

**BAY AREA  
ELECTION OFFICIALS**

ALAMEDA  
Tim Dupuis  
Registrar of Voters



CONTRA COSTA  
Deborah Cooper  
Clerk-Recorder-Registrar



MARIN  
Lynda Roberts  
Registrar of Voters



MONTEREY  
Gina Martinez  
Registrar of Voters



NAPA  
John Tuteur  
Assessor-Recorder-Clerk



SAN BENITO  
Joe Paul Gonzalez  
Clerk-Auditor-Recorder



SAN MATEO  
Mark Church  
Assessor-Clerk-Recorder-  
Chief Elections Officer



SANTA CLARA  
Shannon Bushey  
Registrar of Voters



SANTA CRUZ  
Tricia Webber  
County Clerk



SOLANO  
Tim Flanagan  
C/O/Registrar of Voters



SONOMA  
Deva Proto  
Clerk-Recorder-Assessor



# COALITION OF BAY AREA ELECTION OFFICIALS

Website: [bayareavotes](http://bayareavotes.com)  
Facebook: [Bay Area Votes](https://www.facebook.com/BayAreaVotes)

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 6/8/2022  
FROM: Bay Area Election Officials

## The Official Canvass-Counting Votes Takes Time

After Election Day, it takes time for County Elections Officials to count all the votes and make sure that all the votes have been counted. Counties have 28 days to complete the official canvass of an election. There are many steps that must be completed, and in its essence, the purpose of the canvass accomplishes these critical tasks:

- To ensure that every eligible ballot is counted
- To ensure that voters only voted once
- To ensure proper procedures were followed on Election Day
- To ensure the vote tabulation system is properly counting ballots

Processing Vote by Mail ballots takes quite a bit of time. Several steps occur, such as signature verification and preparing them for counting, along with strict chain of custody and ballot accounting procedures. Recent legislation allows for Vote by Mail ballots to be postmarked on or before Election Day and received within seven days of the election. All of this preparation and process takes time.

During the course of the canvass, voters are given credit (voting history) for having voted by mail or in person. As voters are given voting credit, the number of voters is reconciled to the number of ballots cast for each voting location. This is a critical step in ensuring that all ballots are accounted for from each voting location.

In the rare instance that indicates a voter may have voted twice, it is investigated. In cases that truly indicate a voter may have tried to vote twice and with intent to defraud, they are reported to the local District Attorney's office and the Secretary of State Fraud Division for investigation and possible prosecution.

During the canvass, counties are required to perform audits of the ballot counting system, by performing a One Percent Manual Tally. This involves randomly selecting one percent of the precincts of ballots cast in person, as well as Vote by Mail ballots, then performing a manual hand count of each set of ballots and comparing them to the machine count results.

"The official canvass is a long-standing, multi-step, and continually evaluated process that elections offices use to ensure all eligible ballots have been received and processed, that there is one vote per voter, and that all votes have been counted correctly," said John Tuteur, Napa County Registrar of Voters.

As with all activities related to an election, the canvass activities are open to the public for observation. Please contact your county elections office for more details on how to observe election activities. Information on this topic as well as direct links to local elections offices can be found on our website, [BayAreaVotes.org](http://BayAreaVotes.org), or our Facebook page, Bay Area Votes.

A more detailed article and Fact Sheet on the Canvass can be found on our coalition webpage [www.BayAreaVotes.org](http://www.BayAreaVotes.org) under “Just the Facts”.

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## Coalition of Bay Area Election Officials

### Contact Information for Media Inquiries

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