



# REGISTRAR OF VOTERS PREFERRED TRANSLITERATION FORM

Election Date: November 5, 2024, General Election

Candidate Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST MIDDLE (do not include hyphenated last name) LAST (include all or hyphenated last names)

Office Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdiction:

County of Santa Clara

## GENDER PREFERENCE (check one):

I understand my name on the ballot will be transliterated in the translated language version of the Official Ballots. For proper transliteration in the character-based language versions of the ballot, my name is:

- Masculine  Feminine  
 Androgynous or Non-binary  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** If your name has accents or other diacritical marks in an alphabet-based language and you wish to include those as part of your name on the Official Ballot, please include them on your **Declaration of Candidacy** form.

I understand that if I do not have a preferred transliteration, my name will appear in transliterated form in the County Voter Information Guide and on the Official Ballot. I also understand the Spanish version of the candidate statements in the Voter Information Guide will be published with translations reflecting appropriate accents in statements.

## TRANSLITERATION PREFERENCE (check one):

- I will accept the transliteration of my name by the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters Office into Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Hindi, Khmer, Punjabi, Gujarati, Tamil, Telugu, and Nepali.

\*\*\* OR \*\*\*

- I am submitting a transliteration(s) or a character-based name for the language(s) listed below. The County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters Office will independently verify the transliteration for accuracy. I will also accept transliteration of my name provided by the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters Office for any language not submitted.

- Chinese  Punjabi  
 Japanese  Gujarati  
 Korean  Tamil  
 Hindi  Telugu  
 Khmer  Nepali

## OPTION TO OPT-OUT OF SPANISH ACCENTS (please initial):

- Please initial here if you **do not wish** to include grammatically required accents in your Spanish name in the Spanish County Voter Information Guide version.

Candidate Signature

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

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## **NEW SERVICE FOR VOTERS THAT SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH:**

### **TRANSLITERATION OF CANDIDATE NAMES**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The County of Santa Clara implements the Voters Choice Act. Under this Act, the County will be producing Official Ballots in Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Hindi, and Khmer languages. Facsimile ballots will be produced in Gujarati, Nepali, Punjabi, Tamil, and Telugu. Recent legislation signed by the governor on July 12, 2019 requires jurisdictions that provide translated ballot materials pursuant to Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10503) to translate alphabet-based names of candidates into character-based names (i.e. Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Hindi, and Khmer in this County) with the same phonetic transliteration or character-based translation of the name.

#### **PROCESS:**

Your name will be transliterated into Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Hindi, and Khmer by certified translators. If a candidate has a character-based name by birth, that can be verified by providing proof or provide a transliteration so long as proof is provided the candidate has been known by that name over the past two years, may use that name instead of a phonetic transliteration. Bilingual staff will proof the transliterations to ensure transliterated names are phonetic representations of the names submitted in the Declaration of Candidacy form.

The preferred transliteration form must be completed for the following character-based languages: Chinese, Korean, Khmer, Hindi, and Japanese. Alphabet-based names will be transliterated on the Official Ballot. Candidates with character-based names by birth, that can be verified by birth certificate or other valid identification, may use that name on the ballot instead of a phonetic transliteration.

A candidate who does not have a character-based name by birth, but who identifies by a particular character-based name and can demonstrate to the local elections official that the candidate has been known and identified within the public sphere by that name over the past two years, may use that name instead of a phonetic transliteration. Elections Code § 13211.7(b).

#### **TRANSLITERATION FORM:**

All candidates will be required to file this document together with their nomination documents by no later than the last day to file these documents.