

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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September 28, 2020

NOTICE OF OBSERVER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020, PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

You and your representatives are invited to observe the November 3, 2020 Presidential General Election. The following is a partial list of ROV's election activities which will be held in different locations; the dates listed below are subject to change. ROV's election activities are open to the public to observe at any time. Please call (408) 282-3005 one to two days before the date you wish to observe to confirm the date and time of the activity.

Touch Screen Ballot Marking Device & Vote Center Scanner/Tabulator Preparation and Testing

This is the loading of election data and comprehensive election logic and accuracy testing that ensures that each machine is securely programmed and prepared properly. Testing ensures the integrity of the vote counting during the election. Testing will occur October 1, 2020, at approximately 8:00 a.m. The testing location will be held at 2730 Junction Ave, San Jose, CA, 95134.

Central Count Ballot Scanner/Tabulator (Pre-LAT Logic and Accuracy Testing)

The Central Count Ballot Scanner/Tabulator system is tested prior to each election by using a pre-marked set of test ballots. The preparation of the ballot test deck and testing of the tabulation equipment will begin on October 23, 2020, at approximately 8:30 a.m. The testing location will be held at 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San Jose, CA, 95112.

Returned Vote by Mail Ballot Processing

In accordance with the California Elections Code sections 15101, et seq., the ROV can begin the processing of returned Vote by Mail Ballot (VBM) envelopes on October 5, 2020. Ballot processing will continue through Election Day and the following weeks until complete. Ballots postmarked on Election Day and received by November 20, 2020, are valid. The majority of ballots are expected to be processed within a week of Election Day. However, some VBM ballots will continue to be processed through the end of the canvass period.

Under state law, Vote by Mail Ballots returned without the required voter signature on the return envelope can be corrected by the voter by 5:00 p.m., on December 1, 2020.

If the signature on a Vote by Mail ballot return envelope does not match ROV records, a "Signature Update Statement" will be mailed to the voter. The voter must complete the "Signature Update Statement" and return it to the ROV's Office by 5:00 p.m. on December 1, 2020.

Election Night Ballot Receipt and Counting

The “Semi-Official Election Results” will be posted at approximately 8:05 p.m., Election Night, on the ROV website at www.sccvote.org. Updates of the results can also be found on the ROV’s website until the canvass of the vote is complete. After the polls close at 8:00 p.m., the ROV will wait to receive results of ballots cast at vote centers. Results data will be delivered by Couriers to the ROV Office, 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San Jose, CA, 95112, for central tabulation and reporting.

Official Canvass

Pursuant to California Elections Code section 15301, the election canvass must start no later than the Thursday after the election. Santa Clara County prefers to begin the canvass one day earlier, on Wednesday, November 4, 2020. The canvass process is open to the public and must continue for at least 6 hours a day (Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays excepted) until completed. ROV will extend work hours, including weekends and holidays, as needed. After completing this process, the election results are then certified by the Registrar of Voters and made public.

The canvass includes, but is not limited to, the inspection of all materials and supplies; processing and counting valid Vote by Mail and Provisional ballots; counting valid write-in votes; and conducting the post election manual recounts. Please contact the ROV regarding the anticipated schedule of specific activities if you are interested in a particular aspect of the canvass process.

We thank you for your interest in the election process.

Sincerely,



Shannon Bushey
Registrar of Voters