printed on the ballot. The entire ballot is set aside to be counted after the validity of the write-in vote is determined. Write-in ballots must be counted manually. No write-in counts will be available until the final add on count.