

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

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VOTING OPTIONS FOR “NO PARTY PREFERENCE” VOTERS

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF – Nearly 25% of Californians register to vote without identifying a political party preference. These are called No Party Preference (NPP) voters. They have the same rights as all other voters, but in the March 5, 2024, Presidential Primary Election, NPP voters will see the absence of presidential candidates on their ballot.

"In primary elections, voters have the opportunity to nominate a presidential candidate from the party to which they belong. Since NPP voters do not have a party preference, their ballots will not have any presidential candidates listed," said Registrar of Voters Shannon Bushey, "Fortunately, options are available for NPP voters who wish to participate in the primary election."

There are three options for NPP voters:

1. **American Independent, Democratic, and Libertarian** parties have opted to allow NPP voters to “crossover” and vote in their primary election. The Registrar of Voters (ROV) mailed out a postcard to all NPP voters advising them their options to request a one-time crossover ballot for these parties. The ROV urges voters to return the postage-paid postcard early to ensure they receive the ballot they requested.
2. Those wishing to vote in the **Republican, Peace and Freedom, or Green** party primaries must re-register with that specific party by February 20, 2024, to receive a ballot for that party.
3. NPP voters who do not re-register or request a crossover ballot will receive a ballot without any presidential candidates, however will have all other state and local contests on it.

Voters should confirm they got the ballot they expected. If they did not receive the ballot they would like to vote on, it is important to surrender that ballot and request a new one before voting on the one they received. You can check the status of your registration for your party information at registertovote.ca.gov.

For more information, contact the Registrar of Voters' Office at (408) 299-VOTE (8683) or toll-free at (866) 430-VOTE (8683), or visit www.sccvote.org.

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