

# CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

**March 5, 2024  
PRESIDENTIAL  
PRIMARY ELECTION**



**Michelle Baldwin  
Registrar of Voters**

**Compiled by the Office of the  
Tulare County Registrar of Voters  
5300 W. Tulare Avenue, Suite 105  
TEL: (559) 839-2100  
[www.tularecoelections.org](http://www.tularecoelections.org)**



# DISCLAIMER

The Tulare County Candidate's Guide is intended to provide general information for candidates and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation, or rule. This guide is not all-encompassing; it merely summarizes the major provisions relating to candidates running for office in Tulare County. It is distributed with the understanding that the Registrar of Voters is not rendering legal advice and, therefore, this handbook is not to be substituted for legal counsel for the individual, organization or candidate using it. In case of a conflict, the law, regulation, or rule will apply.

The Registrar of Voters strongly encourages any prospective candidates to seek legal advice to assist in complying with the applicable California laws, including the California Elections Code and California Government Code.

The Code References made in this guide, unless otherwise stated, are to the California Constitution and Statutes. California legal code references in this guide include:

- Elections Code (EC)
- Government Code (GC)

The term E-Dates stands for Election Day. E-Dates have been used throughout this guide to indicate important dates and deadlines. These dates are the number of days prior to or after an Election Date. Example: E-89 means E minus 89 days and would be 89 days prior to an election and E+31 days means E plus 31 days and would be 31 days after an election. This type of date is often used in the Elections Code in order to avoid any variance from one (1) election to the next.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Contact Information	5
2024 Primary Election Calendar	6
Filing Fee & Signature Requirement (State, Federal, Judicial, and County offices)	7
Multi-County Districts	10
Filing Fees	10
Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee	11

## CANDIDATE FILING REQUIREMENTS

United States Senator	14
United States Representative Congress	15
Assembly District	16
Superior Court Judge	17
County Supervisor	18
County Central Committee	19
Qualifications to Run for Office	20
Declaration of Intent	22
Nomination Petition	23
Declaration of Candidacy	24
Extension of Nomination Period	25
Offices That Will Not Appear on the Ballot	26
Ballot Designations	27
Candidate Statement of Qualifications	29
Withdrawal of Candidacy	33
Write-In Candidates	34

## CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FPPC)

Campaign Disclosure Contact Information	36
Fair Political Practices Commission Filing Schedule	37
Basic Filing Guidelines	38
On-Line Disclosure Statements for Local Candidates	39
On-Line Disclosure Statements for State Candidates	40
Fines & Waivers	42
“Good Cause” Reasons for Waiving Late Filing Fees	43
Important Things to Remember	44

## **CAMPAIGN LAWS & REGULATIONS**

Posting Political Signs	48
Voter Registration Drives	50
Political Advertisement Requirements	50
Electioneering (Campaigning) Near Polling Places	51
Simulated Ballot Requirements	51
Mass Mailing of Campaign Literature	52
Exit Poll Taking	52

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Where to Report Campaign Complaints	54
Candidate Filing	55
Election Night	57

## **SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CANDIDATES**

Fees & Charges	59
Confidential Voter Data	61
Department of Transportation	62
Statement of Responsibility for Temporary Political Signs	63
Caltrans Districts	64
Notes	65
2024 Calendar	66

# CONTACT INFORMATION

TULARE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	
5300 W Tulare Avenue, Suite 105 Visalia, CA 93277	Phone: (559) 839-2100 <a href="http://www.tularecoelections.org">www.tularecoelections.org</a>
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION (FPPC)	
1102 Q Street, Suite 3000 Sacramento, CA 95811	Technical Assistance: (866) 275-3772 Fax: (916) 322-0886 <a href="http://www.fppc.ca.gov">www.fppc.ca.gov</a>
CALIFORNIA STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL	
P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550	Phone: (916) 210-6276 Toll Free: (800) 952-5225 <a href="https://oag.ca.gov">https://oag.ca.gov</a>
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION (FEC)	
999 "E" Street NW Washington, DC 20463	Phone: (800) 424-9530 <a href="http://www.fec.gov">www.fec.gov</a>
SECRETARY OF STATE (SOS)	
<b>ELECTIONS DIVISION</b> 1500 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, Fifth Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	Phone: (916) 657-2166 Fax: (916) 653-3214 <a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/election">www.sos.ca.gov/election</a>
<b>POLITICAL REFORM DIVISION</b> 1500 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, Room 495 Sacramento, CA 95814	Phone: (916) 653-6224 Fax: (916) 653-5045 <a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying">www.sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying</a>
<b>INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES</b> 1500 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, 2nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	Phone: (916) 657-2166 Fax: (916) 653-3214
TULARE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY	
221 S. Mooney Blvd, Room 224 Visalia, CA 93291	Phone: (559) 636-5494 Fax: (559) 730-2658 <a href="http://www.da-tulareco.org">www.da-tulareco.org</a>
UNITED STATES ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION (EAC)	
1335 East West Highway, Suite 4300 Silver Spring, MD 20910	Phone: (301) 563-3919 Toll Free: (866) 747-1471 Fax: (301) 734-3108 <a href="http://www.eac.gov">www.eac.gov</a>

# 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR

{EC 15, 3021, 8106, 13112, 13313, 15101 and GC 6700, 6701}

<b>September 14, 2023 - November 8, 2023</b> (E-173 – E-118)	<b>Signature In Lieu of Filing Fee Period</b> Signatures gathered during this period will off-set the total filing fee due.
<b>October 30, 2023 - November 8, 2023</b> (E-127 – E-118)	<b>Declaration of Intent Filing Period for Judges only</b> <i>Extension Period: November 9, 2023-November 13, 2023</i> <i>If Incumbent does not file.</i>
<b>November 13, 2023 – December 8, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.</b> (E-113 – E-88)	<b>Declaration of Candidacy &amp; Nomination Period</b> Candidates (including incumbents seeking re-election to the same office) must file nomination documents with the County Registrar of Voters office during this period. The filing fees for all candidates shall be paid at the time the candidates obtain their nomination forms. ( <i>Extension 12/9/2023 to 12/13/2023</i> )
<b>December 9, 2023 – December 13, 2023</b> (E-87 – E-83)	<b>Extension of Candidate Nomination Period</b> Extends the filing period for candidates other than the incumbent <b>IF</b> the incumbent does not file (not applicable for Central Committee seats or when incumbent is ineligible to file due to term limits).
<b>December 9, 2023 – December 19, 2023</b> (E-87 – E-77)	<b>10-Day Public Inspection Period of Candidate Statements</b> Any person may obtain a copy of the candidate’s statement from the Registrar of Voters office for use. During this period any voter of the jurisdiction or the County Elections Official may seek a writ of mandate or an injunction requiring any or all of the materials to be amended or deleted. The writ of mandate or injunction must be filed no later than the end of this period.
<b>December 14, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.</b> (E-82)	<b>Random Alphabet Drawing</b> The County will conduct a local random drawing to determine candidate name order for State Senate and Assembly offices.
<b>January 8, 2024 – February 20, 2024</b> (E-57 – E-14)	<b>Write-In Candidacy Filing Period</b>
<b>February 19, 2024</b> (E-15)	<b>15-Day Close of Registration</b> Last day for voters to register to vote. Registration cards must be received in the Elections Office or postmarked by this date.
<b>February 5, 2024</b> (E-29)	<b>Vote by Mail Ballots Mailed</b> County Elections Official may also begin processing Vote by Mail ballots for counting. No results will be released until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
<b>February 27, 2024</b> (E-7)	<b>Deadline to Request a Vote by Mail Ballot</b>

*Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever a date prescribed by law falls on a weekend or holiday, such act may be performed on the next business day.*

# FILING FEE & SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT

(EC 8103, 8104 & 8106, 8062, 8200, 8203)

<b>STATE &amp; FEDERAL OFFICES</b>								
(Voter Nominated Offices)								
Office	Term (years)	Incumbent	Filing Fee	Signature in Lieu	Nomination Signatures	Signature Value	Candidate's Statement Fee	Registered Voters
U.S. President/ Vice President	4	Joe Biden/ Kamala Harris	Varies	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	208,683
U.S. Senate	6	Diane Feinstein	\$3,480.00	7,000	65-100	\$0.497143	N/A	208,683
U.S. Representative Congress District 20	2	Kevin McCarthy	\$1,740.00	2,000	40-60	\$0.87000	\$4,000	74,320
U.S. Representative Congress District 21	2	Jim Costa	\$1,740.00	2,000	40-60	\$0.87000	\$4,000	67,547
U.S. Representative Congress District 22	2	David Valadao	\$1,740.00	2,000	40-60	\$0.87000	\$4,000	71,983
Assembly District 32	2	Vince Fong	\$1,226.94	1,000	40-60	\$1.22694	\$5,000	83,954
Assembly District 33	2	Devon Mathis	\$1,226.94	1,000	40-60	\$1.22694	\$9,500	127,603

**NOTE:** Filing Fees are based upon a percentage of the annual salary: Statewide offices are 2% and District offices are 1%.

<b>JUDICIAL OFFICES</b>								
Office	Term (years)	Incumbent	Filing Fee	Signature in Lieu	Nomination Signatures	Signature Value	Candidate's Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Superior Court Judge #7	6	David C. Mathias	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #8	6	John P. Bianco	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #11	6	Nathan G. Leedy	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #12	6	Melinda Reed	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #13	6	Russell Burke	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #14	6	Robin Leigh Wolfe	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #17	6	Douglas Rodgers	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #19	6	Bret D. Hillman	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #20	6	Tara James	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683
Superior Court Judge #22	6	Sara Bratsch	\$2,323.99	6,972	20-40	\$0.333332	\$5,000	208,683

**NOTE:** Judicial offices will not be on the Primary Election ballot if the incumbent Judge is the only person to file nomination papers, unless a write-in petition is filed by at least 0.1 percent of the registered voters qualified to vote with respect to the office, provided that the petition shall contain at least 100 signatures, but need not contain more than 600 signatures. If the office is not on the Primary Election ballot, February 20, 2024 is the last day a write-in petition can be filed to place the office on the General Election ballot. When two (2) or more judges of any court are to be elected for the same term, each office shall be designated by a distinguishing number. After the election, the number has no further significance.

## COUNTY OFFICES

Office	Term (years)	Incumbent	Filing Fee	Signature in Lieu	Nomination Signatures	Signature Value	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Supervisor District 1	4	Lorenzo Micari	\$1,316.75	2,659	20-40	\$.495205	\$3,000	37,973
Supervisor District 2	4	Pete Vander Poel	\$1,316.75	2,795	20-40	\$.471110	\$3,000	39,926
Supervisor District 3	4	Amy Shuklian	\$1,316.75	3,772	20-40	\$.349086	\$4,000	53,881

## COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES – DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Office	Seats Allotted	Incumbents		Nomination Signatures	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Supervisor District 1	4	Paul Vargas		20-40	N/A	13,382
Supervisor District 2	4	Norma J. Burns Miguel Gutierrez	Alberto Aguilar Carlos Mendoza	20-40	N/A	13,437
Supervisor District 3	6	Susanne Gundy Ambar Martha Rodriguez Megan Casebeer Soleno	Suzanna Aguilera-Marrero Luis Sepulveda	20-40	N/A	15,803
Supervisor District 4	5	Sharon Ethridge Chavarria	Carol Ann Hoffman	20-40	N/A	14,726
Supervisor District 5	4	Arturo Rodriguez Leon John Coffee Lawana Loraine Tate	Edith La Vonne Nicki A. Edward	20-40	N/A	12,425

## COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES – REPUBLICAN PARTY

Office	Seats Allotted	Incumbents		Nomination Signatures	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Supervisor District 1	4	Vicki Riddle Dennis Allen Smith	Michael Wallace	20-40	N/A	12,577
Supervisor District 2	4	Patricia Elaine Hitlin		20-40	N/A	14,784
Supervisor District 3	7	Marian Hedstrom Evette Bakke Travis Taylor	Paula J. Mueller Christopher Telfert	20-40	N/A	23,586
Supervisor District 4	4	Barbara Hallmeyer James Henderson	Terrie Headrick	20-40	N/A	13,375
Supervisor District 5	4	Crystal Ragan	Peggy Kroeger	20-40	N/A	13,266



## COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES – AMERICAN INDEPENDENT PARTY

(Elections Code 7650)

*(# of seats for American Independent Party is determined based upon registration counts 135 days prior to the Primary Election, which is October 22, 2023. These numbers were not available at the time of printing. Therefore, the below information is subject to change)*

Office	Seats Allotted	Incumbents		Nomination Signatures	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Supervisor District 1	5			20-40	N/A	1,668
Supervisor District 2	5			20-40	N/A	1,734
Supervisor District 3	7			20-40	N/A	2,544
Supervisor District 4	4			20-40	N/A	1,529
Supervisor District 5	5			20-40	N/A	1,746

## COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES – PEACE & FREEDOM

Office	Seats Allotted	Incumbents		Nomination Signatures	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Serves At-Large	7			10	N/A	1,459

## COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES – GREEN PARTY

Office	Seats Allotted	Incumbents		Nomination Signatures	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Serves At-Large	7	Donald Manro Jovita Harrah Merrily Davies	Judy Pendleton George Schimpf	10	N/A	669

## COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES – LIBERTARIAN PARTY

Office	Seats Allotted	Incumbents		Nomination Signatures	Candidate Statement Fee	Registered Voters
Serves At-Large	7	Joseph Peacock		20-30	N/A	2,528

Candidates must be registered in political party 3 months and in no other party for the last 12 months. Elections Code 8001. The Peace and Freedom Party Central Committee requires a 30-day registration period, per adopted party by-laws.

\*Democratic, Republican & American Independent Central Committees nominate by supervisorial district. District offices will not be on the ballot if the number of nominees is equal to or less than the number to be elected, unless a write-in petition is filed by December 23, 2023. Elections Code 7228, 7423, 7673.

\*\*Green and Libertarian Party Central Committees will not appear on the ballot if insufficient nominees file for the offices, unless a write-in petition is filed by December 23, 2023. Elections Code 7772.1.

# MULTI-COUNTY DISTRICTS

FEDERAL	COUNTIES
Congressional District 20	Fresno, Kern, Kings & Tulare
Congressional District 21	Fresno & Tulare
Congressional District 22	Kern, Kings & Tulare
STATE ASSEMBLY	COUNTIES
District 32	Kern & Tulare
District 33	Fresno, Kings and Tulare

## FILING FEES

*(EC 8105 & 8106 and GC 84300)*

The Election Official cannot issue the Nomination Petition and/or Declaration of Candidacy until the filing fees are paid, or signatures in lieu of filing fees are submitted.

Those fees which must be deposited with the Secretary of State will be accepted by the County Elections Official when the papers are issued for later transmittal to the Secretary of State.

### **WHEN FILING FEE IS DUE**

The candidate must pay the filing fee at the time of obtaining the Nomination Forms (either the Nomination Petitions or the Declaration of Candidacy).

### **HOW FILING FEES CAN BE PAID**

Filing fees may be paid by direct payment (check or money order only) or by obtaining voter "signatures in lieu of filing fee" during the specified Petition in Lieu circulation period. Only forms issued by the Elections Official may be used. A combination of signatures-in-lieu and direct payment may also be used.

Checks are acceptable and should be made payable to appropriate Election Official. Cash cannot be accepted for the payment of a filing fee.

### **PROVISIONAL CREDIT IS GIVEN FOR SIGNATURES WHEN FILING FEE IS DUE**

Signatures in lieu may be filed before or at the time the filing fee is due. Candidates must file all signatures in lieu no later than 30 days prior to the close of the Nomination Period. "Provisional credit" is initially given for all the signatures filed. Actual credit will be determined after signatures are checked by Election Officials at which point a supplemental filing fee may be due to make up the difference.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL FILING FEE DUE AFTER SIGNATURES ARE VERIFIED**

Within 10 days of receipt, the Elections Official must verify the signatures and notify the candidate of the difference between the number of sufficient (good) signatures and the number of signatures for which they were given provisional credit. The candidate must pay the monetary difference in direct payment before the end of the nomination period. Failure to pay the remaining fee in lieu will result in the candidate being disqualified.

**All filing fees received by the Secretary of State and County Elections Officials are non-refundable.**

# **PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE**

*(EC 2151, 8063, 8068, 8069, 8106)*

A candidate may submit a petition containing signatures of registered voters in lieu of paying the filing fee in order to run for office. The signatures submitted may cover all, or a prorated portion, of the filing fee.

## **ISSUANCE OF MASTER FORM - DUTIES OF ELECTION OFFICIAL**

The Elections Official is required to provide Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee forms to the candidate. Rather than providing the candidate with several forms sufficient to gather the requisite number of signatures, the Elections Official may provide a master form which may be duplicated by the candidate at the candidate's expense. The candidate may also request a master form.

## **QUALIFICATIONS OF PETITION IN LIEU SIGNERS**

Each signer of a Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee must be a registered voter in the county and district or political subdivision in which the candidate is voted on.

For partisan offices, Petition in Lieu signers must also be registered with the same party as the candidate for whom the petition is being circulated. The exception is that a No Party Preference (a.k.a. Non-Partisan) registrant may sign the petition of any partisan candidate whose party, at the time of submission of the petitions for verification, has notified the Secretary of State that it has adopted a rule allowing such registrants to vote their party's ballot at the ensuing Primary Election.

No signer shall have his or her name signed to any other Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee for any other candidate for the same office. If there are several places to be filled in the same office, the signer may sign as many Petition in Lieu of Filing Fees as there are places to be filled.

Each signer of a Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee must do the following in the presence of the circulator:

- (1) Sign his or her signature.
- (2) Print his or her name, residence address, city and state.

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PETITION CIRCULATORS**

Circulators of In Lieu Petitions must be 18 years of age or older to circulate petitions.

Circulator's Affidavit:

- (1) The circulator shall read the circulator's affidavit prior to obtaining signatures.
- (2) After obtaining signatures on a Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee, the circulator must complete the circulator's affidavit.
- (3) Each petition section must contain an original affidavit executed by the circulator.

## **PETITION IN LIEU SIGNATURES COUNTING TOWARD NOMINATION SIGNATURES**

If the Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee contains the requisite number of valid signatures required for the Nomination Petition, the candidate is not required to circulate and file a Nomination Petition but may request the County Elections Official to accept the Petition in Lieu of Filing instead of filing Nomination Signatures.

If the Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee does not contain the requisite number of valid signatures required for the Nomination Petition, the candidate may still circulate and file a Nomination Petition to be signed by qualified registered voters during the nomination period. The candidate may request the County Elections Official to apply the number of valid signatures on the Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee toward, and combined with, the valid number of signatures on the Nomination Petition to satisfy the signature requirement for the office.

### **FILING OF SIGNATURE IN LIEU OF FILING FEE PETITION**

The Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee must be submitted to the Elections Official of the County in which the signers reside and are voters.

The Elections Official will issue a receipt for all petitions filed and the candidate will be notified of the number of signatures which are determined to be sufficient or "good."

Though the Elections Official for each County will keep a log of the number of sufficient signatures for each candidate, **the candidates themselves are responsible for making sure they are credited for the correct amount of signatures** especially if petitions were filed in more than one (1) county.

### **REGISTERING VOTERS WHILE CIRCULATING PETITION**

Candidates may register voters while circulating a Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee. Voter registration cards may be obtained from any County Elections Official. After the voter completes the registration card, the candidate or circulator may collect and turn the card in to the Elections Official. However, when turning in registration cards for voters who sign a petition, the candidate should let the Elections Official know that the cards go with the petition. Any circulator or person who takes back a completed registration card form to turn in for a voter must fill out the receipt stub at the bottom of the form and give it to the voter.









### **ALL CANDIDATES MUST FILE A DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY, DESPITE FULFILLING NOMINATION NEEDS WITH PETITION IN LIEU**

The Nomination Petition is only one (1) of the many documents required for candidacy. Candidates are not to assume that because a sufficient Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee was filed, which also fulfilled the nomination petition signature requirement, that all requirements for candidacy have been completed. Candidates should check with the responsible Elections Official to determine whether all election requirements have been fulfilled.










# Candidate Filing Requirements



## United States Senator

\$	<b>FILING FEES</b>	<b>\$3,480.00:</b> Due at the time of being issued Nomination Petitions and/or Declaration of Candidacy whatever amount is not covered by Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee signatures.
	<b>PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE</b>	Gather signatures in lieu of filing fees – signatures to be gathered between September 14, 2023 and November 8, 2023. May be used towards nomination signatures.
	<b>NOMINATION SIGNATURES</b>	<b>65-100</b> signatures to be gathered between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Not required if satisfied with Petition in Lieu signatures.
	<b>CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED BY F.E.C.</b>	These forms are not obtained from or filed with the County Elections Office – consult the F.E.C. for filing deadlines.
	<b>DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023 with the County Elections Office. You will take an Oath of Office; designate how your name is to appear on the ballot; and what ballot designation (occupation) you want to appear under your name on the ballot.
	<b>CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</b>	<b>Optional:</b> No deadline, but suggested to be filed at the time Nomination Papers are filed.
	<b>BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET</b>	<b>Required.</b> This form is needed if you request a ballot designation. Failure to file this form will result in no ballot designation appearing under your name.
 + \$	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<b>Optional:</b> This is a <b>250</b> word or less statement you write describing your education and qualifications. It is printed in the State Voter Information Guide. <b>Payment</b> for statement is required at time of filing.
	<b>QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE</b>	At least 30 years of age; a Citizen of the U.S. for nine (9) years; and a resident of California by the date he/she would be sworn into office if elected.

## United States Representative Congress

	<b>FILING FEES</b> (Non-Refundable)	<b>\$1,740.00:</b> Due at the time of being issued nomination petitions and/or Declaration of Candidacy whatever amount is not covered by Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee signatures.
	<b>PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE</b>	Gather signatures in lieu of filing fees – signatures to be gathered between September 14, 2023 and November 8, 2023. May be used towards nomination signatures.
	<b>NOMINATION SIGNATURES</b>	<b>40-60</b> signatures to be gathered between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Not required if satisfied with Petition in Lieu signatures.
	<b>CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED BY F.E.C.</b>	These forms are not obtained from or filed with the County Elections Office – consult the F.E.C. for filing deadlines.
	<b>DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023 with the County Elections Office. You will take an Oath of Office; designate how your name is to appear on the ballot; and what ballot designation (occupation) you want to appear under your name on the ballot.
	<b>CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</b>	<b>Optional:</b> No deadline, but suggested to be filed at the time Nomination Papers are filed.
	<b>BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET</b>	<b>Required:</b> This form is needed if you request a ballot designation. Failure to file this form will result in no ballot designation appearing under your name.
	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<b>Optional:</b> This is a <b>250</b> word or less statement you write describing your education and qualifications. It is printed in the County Voter Information Guide. <b>Payment</b> for statement is required at time of filing.
	<b>QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE</b>	At least 25 years of age at the time they would take office, a citizen of the U.S. for at least 7 years, and resident of California by the date he/she would be sworn into office if elected.

## Assembly District








\$	<b>FILING FEES</b>	<b>\$1,226.94:</b> Due at the time of being issued nomination petitions and/or Declaration of Candidacy whatever amount is not covered by Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee signatures.
	<b>PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE</b>	Gather signatures in lieu of filing fees – signatures to be gathered between September 14, 2023 and November 8, 2023. May be used towards nomination signatures.
	<b>NOMINATION SIGNATURES</b>	<b>40-60</b> signatures to be gathered between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Not required if satisfied with Petition in Lieu signatures.
<b>700</b>	<b>STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed before the Declaration of Candidacy can be completed no later than December 8, 2023.
<b>501</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 501</b> must be filed before you solicit or receive any contributions or before you make any expenditure from personal funds on behalf of your candidacy (excluding candidate statement fees and filing fees).
<b>410</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 410</b> must be filed if campaign contributions will total \$2,000 or more in a calendar year. A Candidate's personal funds used to pay a filing fee or candidate statement fee are not counted toward the \$2,000 threshold.
<b>460</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 460</b> must be filed if a candidate raised or spent or will raise or spend \$2,000 or more during the calendar year.
<b>470</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 470</b> must be filed if a candidate does not anticipate spending or receiving more than \$2,000 in a calendar year.
	<b>DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023 with the County Elections Office. You will take an Oath of Office; designate how your name is to appear on the ballot; and what ballot designation (occupation) you want to appear under your name on the ballot.
	<b>CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</b>	<b>Optional:</b> No deadline, but suggested to be filed at the time Nomination Papers are filed.
	<b>BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET</b>	<b>Required:</b> This form is needed if you request a ballot designation. Failure to file this form will result in no ballot designation appearing under your name.
 + \$	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<b>Optional:</b> This is a <b>250</b> word or less statement you write describing your education and qualifications. It is printed in the County's Voter Information Guide. It must be filed before or at the time of filing your Declaration of Candidacy. <b>Payment</b> for statement is required at time of filing. <b>Note:</b> Candidate must file a Candidate Statement of Intention (Form 501) with the Secretary of State's Political Reform Division indicating whether they intend to abide by the spending limits prior to submitting a Candidate statement.
	<b>QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE</b>	Citizen of U.S.; registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person. Not have been convicted of a felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion/theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes. Candidate may be subject to Term Limits see <i>California Constitution Art. IV, Sect. 2; EC 201 &amp; 20.</i>









## Superior Court Judge

\$	<b>FILING FEES</b>	<b>\$2,323.99:</b> Due at the time required for filing a Declaration of Intent whatever amount is not covered by Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee signatures.
	<b>DECLARATION OF INTENT</b>	Superior Court Judges are required to file this Declaration not more than 14 days nor less than 5 days before the Nomination Period begins October 30, 2023 to November 8, 2023.
	<b>PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE</b>	Gather signatures in lieu of filing fees – signatures to be gathered between September 14, 2023 and November 8, 2023. May be used towards nomination signatures.
	<b>NOMINATION SIGNATURES</b>	<b>20-40</b> signatures to be gathered between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Not required if satisfied with Petition in Lieu signatures.
<b>700</b>	<b>STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed before the Declaration of Candidacy can be completed no later than December 8, 2023 .
<b>501</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 501</b> must be filed before you solicit or receive any contributions or before you make any expenditure from personal funds on behalf of your candidacy (excluding candidate statement fees and filing fees).
<b>410</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 410</b> must be filed if campaign contributions will total \$2,000 or more in a calendar year. A Candidate's personal funds used to pay a filing fee or candidate statement fee are not counted toward the \$2,000 threshold.
<b>460</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 460</b> must be filed if a candidate raised or spent or will raise or spend \$2,000 or more during the calendar year.
<b>470</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 470</b> must be filed if a candidate does not anticipate spending or receiving more than \$2,000 in a calendar year.
	<b>DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023 with the County Elections Office. You will take an Oath of Office; designate how your name is to appear on the ballot; and what ballot designation (occupation) you want to appear under your name on the ballot.
	<b>CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</b>	<b>Optional:</b> No deadline, but suggested to be filed at the time Nomination Papers are filed.
	<b>BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET</b>	<b>Required:</b> This form is needed if you request a ballot designation. Failure to file this form will result in no ballot designation appearing under your name.
 +\$	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<b>Optional:</b> This is a <b>200</b> word or less statement you write describing your education and qualifications. It is printed in the County's Voter Information Guide. It must be filed before or at the time of filing your Declaration of Candidacy. <b>Payment</b> for statement is required at time of filing.
	<b>QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE</b>	Citizen of U.S., registered voter, and have been a member of the State Bar for ten (10) years or has served as a Judge of a California Court of Record for ten (10) years immediately preceding the election. <i>California Constitution Art. VI, Sect. 15. Note: California Constitution Art. IV, Sect. 2(c)</i> requires residency within the county for which elected; however, it is the legal opinion of the Secretary of State's office that this provision violates the California Constitution and is unenforceable.

## County Supervisor

\$	<b>FILING FEES</b>	<b>\$1,316.75:</b> Due at the time of being issued nomination petitions and/or Declaration of Candidacy whatever amount is not covered by Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee signatures.
	<b>PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE</b>	Gather signatures in lieu of filing fees – signatures to be gathered between September 14, 2023 and November 8, 2023. May be used towards nomination signatures.
	<b>NOMINATION SIGNATURES</b>	<b>20-40</b> signatures to be gathered between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Not required if satisfied with Petition in Lieu signatures.
<b>700</b>	<b>STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed before the Declaration of Candidacy can be completed no later than December 8, 2023 .
<b>501</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 501</b> must be filed before you solicit or receive any contributions or before you make any expenditure from personal funds on behalf of your candidacy (excluding candidate statement fees and filing fees).
<b>410</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 410</b> must be filed if campaign contributions will total \$2,000 or more in a calendar year. A Candidate's personal funds used to pay a filing fee or candidate statement fee are not counted toward the \$2,000 threshold.
<b>460</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 460</b> must be filed if a candidate raised or spent or will raise or spend \$2,000 or more during the calendar year.
<b>470</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 470</b> must be filed if a candidate does not anticipate spending or receiving more than \$2,000 in a calendar year.
	<b>DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed between November 13, 2023 and December 8, 2023 with the County Elections Office. You will take an Oath of Office; designate how your name is to appear on the ballot; and what ballot designation (occupation) you want to appear under your name on the ballot.
	<b>CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</b>	<b>Optional:</b> No deadline, but suggested to be filed at the time Nomination Papers are filed.
	<b>BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET</b>	<b>Required:</b> This form is needed if you request a ballot designation. Failure to file this form will result in no ballot designation appearing under your name.
 +\$	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS</b>	<b>Optional:</b> This is a <b>200</b> word or less statement you write describing your education and qualifications. It is printed in the County's Voter Information Guide. It must be filed before or at the time of filing your Declaration of Candidacy. <b>Payment</b> for statement is required at time of filing.
	<b>QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE</b>	Registered voter of the supervisorial district for at least 30 days preceding the deadline for filing nomination papers and throughout the term of office.

## County Central Committees

	<b>FILING FEES</b>	<b>None</b>
	<b>NOMINATION SIGNATURES</b>	<b>20-40</b> signatures to be gathered between September 29, 2023 and December 8, 2023. Not required if satisfied with Petition in Lieu signatures.
<b>501</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 501</b> must be filed before you solicit or receive any contributions or before you make any expenditure from personal funds on behalf of your candidacy (excluding candidate statement fees and filing fees).
<b>410</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 410</b> must be filed if campaign contributions will total \$2,000 or more in a calendar year. A Candidate's personal funds used to pay a filing fee or candidate statement fee are not counted toward the \$2,000 threshold.
<b>460</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 460</b> must be filed if a candidate raised or spent or will raise or spend \$2,000 or more during the calendar year.
<b>470</b>	<b>FPPC FILING</b>	<b>Form 470</b> must be filed if a candidate does not anticipate spending or receiving more than \$2,000 in a calendar year.
	<b>DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY</b>	<b>Required:</b> Must be filed between September 29, 2023 and December 8, 2023 with the County Elections Office. You will take an Oath of Office; designate how your name is to appear on the ballot; and what ballot designation (occupation) you want to appear under your name on the ballot.
	<b>CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</b>	<b>Optional:</b> No deadline, but suggested to be filed at the time Nomination Papers are filed.
	<b>BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET</b>	<b>Required:</b> This form is needed if you request a ballot designation. Failure to file this form will result in no ballot designation appearing under your name.
	<b>QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE</b>	Registered voter affiliated with their party at the time of their appointment or election. Must meet partisan office requirements for length of time registered in the party. <i>Elections Code 7209, 7407, 7654, 7852, 8001.</i>

# QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR OFFICE

(EC 13, 20, 201, 349, 8001, 8003, 8304 and GC 52337)

## **DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY – LEGALLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATE**

The California Elections Code 13 requires:

- A person shall not be considered a legally qualified candidate for an office, for party nomination for a partisan office, or for nomination to participate in the general election for a voter-nominated office, under the laws of this state unless that person has filed a declaration of candidacy or statement of write-in candidacy with the proper official for the particular election or primary, or is entitled to have his or her name placed on a general election ballot by reason of having been nominated at a primary election, or having been selected to fill a vacancy on the general election ballot as provided in Section 8807, or having been selected as an independent candidate pursuant to Section 8304.
- Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing or prohibiting any qualified voter of this state from casting a ballot for a person by writing the name of that person on the ballot, or from having that ballot counted or tabulated, nor shall this section be construed as preventing or prohibiting a person from standing or campaigning for an elective office by means of a “write-in” campaign. However, nothing in this section shall be construed as an exception to the requirements of Section 15341 or to permit a person to be a write-in candidate contrary to Sections 8600 and 8606.
- It is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting this section, to enable the Federal Communications Commission to determine who is a “legally qualified candidate” in this state for the purposes of administering Section 315 of Title 47 of the United States Code.

## **DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY FOR PARTISAN OFFICES**

The California Elections Code 8001 requires:

- No declaration of candidacy for a partisan office or for membership on a County Central Committee shall be filed, by a candidate unless (1) at the time of presentation of the declaration and continuously for not less than three months immediately prior to that time, or for as long as he has been eligible to register to vote in the state, the candidate is shown by his affidavit of registration to be affiliated with the political party of the nomination of which he seeks; and (2) the candidate has not been registered as affiliated with a qualified political party other than that political party of the nomination of which he seeks, within 12 months prior to the filing of the declaration.

**Note:** California Constitution, Article 2, Section 6 (a) provides that all judicial, school, county and city offices shall be nonpartisan. A nonpartisan office is one for which no political party may nominate a candidate.

## **PROHIBITION AGAINST FILING FOR MULTIPLE OFFICES**

The California Elections Code 8003 requires:

- A candidate whose name has been on the ballot as a candidate of a party at the direct primary and who has been defeated for that party nomination is ineligible for nomination as an independent candidate. He/she is also ineligible to be a candidate named by a party central committee to fill a vacancy on the ballot for a General Election.
- No person may file nomination papers for a party nomination and an independent nomination for the same office, or for more than one (1) office at the same election.

**Exception:** A person may be a candidate for a party County Central Committee position and for another public office at the same election. (Central Committee member has been determined by the Secretary of State’s office to NOT be an “office” within the meaning of Section 8003).

## **NON-PARTISAN OFFICES**

A public officer who is appointed or elected to another public office and enters upon the duties of the second office, automatically vacates the first office **if the two (2) are incompatible**.

Offices are incompatible, in the absence of statutes suggesting a contrary result, if there is any significant clash of duties between the offices, if the dual office holding would be improper for reasons of public policy, or if either officer exercises a supervisory, or removal power over the other. 58 Ops. California Attorney General 323, 324-325 (1975).

The County Elections Office is not allowed to give legal advice or interpret which offices are "incompatible". If you intend to file nomination papers for a second elected office, you should consult your own legal counsel or contact the Attorney General's office at (916) 210-6276 or visit their website: <https://oag.ca.gov>. The State of California Attorney General's office has issued many opinions regarding compatibility questions. Here are six (6) examples of incompatible offices:

- The offices of City Councilman and School District Board Member where the City and the School District have territory in common.
- Fire Chief of a County Fire Protection District and member of the Board of Supervisors of the same county.
- High School District Trustee and Trustee of an Elementary School District which is completely within the geographic boundaries of the High School District.
- Water District Director and a City Council member.
- Water District Director and a School District Trustee having territory in common.
- Deputy Sheriff and County Supervisor.

## **PROOF OF QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR SOME OFFICES**

For offices specified in these pages, no person shall be considered a legally qualified candidate unless that person has filed all appropriate papers accompanied by documentation, including, but not necessarily limited to, **certificates, declarations under penalty of perjury, diplomas, or official correspondence**, sufficient to establish, in the determination of the official with whom the declaration or statement is filed, that the person meets each qualification established for service in that office.

## **RESTRICTIONS ON GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES RUNNING FOR OFFICE**

An employee of a local agency (a city, county, district, municipal or public corporation, political subdivision, or other public agency of the state) may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of the legislative body (board of supervisors, city council, governing body of a district, etc.) of that local agency unless he/she resigns as an employee. If the employee does not resign, the employment shall automatically terminate upon his or her being sworn into office. This does not apply to any volunteer firefighter who does not receive a salary.

## **FAMILY MEMBER OF CANDIDATE SERVING AS A POLLWORKER**

Neither a candidate nor members of a candidate's immediate family are eligible to serve as poll worker/precinct officers at any polling place which has ballots on which the candidate's name appears.

# **DECLARATION OF INTENT**

*(EC 8023, 8104, 8105, 8200, 8201, 8204)*

## **JUDICIAL OFFICES**

Candidates for Judicial office (Superior Court) are required to file a Declaration of Intent to become a candidate prior to filing their nomination documents. Candidates must submit signatures in lieu of the filing fee or pay the non-refundable filing fee at the time the Declaration of Intent is filed.

Judicial candidates shall file with the County Elections Official a Declaration of Intent to become a candidate for that office and shall state for which numerically designated office he/she is filing, if any. Judicial candidates must also file nomination papers in the same manner and times as other candidates for office. If a candidate neglects to file the Declaration of Intention within the specified dates, the County Elections Official cannot accept any Declaration of Candidacy or Nomination Petition for filing, unless the provisions of Section 8204 applies.

## **EXTENSION IF INCUMBENT FAILS TO FILE DECLARATION OF INTENT**

If the incumbent fails to file a Declaration of Intent by the end of that period, persons other than the incumbent may file Declarations of Intent no later than the first day for filing nomination papers. The extension does not apply to offices where the incumbent could not file because of term limits.

# **NOMINATION PETITION**

*(EC 100, 102, 104, 106, 2151, 8061, 8062, 8065, 8066, 8068, 8069, 8081)*

The Nomination Petitions are not necessary if sufficient nomination signatures were already submitted on a Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee Petition. If the filed Petition in Lieu documents do not contain the requisite number of valid signatures to be counted toward the nomination signature requirement, the candidate shall file a nomination petition in order to obtain the requisite number of valid signatures required to be filed.

It is suggested that prospective candidates obtain the necessary forms from the Elections Official as soon as possible on or after the first day to circulate and file, and that the papers be filed as soon as completed so that any irregularities may be corrected before the last filing date. If the papers are found "Not Sufficient," no additions or corrections can be made after 5:00 p.m. on the last day to file.

## **QUALIFICATIONS OF NOMINATION PAPER SIGNERS**

Each signer must be currently registered in the candidate's district (and party if a partisan office) and at the correct address.

Note for Partisan Offices: Voters who have declined to state an affiliation to a political party (Non-Partisan or No Party Preference voters) may NOT sign nomination petitions for partisan office candidates despite the fact that they may be able to vote for them and sign their Petition in Lieu forms in the case where the party formally authorizes No Party Preference voters to vote the ballot of that political party per Secretary of State CCROV Memo #01067 dated 04/13/2001.

Each signer must sign their own name and residence address (post office boxes and ditto marks are not accepted). A person who is unable to personally affix the required information may request another person to print the voter's name and place of residence in the appropriate spaces of the petition, but the voter shall personally affix his or her mark or signature which shall be witnessed by one (1) person by subscribing his or her name thereon.

Each signer of a nomination paper can sign only as many nomination papers as there are places to be filled for that office.

No more signatures shall be secured for any candidate than the maximum nor less than the minimum required for the office. See "Filing Fees & Signatures Required" to see the number of nomination signatures required for each office.

## **CIRCULATORS OF NOMINATION PAPERS**

1. Candidates may circulate signatures him/herself or may appoint circulators to gather signatures on Nomination Papers.
2. The circulator shall be 18 years of age or older to circulate petitions.
3. Only one (1) person may circulate a petition section. Whoever circulates the petition must complete the affidavit of circulator certifying all signatures were made in their presence.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Once filed, nomination petitions can be viewed but not photocopied.

# **DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY**

*(EC 13, 8020, 13104, 13106, 13107, 13111, 13112, 13118)*

A sufficient Declaration of Candidacy must be filed before 5:00 p.m. on the close of the Nomination Period for the candidate's name to appear on the ballot.

## **CANDIDATE MUST SIGN THE DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY**

The Candidate must sign the Declaration of Candidacy in two (2) places:

- The Affidavit of Nominee.
- The Oath of Allegiance. The Oath must be signed before a Deputy Elections Official, a Notary, the City Clerk (for city offices), the District Secretary (in cases of an office in a special district such as memorial or irrigation districts), or the Superintendent of Schools (in cases of candidates for school board).

## **CANDIDATE MUST PRINT HIS OR HER NAME AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT**

No title or degree can be used on the same line as the candidate's name.

The candidate's name will be printed on the ballot exactly as it appears on the Declaration of Candidacy. Nicknames of candidates are permitted on the ballot provided the candidate has declared his or her candidacy or has accepted the nomination under that name. Nicknames should not indicate or allude to an occupation or a title, but should be limited to derivatives of the candidate's name.

If a candidate changes his or her name within one (1) year of any election, the new name shall not appear upon the ballot unless the change was made by marriage or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction.

If there are two (2) candidates with the same or similar name who have filed for the same office, the candidates may, at the time of filing their nomination papers, or within five (5) days after the time for filing nomination papers has expired, file with the County Elections Official a statement asking that a "number" be assigned and placed next to their name on the ballot as a distinguishing mark. If both candidates request to have a number assigned, the numbers will be assigned according to the time the candidates filed their completed nomination papers.

## **CANDIDATE MAY INDICATE A BALLOT DESIGNATION**

At the option of the candidate, a designation may appear under the candidate's name on the ballot. Designations are subject to the limitations of EC 13107 and the California Code of Regulations 20710 et. seq. See section on Ballot Designations.

## **CANDIDATE MUST INDICATE IF HE OR SHE WILL FILE A CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

A candidate must indicate if he/she chooses to file a statement of qualifications, known as a Candidate Statement. Candidate Statements are printed and mailed to the voters in the County Voter Information Guide. See Candidate Statement portion of this Guide.

## **RANDOM ALPHA SEQUENCE OF NAMES ON THE BALLOT**

After the close of the extended nomination period, the Secretary of State will conduct the randomized alphabet drawing. This process is a random drawing of the letters of the alphabet, which will be used to determine the primary placement of candidate names on the ballot for all offices. This order remains the same throughout the district.



For State Assembly or State Senate offices where the district includes more than one (1) county, the County Elections Official in each county, instead of the Secretary of State, shall conduct a separate drawing of the letters of the alphabet called a county randomized alphabet which will apply to these offices only.

### **ROTATION OF CANDIDATES' NAMES ON BALLOT**

- **STATEWIDE, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATES:** Candidates for statewide office shall rotate by Assembly Districts. Rotated names will appear in the random alpha order in the lowest numbered Assembly District in which the name appears; thereafter for each succeeding Assembly District, the name appearing first in the last preceding Assembly District shall be placed last, the order of the other names remaining unchanged.
- **COUNTY-WIDE OFFICES THAT ONLY APPEAR IN TULARE COUNTY:** Candidates for county-wide offices (e.g. District Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner, etc.) shall rotate by County Supervisorial District. Rotated names will appear in the random alpha order in the lowest numbered Supervisorial District in which the office appears; thereafter, for each succeeding Supervisorial District, the name appearing first in the last preceding Supervisorial District shall be placed last, the order of the other names remaining unchanged.
- **ALL OTHER OFFICES DO NOT ROTATE:** The order of candidate's names for all other offices will not change.

## **EXTENSION OF NOMINATION PERIOD**

An extension of the Nomination Period applies if the incumbent does not file by 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the nomination period (88 days before the election). Incumbents cannot file during the extension, but any other qualified candidate may file.

The extension of the nomination period does not apply to the following:

- Vacant seats
- Seats in which the incumbent cannot file due to term limits
- Presidential Candidates
- County Central Committees

# OFFICES THAT WILL NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT

(EC 7228, 7423, 7673, 7772.1, 8140, 8203)

## **JUDICIAL OFFICES NOT APPEARING ON THE BALLOT**

In a PRIMARY Election, any judicial district in which only the incumbent has filed nomination papers for the office of Superior Court Judge, the incumbent's name shall not appear on the ballot, unless a PETITION IS FILED INDICATING A WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN WILL BE CONDUCTED FOR THE OFFICE. The petition must be signed by 100 registered voters qualified to vote with respect to the office.

- FOR A JUDICIAL OFFICE TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT FOR THE **PRIMARY** - The petition must be filed with the County Elections Official within 10 days after the final date for filing nomination papers for the office.
- FOR A JUDICIAL OFFICE TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT FOR THE **GENERAL** - The petition must be filed not less than 83 days before the General Election if the office has not appeared on the direct Primary Election ballot.

## **COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE OFFICES NOT APPEARING ON THE BALLOT**

For Democratic, Republican & American Independent parties, if the number of County Central Committee candidates who have filed for each supervisorial district does not exceed the number to be elected, OR for Green, Libertarian, and Peace & Freedom parties, if the number of County Central Committee (county council) candidates who have filed does not exceed the number to be elected in the county, the County Elections Official shall not include that office or those candidates on the ballot.

If someone wants to run as a write-in candidate for one (1) of the offices not on the ballot, a petition signed by 25 registered voters indicating that a write-in campaign will be conducted for the office must be filed with the County Elections Official no later than 68 days before the election. This petition will result in the office being printed on the ballot so the write-in candidate may run. In lieu of this petition, the Board of Supervisors shall declare elected the candidates who were nominated.

## **COUNTY OFFICES NOT APPEARING ON THE BALLOT**

Unlike most local offices, if only one (1) candidate files for a county office, there are no provisions in the law which allow a county office to be left off the Primary Election ballot and the candidate to be appointed in lieu of an election (County offices would include Board of Supervisors, Assessor, Auditor, Sheriff, etc.).

In a Primary Election, if a candidate for a county office receives a majority of the ballots cast for candidates in that office (50% + 1 vote), then they are considered elected, and that office will NOT appear on the General Election ballot. If a candidate for county office does not receive more than half of the votes cast, the top two (2) vote-getters from the Primary Election will go to a runoff election in the General Election.

# BALLOT DESIGNATIONS

(EC 13107 & Cal Regulation 20711 et. seq.)

The candidate may request a ballot designation appear under his or her name on the ballot, but are not required to and may leave the space for such designation blank. In order to notify the Elections Official of the candidate’s intention if no occupation is desired on the ballot under his or her name, the word “none” must be written on the application in the appropriate space. “None” will not appear on the ballot, the candidate must initial the appropriate box on the Declaration of Candidacy.

A candidate who wishes to have a ballot designation appear under his or her name on the ballot may choose **ONLY ONE (1)** of the following:

Office Title	
<p>Words designating the office may be used if the candidate at the time of filing nomination papers holds an elective office (federal, state, county, city or district) to which he/she was elected by a vote of the people.</p>	<p><b><u>Examples:</u></b>                      Representative in Congress, 19th District                      Member of the Board of Supervisors</p>
Incumbent	
<p>The word “Incumbent” may be used if the candidate is a candidate for the <u>same office</u> which he/she holds at the time of filing nomination papers, and was elected to that office by a vote of the people, or appointed as a nominated candidate, in lieu of an election. Note: Judicial candidates may use the word “Incumbent” whether they were elected or appointed to the position.</p>	<p><b><u>Example:</u></b>                      Incumbent</p>
Appointed Incumbent	
<p>The words “Appointed Incumbent” may be used if the candidate holds an office by appointment, and is filing as a candidate for election to the <u>same office</u>. An appointed officeholder may also use the word “Appointed” and the title of the office if the candidate is filing for election to the <u>same office</u> or to <u>some other office</u>.</p>	<p><b><u>Examples:</u></b>                      Appointed Incumbent                      Appointed Governing Board Member                      Appointed City Council member</p>
Principal Occupation, Vocation, or Profession in 3 Words or Less	
<p>The candidate may use a generic form of their principal profession, vocation, or occupation in <u>no more than three (3) words</u>. Note: California geographical names will be considered one word.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">See following for <b>RESTRICTIONS ON OCCUPATION DESIGNATIONS.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Examples of acceptable designations:</u></b>                      farmer, school teacher, small business owner, legislator</p> <p><b><u>Examples of acceptable designations denoting a vocation:</u></b>                      housewife, homemaker, parent, mother, father</p> <p><b><u>Examples of unacceptable designations:</u></b>                      Sunkist Farmer, Divisadero School Teacher, Owner of McDonald’s</p>
<p><b><u>NO MISLEADING DESIGNATIONS:</u></b>                      The designation must not mislead the voter. No acronyms.</p>	<p><b><u>Example:</u></b> You cannot use “teacher” if you only volunteer teaching Sunday School at church and are not a credentialed teacher.</p>
<p><b><u>NO STATUSES:</u></b>                      The designation must be the candidate’s principal occupation or vocation and cannot be a status.</p>	<p><b><u>Examples of unacceptable designations:</u></b>                      activist, taxpayer, patriot, concerned citizen, husband, wife, or veteran</p>
<p><b><u>NO EVALUATIONS:</u></b>                      The designation must not suggest an evaluation of a candidate.</p>	<p><b><u>Examples of unacceptable designations:</u></b>                      outstanding, leading, expert, virtuous, popular, or eminent</p>

<p><b><u>NO ABBREVIATION OF THE WORD “RETIRED”:</u></b> No abbreviations of the word “retired” may be used and “retired” may not be placed following any word or words it modifies.</p>	<p><b><u>Example of acceptable designation:</u></b> Retired Police Officer <b><u>Examples of unacceptable designations:</u></b> Ret. Police Officer Police Officer, Retired</p>
<p><b><u>NO PREFIXES:</u></b> No prefix which indicates prior status may be used, except for the word “retired” (see above).</p>	<p><b><u>Examples of unacceptable designations:</u></b> Former Surgeon Ex-School Principal</p>
<p><b><u>NO POLITICAL PARTY:</u></b> The name of a political party may not be used, whether or not it has been qualified for the ballot. Note: Central Committee candidates are the exception to this rule.</p>	<p><b><u>Examples of unacceptable designations:</u></b> Republican Legislator Democratic Congressman</p>
<p><b><u>NO UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES:</u></b> No references related to any activity which is prohibited by law may be used.</p>	<p><b><u>Example of unacceptable designations:</u></b> Drug Dealer</p>
<p><b><u>NO RACIAL, RELIGIOUS, OR ETHNIC GROUP:</u></b> No words may be used that refer to a racial, religious or ethnic group.</p>	<p><b><u>Example of acceptable designation:</u></b> Priest <b><u>Example of unacceptable designation:</u></b> Catholic Priest</p>

**NOTICE OF UNACCEPTABLE DESIGNATION**

If an Election Official finds an occupational designation to be in violation of the above restrictions, the candidate will be notified by certified mail with a return receipt requested.

The candidate must come to the Elections Office and provide an alternative designation within three (3) days from the date of receipt of the notice. If he/she fails to provide an alternative designation within this time, the candidate’s name will appear on the ballot without a designation.

**BALLOT DESIGNATION WORKSHEET**

A Ballot Designation Worksheet is required to be filed whenever a ballot designation is indicated on the Declaration of Candidacy. The Ballot Designation Worksheet is due at the same time that the candidate files the Declaration of Candidacy. The worksheet may include information such as proposed alternate ballot designations ranked in order of the candidate’s preference in case the original is unacceptable, a statement identifying the factual basis upon which the candidate claims the proposed ballot designation(s) especially if somewhat vague or potentially misleading, and in general, proof or justification of the designation the candidate has selected.

# CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

(EC 9, 13111, 13112, 13303, 13306, 13307, 13309, 13311, 13313)

A statement by the candidate describing his or her education and qualifications is optional and can be printed in the County Voter Information Guide. The candidate statement and full deposit must be submitted at the same time and must be received by the Registrar of Voters' office when the candidate's nomination papers are returned for filing, no later than the end of the Nomination Filing Period.

The candidate's statement is designed to acquaint voters with a candidate's qualifications for the office he/she is seeking. The statement may include the name, age, and occupation of the candidate and a brief description of no more than **200 words** about the candidate's education and qualifications. You **MUST** submit your statement in Word format electronically by December 8, 2023 to the following email address: electionsmaterials@tularecounty.ca.gov.

## **FORMAT**

All statements must be submitted on, or attached to the form provided by the Elections Official. Election Code requires Candidate Statements have UNIFORMITY IN APPEARANCE. In addition, there are page layout and spacing restrictions which require candidate statements to adhere to the following rules. **Any Candidate Statement which does not conform to the rules below will be reformatted by the Elections Official:**

- **Statements must be typed in UPPER & LOWER CASE. Capitalization is only allowed at the beginning of a sentence or for proper nouns.**
- **No BOLD, UNDERLINES, or *ITALICS* may be used.**
- **Statements must be in BLOCK PARAGRAPH FORM.**
- **NO BULLETS, STARS, ASTERISKS or QUOTATION MARKS are allowed.**
- **TABLES or LISTS of items or phrases should NOT be vertical or indented, but must be strung together in paragraph format.**

## **CONTENT**

Statement shall not, in any way, make reference to other candidates for office or to another candidate's qualifications, character or activities. Moreover, no statement shall contain any demonstrably false, slanderous or libelous statements, nor any obscene or profane language, statements or insinuations.

Statements shall be written in the first person (i.e. "I am running..." **not** "She is running..." or "Jane Doe is running...") and shall be limited to a recitation of the candidate's own personal background and qualifications.

The statement shall not include the party affiliation of the candidate, nor membership or activity in partisan political organizations.

Each statement shall be accompanied by a declaration executed under penalty of perjury declaring that the information contained therein is true and correct.

## **ORDER OF STATEMENTS IN COUNTY VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE**

Statements for the same office will be printed in the County Voter Information Guide in randomized alphabet drawn order, rotation does not apply to the order.

## **TRANSLATIONS INTO OTHER LANGUAGES**

The statements will automatically be printed in languages required by the federal Voting Rights Act. In Tulare County, the County Elections Official will arrange for all statements to be translated, printed and mailed in Spanish as well as English. Translations will be provided by the Election Official, not the candidate.

## **MAILING COUNTY VOTER INFORMATION GUIDES**

The Elections Office shall send to each registered voter a County Voter Information Guide with the candidate statement of each candidate. County Voter Information Guides will be mailed not less than 21 days before the election to each voter who is registered at least 29 days prior to the election. Please take note, voters in mailed ballot precincts are sent an official ballot as soon as they are available, starting at 29 days before the election. A County Voter Information Guide will be included with the official ballot. Additionally, the Elections Office is not legally required to mail County Voter Information Guides or candidate statements to voters who register less than 54 days before the election.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT FILING INFORMATION**

The Candidate Statement shall be filed with the County Elections Official of the county of residence at the time the nomination papers are filed. If the statement is for an election in which nomination papers are not required to be filed, then the statements must be filed no later than the 88<sup>th</sup> day before the election.

## **PUBLIC EXAMINATION PERIOD**

Once filed the Candidate Statements shall remain confidential until the expiration of the filing deadline for nomination papers for such office for the election (typically at 5:00 p.m. on the 88<sup>th</sup> day prior to the election).

Candidate Statements shall be on public display and, as such, subject to examination and challenge by any voter of the jurisdiction for a period of 10 calendar days following the close of filing for each such office.

## **CHANGING OR WITHDRAWING A CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

A Candidate Statement may be withdrawn, but shall not be changed, at any time up to 5:00 p.m. the next working day following the filing deadline for nomination papers for such office. Once withdrawn, a new statement may not be filed.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FEES**

An estimation of the total prorated cost of printing (includes English and Spanish languages), handling and mailing the ¼ page Candidate Statements will include costs incurred as a result of complying with the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Costs may vary depending upon the number of candidates who file a statement for the same office, number of ballot types in the district, number of pages in the various county voter information guides and number of registered voters who will be receiving the various county voter information guides. These variables may cause actual costs to vary significantly from estimated costs.

This estimated cost is due upon filing the statement. Cost of the statement will double if the Candidate Statement extends beyond the allotted ¼ page space. Make checks payable to: Tulare County Registrar of Voters.

If a candidate declares they are unable to pay in advance the estimated cost for submitting a Candidate Statement, the candidate shall submit an Affidavit of Financial Worth (form available from the Elections Office) and a copy of their last federal income tax report (or a signed release form) to be used by the district in determining whether or not he/she is eligible to submit a Candidate Statement without payment of the fee in advance.

If the actual cost is less than the deposit you will receive a refund. If the actual cost is more than the deposit, you will receive an invoice for the difference and are required to pay the balance upon receipt of the invoice. In the case of shared county districts it is the responsibility of the candidate to contact each county involved and establish their costs and formatting restrictions. The Tulare County Registrar of Voters does not accept Candidate Statements or statement fees on behalf of other counties.

### **HOW TO COUNT WORDS**

Listed below are the guidelines for counting the number of words submitted on any document whose content is limited by statute, such as Candidate Statements. This section does not apply to counting words for ballot designations.

Category	Example	Word Count
Acronyms and Abbreviations: Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression will be counted as one word.	CSUF, C.S.U.F., Nov., etc.	One
Dates: Dates will be counted as one word.	01/01/2022 or January 1, 2022	One
E-Mail	AV1@tularecounty.ca.gov	One
Geographical Name	Tulare County or City of Visalia	One
Hyphenated Words – Published in U.S. dictionary within the past 10 years	Mother-in-law	One
Hyphenated Words – <u>Not</u> published in U.S. dictionary within the past 10 years, considered separate words.	Taxpayer-advocate	One for each word = Two (2)
Internet Address	<a href="http://www.tularecoelections.org">www.tularecoelections.org</a>	One
Numbers using digits: Any number consisting of a digit(s) will be considered as one word.	1,10,100, etc.	One
Numbers spelled out: Any number that is spelled will be considered as a separate word.	One Hundred Thousand	One for each word = Three (3)
Numerical Computations: Digit(s) used with \$, ¢, %, #, etc.	50%, ½, 2.3, etc.	One
Telephone Numbers	559-624-7300	One
Titles	Friends for Measure A	One for each word = Four (4)
Punctuation: Punctuation is not counted.		

# CANDIDATE STATEMENT EXAMPLE

## Candidate's Statement of Qualifications

Occupation may be more descriptive than ballot designation. If optional fields are left blank, nothing will be printed.

<b>Candidate Name</b>	Jane Doe	<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b> Word Count: _____ Line Count: _____ Paragraphs: _____
<b>Office Title</b>	Smart School District, Governing Board Member	
<b>Election Date</b>		
<b>Age</b> (optional)		
<b>Occupation</b> (optional)	Businesswoman	

Official issuing form will complete portion indicating word limit, cost and who is to pay.

Maximum Word Count permitted: 200 words  
 Estimated Cost of Statement: \$ 1,000 to be paid by the CANDIDATE DISTRICT (circle one)

### Education and Qualifications:

All statements should be typed, in upper-and lower-case letter, block paragraph style.

I am running for the governing board of the Smart School District because I feel I can bring a balance to the board. I attended local schools, graduating from Smart High School in 1985. I am married and currently have two children attending school in the district.

I own and operate my own business, so I am well aware of the need to operate within a budget. With proper distribution of resources and educational materials I am convinced we can offer quality education to all students within the district.

I have been active in the P.T.A., served on the Save Our Youth committee, and am an active member of the All-Faith Church. I have served as Boy Scout Den Mother and Girl Scout Leader for the past 3 years. I also served as a volunteer at the Community Recycling Center as time allows. I am looking forward to serving you on the Smart School District Governing Board.

Thank your for your vote.

Statements not written in conformance with the instructions will be reformatted to fit in the space

Correct any typos prior to filing and initial.

## CANDIDATE STATEMENTS Smart School District

Jane Doe | **Businesswoman**

I am running for the governing board of the Smart School District because I feel I can bring a balance to the board. I attended local schools, graduating from Smart High School in 1985. I am married and currently have two children attending school in the district. I own and operate my own business, so I am well aware of the need to operate within a budget. With proper distribution of resources and educational materials I am convinced we can offer quality education to all students within the district. I have been active in the P.T.A., served on the Save Our Youth committee, and am an active member of the All-Faith Church. I have served as Boy Scout Den Mother and Girl Scout Leader for the past 3 years. I also served as a volunteer at the Community Recycling Center as time allows. I am looking forward to serving you on the Smart School District Governing Board.

Thank your for your vote.

Your Candidate Statement will appear in the Voter Information Guide on an 8 1/2 x 11 size page with as many as 3 other statements in the basic format.



## **WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY**

The last day a candidate may withdraw his candidacy for a particular office is always the last day of the nomination period for that office (either the 88<sup>th</sup> day before the election or the last day of the extension, if applicable). Once the nomination period is over, requests for withdrawal of candidacy are not accepted and the candidate's name will appear on the ballot (or in cases where there are insufficient nominees, the candidate's name will be submitted for appointment in lieu of election).

To withdraw, a candidate must submit a written and signed request to withdraw his or her candidacy to the Elections Office by the deadline.

If a candidate decides that they want to run for a different office, they must submit a request to withdraw their candidacy and then complete the regular paperwork to file for the new office.

If nomination signatures were gathered for the first office and then the candidate withdraws, the signatures will not apply towards a different office. Nomination signatures are gathered for a specific office and cannot be transferred to a different office. The candidate may have the voter sign the nomination petition for the new office.

# **WRITE-IN CANDIDATES**

*(EC 8601, 8603, 8604, 15341, 15342 and CA Admin Title II, Div VII20100-20105)*

## **FILING AS A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE**

Every person who declares to be a write-in candidate shall file:

- (1) Declaration of Candidacy for Write-In Candidates provided by the Elections Official.
- (2) The required number of signatures on the Nomination Papers.

The Declaration of Candidacy for Write-In Candidates and nomination papers shall be available on the 57th day prior to the election and shall be filed with the Elections Official no later than 14 days before the election.

Signers of nomination papers for write-in candidates shall be voters in the district or political subdivision in which the candidate is to be voted on. If the candidate is seeking a party nomination for an office, the signers shall also be affiliated with the party whose nomination is sought.

No name written upon a ballot by the voter shall be counted for an office or nomination unless the candidate whose name has been written on the ballot has complied with the above requirements. There is no filing fee for a write-in candidate.

Under the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act only Write-In Candidates that are in the top two (2) vote getters will move on to the General Election.

## **TALLYING OF WRITE-IN VOTES**

Write-in votes will only be partially processed on election night. There will, however, be **no reporting of write-in vote results on election evening**. Because write-in votes must be hand tallied, the counting of write-in votes is handled as part of the official canvass.

## **REPORTING VOTES FOR WRITE-IN CANDIDATES ON ELECTION NIGHT**

Final results for “qualified” write-in candidates will not be reported on election night. Instead, the election night report will show a total count of votes cast for ALL write-in candidates (whether qualified or not). The votes for qualified write-in candidates are hand-tallied and reported in the Official After Canvass Report (usually days after the election).

## **OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

The California Administrative Code, Title II, Division VII, Sections 20100-20105, specifies the requirements for the counting of write-in votes (e.g. misspelled or incomplete name, etc.). Rather than enumerating the requirements herein, a copy of the provisions will be provided, upon request, to qualified write-in candidates and other interested parties.

The name of a write-in candidate shall be written by hand upon a ballot. The use of pressure-sensitive stickers or methods other than handwriting to indicate the name of the write-in candidate is not valid, and a name indicated by any such method shall not be counted.

In order to vote for a write-in candidate when voting on a Touchscreen unit, the voter presses the oval next to the write-in line, an image of a keyboard appears on the screen and the voter types in the name of the write-in candidate.

# **CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FPPC)**



# **CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE CONTACT INFORMATION**

The FPPC website provides detailed and up-to-date information to help you navigate the highly complex campaign disclosure rules and requirements. The “Campaign Rules, Forms & Manuals” link provides access to many detailed and easy to read resources such as election specific filing deadlines, fast facts, frequently asked questions and all of the necessary forms and manuals. The newest addition to the resources offered is free webinars. We highly recommend all new candidates and their campaign Treasurers take advantage of the free tools and information provided by FPPC.

## **Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC)**

1102 Q Street, Suite 3000

Sacramento, CA 95814

Technical Assistance: (866) ASK-FPPC (275-3772)

Fax: (916) 322-0886

[www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

## **Secretary of State Political Reform Commission**

1500 - 11th Street, Room 495

Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: (916) 653-6224

Fax: (916) 653-5045

[www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)

## **Federal Elections Commission (FEC)**

Telephone: (800) 424-9530

## **Tulare County Registrar of Voters**

5300 W. Tulare Avenue, Suite 105

Visalia, CA 93277

Telephone: (559) 839-2100

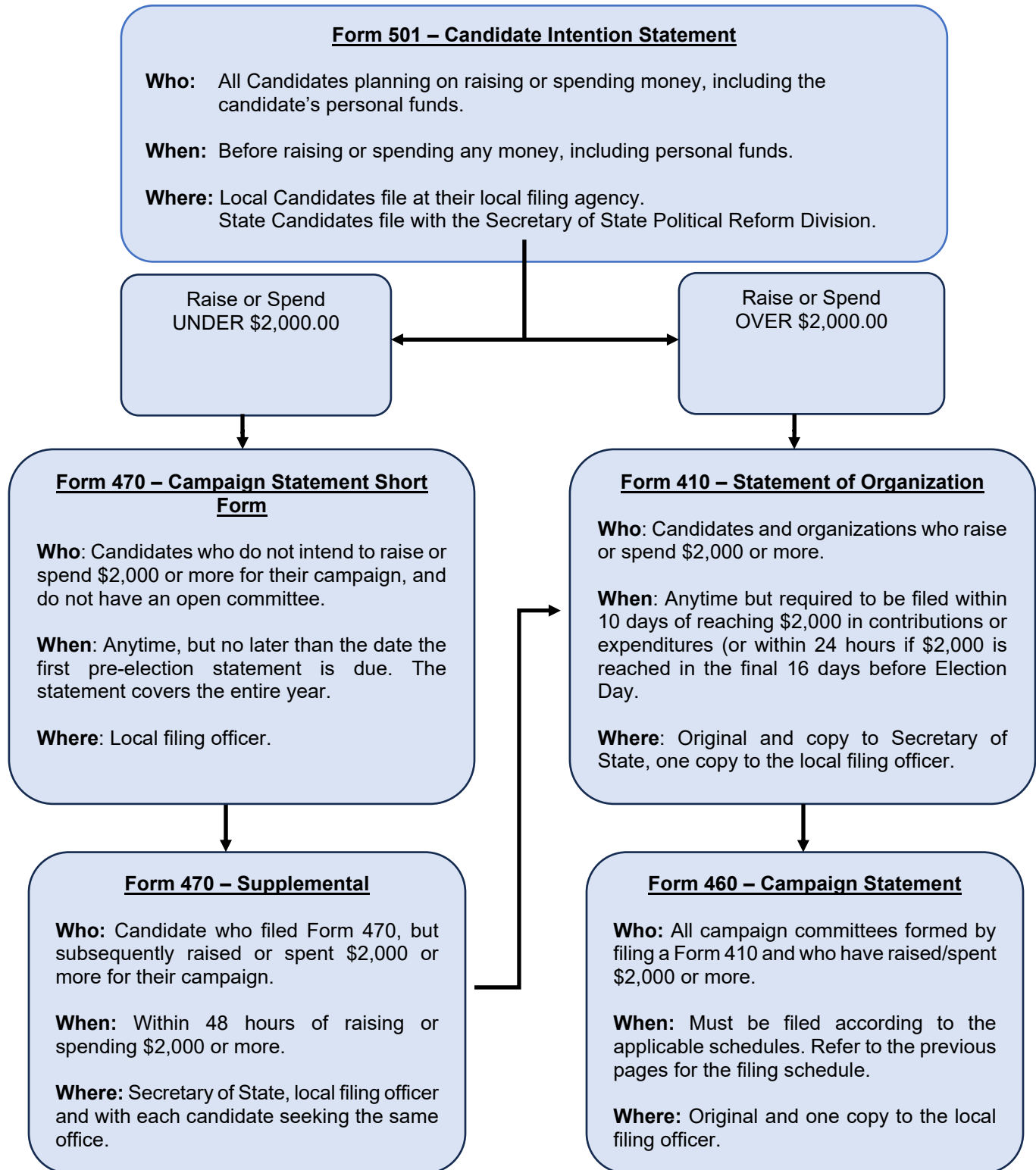
[www.tularecoelections.org](http://www.tularecoelections.org)

# FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION FILING SCHEDULE

Candidates and Controlled Committees for State and Local Office Who Will be Voted Upon at the March 5, 2024 Election

Deadline	Filing Period	Statement & Form Type	State	Local	Notes
January 31, 2024	12/31/2024	Semi-Annual Form 460 or 470	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each Candidate listed on the ballot must file Form 460 or Form 470 (See Below)</li> <li>If a Candidate raised or spent less than \$2,000 during 2023</li> </ul>
Within 10 Business Days	Ongoing Any time other than 90-Day Election Cycle	\$5,000 Report State Filers Only Only e-File this Report Form 497	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>File if a Contribution of \$5,000 or more is received from a single source.</li> <li>No paper copy required.</li> <li>File within 10 business days of receipt of contribution</li> </ul>
Within 24 Hours	12/6/2023-3/5/2024	Election Cycle Reports Form 497	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>File if a Contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-received from a single source.</li> <li>-made to or in connection with a candidate or ballot measure being voted on the March 5 ballot or made to a political party committee.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The recipient of a non-monetary contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate must file a Form 497 within 48 hrs. from the time the non-monetary contribution is received. E-file only. No paper copy required.</p>
Within 24 Hours	3/9/2024-6/7/2024	Contribution Reports Form 497		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>File if a Contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-received from a single source.</li> <li>-made to or in connection with another candidate or measure being voted upon on the March 5 ballot.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The recipient of a non-monetary contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate must file a Form 497 within 48 hrs. from the time the non-monetary contribution is received. File by personal delivery, e-mail, guaranteed overnight service, or fax. Committees may also file online, if available.</p>
January 25, 2024 1 <sup>st</sup> Pre-Election	1/1/2024-1/20/2024	Form 460 or 470	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each candidate listed on the ballot must file Form 460 or 470. (See below)</li> </ul>
Feb 22, 2024 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pre-Election	1/21/2024-2/17/2024	Form 460	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Committees must file this statement.</li> <li>Paper copies must be filed by personal delivery or guaranteed overnight service only.</li> </ul>
July 31, 2024	2/18/2024-6/30/2024	Form 460	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All committees must file Form 460 unless the committee files termination Form 410 and 460 before March 5, 2024</li> </ul>

# BASIC FILING GUIDELINES



All Candidates except County Central Committees need to file a form 700-Statement of Economic Interest before your Declaration of Candidacy may be completed. Federal Candidates need to consult the F.E.C. for their Campaign Financial Statement requirements.

## LOCAL CANDIDATES

### Additional Notes:

**\*Period Covered:** The period covered by any statement begins on the day after the closing date of the last statement filed, or January 1, if no previous statement has been filed.

**Local Ordinance Regarding Electronic Filings:** In October 2019, the County of Tulare adopted Ordinance No. 3572 requiring all campaign disclosure documents to be filed electronically. The County of Tulare Registrar of Voters office has adopted the use of eCampaign to meet this electronic filing requirement.

eCampaign is available for filing forms directly at [southtechhosting.com/TulareCounty/eCampaign](https://southtechhosting.com/TulareCounty/eCampaign) or through a link on the Registrar of Voters website. Forms filed using eCampaign are available for public viewing directly at [southtechhosting.com/TulareCounty/CampaignDocsWebRetrieval/Default](https://southtechhosting.com/TulareCounty/CampaignDocsWebRetrieval/Default) or through a link on the Registrar of Voters website. There is no fee associated with creating an eCampaign account, filing campaign disclosure documents in the system, or viewing campaign disclosure documents in the system. In order to create an eCampaign account, please submit an email to [ROV@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:ROV@tularecounty.ca.gov) requesting an account and include your name, email address, contact phone number, and mailing address.

If you have a treasurer or other officers on your committee, other than yourself, and would like access to be granted to them, please include their name and email address in your request. Please allow one business day for your account request to be processed and your Login ID to be emailed to you.

**Deadline Extensions:** Deadlines are extended when they fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. This extension does not apply to a 24-Hour/10-Day Contribution Report (Form 497) that is due the weekend before the election, and this extension never applies to any 24-Hour/10-Day Independent Expenditure Report (Form 496). Such reports must be filed within 24 hours, regardless of the day of the week.

**Method of Delivery:** All paper filings may be filed by first-class mail unless otherwise noted. A paper copy of a statement may not be required if a local agency requires online filing pursuant to a local ordinance.

**Form 501:** All candidates must file Form 501 (Candidate Intention Statement) before soliciting/receiving contributions.

**Form 460:** Candidates who have raised/spent \$2,000 or more file Form 460. The Form 410 (Statement of Organization) must also be filed once \$2,000 or more has been raised/spent.

**Form 470:** Candidates who do not raise or spend \$2,000 or more (or anticipate raising or spending \$2,000 or more) in 2024 and do not have an open committee may file Form 470 on or before September 26, 2024. If the candidate raises or spends \$2,000 or more, later during the calendar year, a Form 470 Supplement and a Form 410 must be filed.

**Independent Expenditures:** Committees making independent expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more to support or oppose other candidates or ballot measures also file:

- **Form 496:** This form is due within 24 hours if made in the 90-day, 24-hour reporting period of the candidate's or measure's election. Refer to the applicable filing schedule. Form 496 is filed with the filing officer in the jurisdiction of the affected candidate or measure.
- **Form 462:** This verification form must be e-mailed to the FPPC within 10 days..

**After the Election:** Reporting requirements will depend on whether the candidate is successful and whether a campaign committee is open. See [Campaign Disclosure Manual 2](#) for additional information.

**Public Documents:** All statements and reports are public documents.

**Resources:** Campaign manuals and other instructional materials are available on the [Campaign Rules](#) page. Or visit [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov) > Learn > Campaign Rules.

**Public Documents:** All statements and reports are public documents.

## STATE CANDIDATES

Depending on committee activity, one or more of the following statements may also be required:

- **Payments Related to a State Ballot Measure (E-filers only):** File Form 496 (24-Hour/10-Day Independent Expenditure Report) or Form 497 (24-Hour/10-Day Contribution Report) within 10 business days of making payments totaling \$5,000 or more in connection with a single state ballot measure. No paper copy is required.
- **Form 511:** File within 10-Days of making either of the following expenditures related to an advertisement to support or oppose a ballot measure: 1) A payment totaling \$5,000 or more to an individual to appear in an advertisement, or 2) A payment of any amount to an individual portraying a member of a licensed occupation (e.g., nurse, doctor, firefighter). **E-filers must also file a paper copy.**\*\*\*
- **Form E-530:** File within 48 hours of making a payment, or a promise of a payment, of \$50,000 or more during the 45 days prior to an election for a communication that identifies a state candidate listed on the ballot but does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of the candidate. No paper copy is required.

### Additional Notes:

**\*Period Covered:** The period covered by any statement begins on the day after the closing date of the last statement filed, or January 1, if no previous statement has been filed.

**\*\*Deadlines:** Due to the election being held early in the year, the deadline for the first pre-election statement for calendar year 2024 is earlier than the deadline for the semi-annual statement for calendar year 2023. A candidate/committee active in both calendar years may file the 2023 statement on January 25, 2024.

**\*\*\*Paper Filings:** All paper filings *may* be filed by first-class mail or by email with a verified digital signature unless otherwise noted. Persons required to file a report or statement by paper with the Secretary of State's Office *may* instead file by email ([digitalfiling@sos.ca.gov](mailto:digitalfiling@sos.ca.gov)) with a verified digital signature or other digital means as prescribed by the Secretary of State's Office. Please visit the Secretary of State's [website](#) for more information on how to file with a digital signature. Refer to the [filing with a digital signature fact sheet](#) for assistance in creating your digital ID.

**Deadline Extensions:** Deadlines are extended when they fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. This extension does not apply to a 24-Hour/10-Day Contribution Report (Form 497) that is due the weekend before the election, and this extension never applies to any 24-Hour/10-Day Independent Expenditure Report (Form 496). Such reports must be filed within 24 hours, regardless of the day of the week.

**Where to File:** State committees file statements with the Secretary of State. Candidate controlled committees that are not e-filers file paper copies with the elections' official at the candidate's county of domicile.

**Form 501:** All candidates must file Form 501 (Candidate Intention Statement) before soliciting/receiving contributions.

**E-File:** A state committee that has received contributions or made expenditures totaling \$25,000 or more.

**Form 460:** All state committees, including e-filers, must also file paper copies. \*\*\*

**Form 470 (2024):** Candidates who do not raise or spend \$2,000 or more (or anticipate raising or spending \$2,000 or more) in 2024 and do not have an open committee may file Form 470 on or before January 25, 2024. If the candidate raises or spends \$2,000 or more later during the calendar year, a Form 470 Supplement and a Form 410 must be filed.

**Forms 496 and Form 497:** All reports filed online only.



**Resources:** Campaign manuals and other instructional materials are available on the Campaign Rules page. Visit: [FPPC.CA.Gov/learn/campaign-rules](http://FPPC.CA.Gov/learn/campaign-rules)

**Public Documents:** All statements and reports are public documents.

**Download Blank Forms or Complete Your Forms On-Line**

Need blank forms to fill out? Don't really like filling out your forms by hand, but don't have a typewriter? If you have access to the internet, go to either website below. You can print out blank forms or complete your forms on-line, then print them out with a clean, typed look [www.tularecoelections.org](http://www.tularecoelections.org) OR [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

**Candidates for elective state office and state ballot measure committees** that are required to file electronically with the Secretary of State must file a report disclosing receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more from a single source received during the 90-day period before an election. These reports must be filed within 24 hours of receipt of the contribution. No paper copy is required to be filed except during the late contribution reporting period.

**Committees that are required to file electronically with the Secretary of State** must file a report disclosing each independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more made to support or oppose a state candidate during the 90-day period before an election. These reports must be filed within 24 hours of making the independent expenditure. No paper copy is required to be filed, except during the late independent expenditure report period.

All candidates for state legislative office who raise or spend \$50,000 or more must file their contribution and expenditure reports **electronically and on paper**. Log-on instructions and approved electronic filing vendors are posted on the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov).

Candidates may download all the latest campaign forms from the Fair Political Practices Commission's website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov), or the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/campaign-disclosure-and-requirements/campaign-forms-and-instructions](http://www.sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/campaign-disclosure-and-requirements/campaign-forms-and-instructions). Candidates may also call the Political Reform Division at (916) 653-6224. Please contact the Fair Political Practices Commission at (916) 322-5660 for all applicable contribution and spending limits as well as the latest online filing requirements.

# **FINES & WAIVERS**

## **STRICT POLICY FOR LATE FPFC DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

For over twenty years, the Political Reform Act has required timely disclosure of the financing of political campaigns and state lobbying.

Unfortunately, over the years there has been a large number of campaign statements filed after legally required deadlines. These late filings deny voters and the general public of important information that should be current and readily available.

Disclosure statements filed late are subject to fines. In the past, however, a substantial number of late fines have been waived.

Effective immediately, the Registrar of Voters will only consider waiver requests based upon specified “good cause” reasons for late filing. (A complete listing of “good cause” reasons and related documentation are listed on the next page).

Acceptable “good cause” reasons involve situations beyond a filer’s control, for example, incapacitating physical illness and natural disasters. The new rules for fine waiver requests are very specific and limited.

Examples of reasons for waiver request that are **NOT** “good cause” reasons and not acceptable:

- not being aware of law or its requirements
- not receiving notice of filing requirements
- not being available to sign forms
- not sending filing to proper official
- not knowing where to get forms
- not having complete information by filing deadline
- not picking up mail
- secretarial error

In addition, it is important to note that the Political Reform Act does not provide any exemptions for late fines if a filer fails to comply with written notification from a filing officer. Specifically, the Act mandates that late fines be imposed if after the filing officer has sent specific written notice of the filing requirement the campaign statements are not filed within 12 days before an election.

Finally, it is important to remember that the great majority of people who file campaign and lobbying statements comply with the law. Many individuals devote long and hard hours to ensuring that disclosure statements are complete, accurate and filed on time. Consequently, it is a simple matter of fairness to implement a more rigorous policy for waiving fines imposed on those filers who are not diligent.

# **“GOOD CAUSE” REASONS FOR WAIVING LATE FILING FEES**

## **FPPC Campaign Disclosure Statements (Forms 460, 497, etc.)**

The Registrar of Voters will consider a request to waive the payment of a late filing fee if the request is based on “good cause”.

### **WAIVER REQUEST**

A request for a waiver must be submitted on a Request for Waiver of Liability Form. The waiver request must be signed by the person(s) required to file the particular statement or report upon which the late filing fee was assessed. There are two categories of “good cause” for waiving late filing fees. These causes must relate to the person required to file the report or statement.

### **FIRST CATEGORY OF GOOD CAUSE**

1. **INCAPACITATION FOR MEDICAL REASONS:** Adequate documentation consists of a doctor’s, psychologist’s, therapist’s or chiropractor’s statement giving the nature of the incapacitation, the date(s) thereof, and the individual’s name.
2. **HOSPITALIZATION:** Adequate documentation consists of a copy of the hospital bill or doctor’s statement showing the patient’s name and the date(s) of the hospitalization.
3. **ACCIDENT INVOLVEMENT:** If medical attention is provided and results in the late filing, a copy of the hospital bill, emergency room service, or doctor’s statement, showing the patient’s name and date(s) and time(s) of medical attention, is adequate documentation. If the accident involvement results in delay or vehicle disablement which caused the late filing, adequate documentation consists of a police report showing the individual’s name, the date and time of the accident, and if applicable, whether or not the vehicle was disabled.
4. **DEATH:** Adequate documentation, a copy of the death certificate or obituary notice.

### **SECOND CATEGORY OF GOOD CAUSE**

The second category is defined as other unique, unintentional factors beyond the filer’s control not stemming from a negligent act or non-action. The factors are:

1. **THE LOSS OR UNAVAILABILITY OF RECORDS:** Due to a fire, flood, theft or similar reason. Adequate documentation shall consist of a police, fire or insurance report containing the date of the occurrence and the extent of the loss/damage.
2. **OTHER UNIQUE REASONS:** These include compelling reasons beyond the filer’s control.

# IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. **FPPC FORMS, MANUALS, FILING SCHEDULES AND WEBINARS**

Information available at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

2. **BE INFORMED**

Study FPPC Information Manual 2 for local candidates. Local candidates should also ask their Election Official about any local campaign restrictions.

3. **FREE FPPC HELPLINE**

Toll free Helpline number is 1-866-275-3772, can answer specific questions and provide advice on campaign disclosure rules.

4. **BEFORE RAISING OR SPENDING ANY MONEY**

File Form 501, Candidate Intention Statement. A separate Form 501 is required for each election, including re-election to the same office.

5. **IF LESS THAN \$2,000 WILL BE RAISED/SPENT**

File FPPC Short Form 470 prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> pre-election filing deadline. No additional forms will be required unless you later exceed the \$2,000 threshold.

6. **IF MORE THAN \$2,000 WILL BE RAISED/SPENT**

Open a separate bank account for campaign purposes. File FPPC Form 410 Statement of Organization with the Secretary of State and a copy with your local filing officer. The Secretary of State will issue a committee number.

7. **KEEP COMMITTEE INFORMATION UP TO DATE**

File an FPPC Form 410 Amendment if changes are made to treasurer, committee name, addresses, etc.

8. **ANNUAL \$50 FEE**

There is a \$50 annual Secretary of State open FPPC committee fee. The fee is required to be paid to the Secretary of State within 15 days of filing the initial FPPC Form 410 and thereafter, before January 15 of each year until the committee terminates. There is a penalty of \$150 if the annual fee is not paid timely. For questions contact the Secretary of State's office at 1-916-653-6224.

9. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Know the due dates for campaign statements and file on time. All open committees must file periodic disclosure statements that are subject to late fees and fines if deadlines are not met.

10. **KEEP GOOD RECORDS**

Maintain details of contributions and expenditures of \$25 or more. Refer to recordkeeping guidelines in FPPC Information Manual 2. Note: it is a good idea to keep copies of all contributor checks received.

11. **\$100 OR MORE IN CASH?**

Never accept or spend \$100 or more in cash.

12. **DON'T SPEND PERSONAL FUNDS FOR CAMPAIGN EXPENSES**

All personal funds used for campaign purposes must first be deposited in the campaign bank account, except for those used for a Candidate Statement published in the Voter Information Guide and/or for a filing fee. You have a choice of depositing your personal funds into your campaign bank account as either a contribution or a loan to your committee.

13. **PURCHASES**

If any campaign goods/services are purchased, disclose sub-vendors and the amounts paid.

14. **ITEMIZED CONTRIBUTORS**

For contributions of \$100 or more including loans and in-kind contributions, you must disclose the contributor's name, address, occupation and employer.

15. **REPORT LATE CONTRIBUTIONS**

If \$1,000 or more is received from one (1) contributor during the last 90 days before the election, disclose receipt within 24 hours, even if the contribution is from your personal funds. Each late contribution report FPPC Form 497 must have a unique report number to be used by the filer.

16. **MULTIPLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ONE (1) SOURCE**

Keep track of each check received. Report the aggregate amount.

17. **IF AN AGENT/CAMPAIGN CONSULTANT BUYS GOODS OR SERVICES FOR THE CAMPAIGN**

Itemize expenditures of \$500 or more made by the agent/consultant. Make sure to keep receipts of all purchases.

18. **SURPLUS FUNDS**

Surplus funds are subject to restrictions as outlined in the Political Reform Act. Surplus campaign funds are campaign funds that are under the control of a former candidate/elected officer as 90 days following either the date of leaving elective office or the end of the postelection reporting period following the defeat of the candidate for elective office, whichever occurred last. For example, leftover funds from the November 4, 2014 election becomes surplus on March 31, 2015, 90 days after the December 31, 2014 post-election reporting period.

19. **USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY FINES**

The expenditure of campaign funds of any amount to pay a fine, penalty, judgment, or settlement relating to an expenditure of campaign funds that resulted in a personal benefit (more than \$200) to the candidate/officer is prohibited if it is determined that the expenditure was not reasonably related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

20. **USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY SPOUSE FOR SERVICES**

The Political Reform Act prohibits a spouse/domestic partner of an elected officer or a candidate for elective office from receiving compensation in exchange for any services rendered from campaign funds held by a controlled committee of the officer/candidate.

21. **IDENTIFY CANDIDATE/COMMITTEE ON MAILINGS**

Include the words “paid for by” and your committee’s name and campaign address in at least 6-point type on the outside of all mass mailings (more than 200 pieces) and on at least one (1) insert in a color that contrasts with the background. No newsletter or other mass mailing can be sent at public expense.

22. **DISCLOSE ORIGINAL LOAN SOURCES**

List any loan, even a personal loan to the candidate, all or partly used for the campaign. Also disclose all loan guarantors of \$100 or more.

23. **NO PERSONAL USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS**

Use campaign funds only for political, legislative, or governmental purposes.

24. **WHERE TO FILE**

Statewide, Legislative and Judicial offices file with the Secretary of State and a copy with the county of domicile. Local district offices file with the county elections office and municipal offices file with their city clerks.

25. **TAX ID NUMBER REQUIREMENT**

The FPPC does not require a tax ID number; however, some banks may require one (1) in order to open a campaign bank account. A tax ID number may be requested through the Internal Revenue Service website at <http://www.irs.gov>.

26. **STATE CONTRIBUTION LIMITS**

The FPPC website provides annual charts for state contribution limits and state voluntary expenditure limits.

27. **GIFTS, MEALS AND TRAVELS**

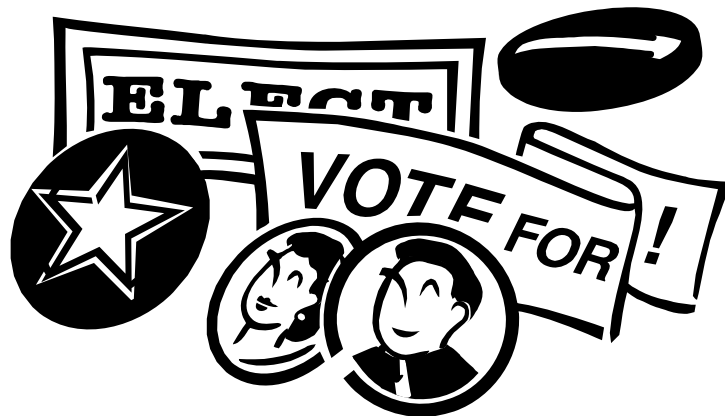
There are special reporting rules for candidate-controlled committees when reporting expenditures for gifts, meals and travel. Restrictions and detailed information can be found in the FPPC Information Manual 2.

28. **READY TO CLOSE YOUR COMMITTEE?**

Filing requirements for open committees do not automatically terminate when activity ceases or when an officeholder vacates the office. You must file an FPPC Form 460 Termination Statement showing a zero (0) balance AND an FPPC Form 410 Termination Statement to stop future filing obligations.

*Note: the above is not necessarily applicable to federal offices.*

# CAMPAIGN LAWS & REGULATIONS



# POSTING POLITICAL SIGNS

(GC 4216)

## Tulare County Posting of Political Signage



Did you know that there are rules and ordinances in the installation of political signs such as campaign and election signs on county property?

This brochure serves as a quick guide regarding the installation of signs within the public right of way in Tulare County.

If you have questions or concerns, please call Tulare County Resource Management Agency at 559-624-7000.

## Political Signage Rules

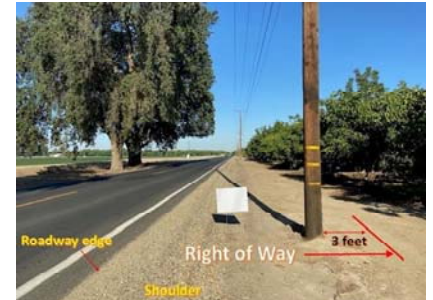
Political signs installed in Tulare County may be governed by other jurisdictions such as the State and City depending on where the signs are installed. (Please refer to the respective jurisdictions for additional rules)

For signs installed within the boundaries of Tulare County, State and Local ordinance dictates the rules for the installation of signs.

Tulare County Ordinance 3332, § 2-09-1000 thru 2-09-1025 governs the installation of any sign on county property.

As such, installing political signs on County property including the public right of way **is prohibited and is subject for removal**. The person responsible for any such illegal posting shall be liable for the cost incurred to remove such signs.

## Signs in the Public Right of Way



Sign placed within the right of way is a violation

### What is the right of way?

In general, a right of way is composed of land running parallel to most roads and shoulders. Right of way width differs on various roadways. However, most right of way widths are 60 feet. Call us to confirm right of way widths for a particular road.

### How do I keep signage out of the right of way?

As a general rule of thumb, if there are utility poles along the roadway, keep the signs a minimum of 3 feet to the right/behind the pole. If the other side of the road does not have poles, the distance from the pole to the road edge will apply to the other side as well.

**What do I do if the sign is removed by county staff? Please call our office at 559-624-7000.**



## **STATE RULES**

Section 5405.3 of the State Outdoor Advertising Act exempts the placing of Temporary Political Signs from normal outdoor advertising display requirements.

A Temporary Political Sign meets the following criteria:

- Encourages a particular vote in a scheduled election.
- Is placed not sooner than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled election and is removed within ten (10) days after that election.
- Is no larger than thirty-two (32) square feet.
- Has had a Statement of Responsibility filed with the Department of Transportation certifying a person who will be responsible for removing sign(s).

A Statement of Responsibility form can be obtained from the County Elections Office and should be returned to: Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Operations, Central California Outdoor Advertising Branch, P.O. Box 942874 MS-36, Sacramento, California, 94274-0001. Their phone number is (916) 651-1254.

Temporary Political Signs shall not be placed within the right-of-way of any highway or be visible within six hundred and sixty (660) feet of the edge of the right-of-way of a classified "landscaped freeway."

State law directs the Department of Transportation to remove unauthorized Temporary Political Signs and bill the responsible party for their removal.

*Note: Information above obtained from the Department of Transportation letter re: regulation of "Temporary Political Signs" dated November 2005.*

## **CITY RULES**

Most cities have additional restrictions on the posting of political signs within their city limits. Please contact your city department to obtain information or a complete set of their rules regarding the posting of political signs.

## **GAS COMPANY RECOMMENDATIONS**

When digging holes in order to post signs The Gas Company would like you to be aware that there are dangers of damaging gas and other utility lines. California One Call Law GC 4216 requires that you call Underground Service Alert (USA) - two (2) days prior to digging. After you have delineated the exact digging location with white spray paint, the utilities will mark any underground lines in the area that may be affected by the proposed excavation. Call 1-800-227-2600 or 811.

## **HANGING CAMPAIGN SIGNS ON TELEPHONE OR UTILITY POLES IS PROHIBITED**

The unauthorized attachment to supply, streetlight or communication poles or structures of signs, posters, banners, decorations, or any other such equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric line construction is a violation of Public Utilities Commission General Order 95 (Rule 34-A1a). Further, candidates and their campaigns who put signs on utility or communication poles are liable for the cost of any repair or injury resulting from such posting (Public Utilities Code §10251).

## **VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES**

### **LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR MARCH 5, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION IS FEBRUARY 19, 2024**

*(EC 2106, 2121, 2138, 2139, 2150, 2158)*

Candidates are allowed to distribute and collect voter registration cards. Registration cards can be obtained at any time from the County Elections Office upon completion of a "Voter Registration Card Statement of Distribution Plans" form. The rules are as follows:

1. A person entitled to vote must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of California, not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and at least 18 years of age at the time of the election.
2. No fee may be charged for registration.
3. Completed voter registration cards received from voters shall be returned to the Election Official **within three (3) days**.
4. On the day of the close of registration for any election, all organizations shall immediately return all completed affidavits of registration in their possession. Unused cards shall be returned upon completion of the distribution plan.
5. If any person assists in completing an affidavit of registration, that person shall sign and date the affidavit below the signature of the voter. Person assisting must also sign and deliver the stub and instructions to the voter.

## **POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

*(EC 20008)*

Any paid political advertisement that refers to an election or to any candidate for elective office and that is contained in or distributed with a newspaper, shall bear on each surface or page, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type or lettering of the advertisement or in 10-point roman type, whichever is larger, the words "Paid Political Advertisement". The words shall be set apart from any other printed matter.

"Paid Political Advertisement" means and shall be limited to, published statements paid for by advertisers for purposes of supporting/defeating any person who has filed for an elective office.

# **ELECTIONEERING (CAMPAIGNING) NEAR POLLING PLACES**

(EC 18370)

No person on Election Day shall campaign within 100 feet of a polling place. This includes the following:

1. Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, nomination petition or any other petition.
2. Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his or her ballot.
3. Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his or her qualifications.
4. Do any electioneering.

As used in this section "100 feet of a polling place" means a distance of 100 feet from the room or rooms in which voters are signing the roster and casting ballots. These provisions also apply to campaign signs on or in a truck or car parked within 100 feet of a polling place.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

## **SIMULATED BALLOT REQUIREMENTS**

(EC 20009)

Every simulated ballot or Sample Ballot shall bear on each surface or page, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type of lettering of the statement or words or in 10-point roman type, whichever is larger, in a printed or drawn box and set apart from any other printed matter, the following statement:

<p style="text-align: center;">NOTICE TO VOTERS (Required by Law)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This is not an official ballot, or an official sample ballot prepared by the County Elections Official or the Secretary of State.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This is an unofficial, marked ballot prepared by <u>          (insert name and address of the person or organization responsible for preparation thereof)          </u>.</p>
--

Nothing in this section shall be construed to require this notice in any editorial or other statement appearing in a regularly published newspaper or magazine other than a paid political advertisement.

No simulated ballot or Sample Ballot shall bear any official seal or the insignia of any public entity, nor shall that seal or insignia appear upon the envelope in which it is mailed or otherwise.

# **MASS MAILING OF CAMPAIGN LITERATURE**

*(EC 16 and GC 82041, 84305)*

The following section of the Government Code does not constitute all of the law pertaining to this subject matter. However, EC 16 requires that you be provided with the full text of this section at the time of filing your declaration of candidacy or petition for local initiative or referendum.

## **GOVERNMENT CODE 82041**

“Mass mailing” means over two hundred (200) substantially similar pieces of mail but does not include a form letter or other mail which is sent in response to an unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry.

## **GOVERNMENT CODE 84305**

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), no candidate or committee shall send a mass mailing unless the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee are shown on the outside of each piece of mail in the mass mailing and on at least one of the inserts included within each piece of mail of the mailing in no less than 6-point type which shall be in a color or print which contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the organization’s address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.
- (b) If the sender of the mass mailing is a single candidate or committee, the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee need only be shown on the outside of each piece of mail.
- (c) If the sender of a mass mailing is a controlled committee, the name of the person controlling the committee shall be included in addition to the information required by subdivision (a).

## **EXIT POLL TAKING**

Exit poll taking must be at least 25 feet from the door of the polling place. (Daily Herald Co. v. Munro (1988) 838 F. 2d 380).

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



# WHERE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN COMPLAINTS

(GC 81000-91015)

1. **WHERE DO I REPORT FALSE OR MISLEADING CAMPAIGN MATERIALS?**  
No agency enforcement. These issues are dealt with in court.
2. **WHERE DO I REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT?**  
Title 9 of the California Government Code at Sections 81000 through 91015, i.e. mass mailing requirements; slate mailers; campaign disclosure; proper use of campaign funds; disclosure of economic interests; contact the Fair Political Practices Commission at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov) or 916-322-5660.
3. **WHERE DO I REPORT ELECTION FRAUD?**  
Contact your local District Attorney at (559) 636-5494 or the California Secretary of State at [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov) or 916-657-2166.
4. **WHERE DO I REPORT UNLAWFUL USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS, VIOLATIONS OF THE ELECTIONS CODE, THE PENAL CODE, OR ANY LAWS OTHER THAN THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT?**  
Contact your local District Attorney at (559) 636-5494 or the California State Attorney General at <https://oag.ca.gov> or 800-952-5225.
5. **WHERE DO I REPORT PROBLEMS WITH A FEDERAL CAMPAIGN LIKE CONGRESS, U.S. SENATE, OR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES?**  
Contact the Federal Election Commission at [www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov) or 866-747-1471.
6. **WHERE DO I REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAWS (BROWN ACT)?**  
Contact your local District Attorney at (559) 636-5494 or the California State Attorney General at <https://oag.ca.gov> or 800-952-5225.
7. **WHERE DO I GET INFORMATION ON LOCAL ORDINANCES?**  
Contact your local city attorney or the District Attorney at (559) 636-5494.
8. **WHERE DO I REPORT VANDALISM OR GET REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING CAMPAIGN SIGNS?**  
Contact the local city attorney or Tulare County District Attorney at (559) 636-5494.

# CANDIDATE FILING

(EC 10510,13307)

1. **IS THE ELECTIONS OFFICE OPEN DURING THE LUNCH HOUR?**

Yes. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. On Friday we are open 8:00 a.m. to noon except on the last day to file nomination papers (a Friday); we are open until 5:00 p.m.

2. **WHEN IS THE CANDIDATE NOMINATION EXTENSION PERIOD AND CAN AN INCUMBENT FILE NOMINATION DOCUMENTS DURING AN EXTENSION PERIOD?**

The candidate nomination extension period is the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday following the end of the regular nomination period. An incumbent cannot file during an extension period as it is only for any other candidate to pick up and file their nomination documents.

3. **HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHO ELSE HAS FILED FOR MY CONTEST?**

This is public information. You can obtain this information by viewing the log at the Elections Office, calling or going to our website at [www.tularecoelections.org](http://www.tularecoelections.org). The Candidate List on our website is updated every day between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

4. **WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM THE ONLY CANDIDATE AFTER FILING NOMINATION PAPERS?**

In most cases if there are insufficient nominees for a contest (no competition), those candidates that filed will be appointed in lieu of election (they shall qualify and take office and serve as if elected) and the contest will not appear on the ballot. Note: this rule does not necessarily apply to judicial, county or city offices.

5. **WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT BEING A CANDIDATE AFTER FILING NOMINATION PAPERS?**

You may withdraw as a candidate at any time prior to the close of the nomination period. After that date you are not permitted to officially withdraw, and your name will appear on the ballot.

6. **I AM REALLY BUSY, IS THERE A WAY TO MAKE THE CANDIDATE FILING PROCESS FASTER?**

Yes. You can make an appointment before coming in to pick up your nomination documents so we can have your nomination papers already printed out and ready when you get here. Typically, for contests that don't require nomination signatures, the process in the Elections Office can be done in about 15 minutes.

7. **MAY I CHANGE OR CORRECT THE WORDING OR SPELLING ON MY CANDIDATE STATEMENT AFTER IT HAS BEEN FILED?**

No, you may not make any changes to your candidate's statement once it has been filed. Check your candidate statement carefully before filing. No responsibility or liability is assumed by the Elections Official for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc. The statement is entirely the candidate's responsibility.

8. **IF I FILE A VOLUNTARY CANDIDATE STATEMENT AND I CHANGE MY MIND, MAY I WITHDRAW THE STATEMENT AND RECEIVE A REFUND?**

Yes, with certain conditions. The candidate statement may be withdrawn, but not changed, during the period for filing nomination papers and until 5:00 p.m. of the next working day after the close of the nomination period. If you withdraw your statement within this time frame, you will receive a refund. After this time frame, your statement cannot be withdrawn, nor a refund given. Candidate statements are not printed if the contest does not go to the ballot. Additionally, when filing the statement, the candidate can indicate no statement is to be printed if no other candidate files for that contest.



# ELECTION NIGHT

1. **HOW CAN I GET ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS?**

The Elections Office will be glad to add you or your campaign committee onto our election night e-mail list. The latest election result report is attached to the e-mail and sent out as results are updated throughout the evening. If you prefer, the same results are also updated on our website throughout the evening. Printed reports are also available at our front counter.

2. **CAN I COME TO THE ELECTIONS OFFICE ON ELECTION NIGHT TO WATCH THE PROCESS?**

Yes. The election process is open to the public.

3. **WHAT TIME DO YOU RELEASE THE FIRST REPORT ON ELECTION NIGHT?**

The Elections Office will release the first report at about 8:05 p.m. on election night. The first report usually includes all Vote by Mail and mail precinct ballots received up to the day before the election. The remaining Vote by Mail and mail precinct ballots received through 8:00 p.m. on election night are processed during the official canvass and those results are included in the official certified results after Election Day.

4. **WHEN ARE YOU USUALLY DONE COUNTING ON ELECTION NIGHT?**

It is the goal of the Tulare County Elections Office to have our election night final report released before 11:00 p.m.

5. **IF I HAVE THE MOST VOTES ON ELECTION NIGHT, DO I WIN?**

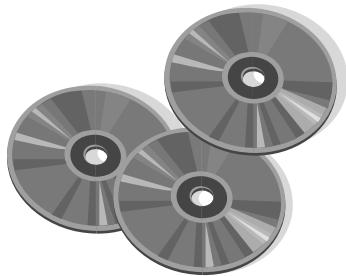
The final results announced on election night are not the final certified results. On Election Day, there are sometimes thousands of Vote by Mail and provisional ballots turned in at the polls that require processing before being included in the final certified count. Law allows the Elections Office up to 30 calendar days to finish counting all the ballots and complete our canvass of the election. Our office attempts to provide periodic updates on our webpage of updated results as well as our progress towards certifying the election. The election results are not final until the official certified results are released.

6. **WILL I BE NOTIFIED THAT I HAVE WON?**

No, not by the Elections Office. After the final official certified results are complete, Certificates of Election and Oaths of Office are sent to the district office, administrative office or county department, depending upon the contest. The district or department will usually take care of the swearing in ceremony, if any, and notification.



# SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CANDIDATES



# FEES & CHARGES

(Board approved April 2013; effective July 1, 2013)  
All prices subject to taxes where applicable.

<b>VOTER &amp; ELECTION INFORMATION</b>			
Description of File	Cost	Unit	Additional Charges
<b>Electronic Files</b>			
<b>Voter File Extract</b> (MVMJ004)			
Less than 20,000 Registered Voters	\$35.00	Per District	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
History (up to 5 elections)	\$35.00	Per Election	
History (all elections)	\$175.00		
-	\$70.00	Per District	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
More than 20,000 Registered Voters	\$70.00	Per Election	
History (up to 5 elections)	\$350.00		
History (all elections)			
<b>Statement of Vote</b> (one election per file)			CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
- <b>TXT File Versions</b> (comes with PDF version)	\$35.00	Per File	
- <b>PDF File Version only</b>	\$5.00		
<b>All Other Election Data Extracts</b>	\$35.00	Per File	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
<b>Printed Data</b>			
<b>Statement of Vote</b> (full book format)	Varies	Total cost for copying and binding report.	
<b>Computer Printed Reports or Lists</b>			
50 pages or less	\$35.00	Per Request	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
More than 50 pages	\$0.10	Per Page (over 50)	
<b>Precinct Index</b> (MVMR10)	\$0.50	Per 1,000 Registered Voters	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
<b>Labels</b>			
Setup Fee	\$35.00	Per File	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
+ Label Cost	\$27.50	Per 1,000 labels	
<b>VBM &amp; Mail Precinct Information</b>			
AVMJ004 - AVMJ011			
Data Received Daily (17 days)			Labels \$12 per 1,000 CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
Setup + Media Charge	\$595.00	Per Election	
Data Received Individual (limit 4 per election)			
Setup + Media Charge	\$35.00	Per File	

# VOTER & ELECTION INFORMATION

Description of File	Cost	Unit	Additional Charges
<b>Copy Charges</b>			
<b>Political Reform Documents</b>	\$0.10	Per Page (GC 81008)	CD, E-Mail & FTP not available
<b>Retrieval Fee-Political Reform Document</b> (reports & statements 5 or more years old)	\$5.00	Per Request (GC 81008)	CD, E-Mail & FTP not available
<b>Affidavit of Registration</b>	\$1.50	Each (EC 2167)	CD, E-Mail & FTP not available
<b>Other Documents or Printed Reports</b>	\$0.10	Per Page	
<b>Statement of Vote</b>	\$0.10	Per Page	
<b>Media Costs</b>			
<b>C.D.</b>	\$5.00	Each	
<b>Labels</b>	\$27.50	Per 1,000 labels	After setup fee
<b>All Other Election Data Extracts</b>	\$35.00	Per File	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
<b>Maps</b>			
<b>Paper Maps - Color or Black &amp; White</b> 8 ½" x 11" or 8 ½" x 14" 11" x 17"	\$5.00 plus tax \$10.00 plus tx	Each (existing maps only)	CD, E-Mail & FTP not available
<b>Electronic Maps</b>	\$30.00	Each (existing maps only)	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
<b>Shape Files</b>	\$35.00	Per District	CD \$5 each E-Mail or FTP \$0
<b>All other maps and mapping services</b>		\$70 per hour creation fee	
<b>Miscellaneous Fees</b>			
<b>Returned Check</b>	\$20.00	2001-0147 GC 6157(b)	



# **CONFIDENTIAL VOTER DATA**

*(EC 2188, 2194)*

The street address, telephone number, driver's license (or identification card) number, precinct number and certain other information about registered voters is confidential under California law. The Elections Office is prohibited from publicly disclosing that information to any person except for specified purposes. We can release the information to: any candidate for federal, state, or local office; any committee for or against any initiative, referendum, recall or bond measure for which legal publication is made; any person for **election, scholarly, journalistic, or political purposes**; and any person for **governmental purposes**, as determined by the Secretary of State.

## **WHAT IS NEEDED TO ORDER CONFIDENTIAL VOTER DATA?**

Before the Elections Office may publicly disclose confidential voter information to a requester, the requester must complete and sign, under penalty of perjury, an Application for Voter Registration Information Form, and include the following: a copy of the requester's driver's license, state identification card or other identification approved by the Secretary of State; payment for the cost of the file/data (cash, check or money order), AND provision for shipping and/or delivery, either in payment for shipping costs (providing your FedEx account number is recommended) or instructions as to how to deliver data (for example, how to notify requester when data is available for pickup).

## **HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO GET THE DATA REQUESTED?**

Requests received at the counter for voter and/or election data can usually be made available within about 30 minutes. Requests received through the mail are typically available for next day shipping. These time frames are not guaranteed. Speed of service depends upon staff availability. If your request is urgent, it is recommended you communicate the urgency to staff and follow up all requests with a phone call to (559) 839-2100.

## **PAYMENT**

Payment can be made in the form of cash, check, or money order. We do not accept credit cards or debit cards. Payment must be received by the Elections Office BEFORE we will begin processing your request.

## **ORDERING VOTER OR ELECTION DATA THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE AN APPLICATION**

As on the chart above showing what data is available, not all data requires an Application for Voter Registration Information Form. If the data requested does not require an application, simply put your request in writing, being as specific as possible. Be sure to specify how you prefer the data to be delivered as well as a contact name and number in case of any questions.


## **PURCHASING A PRECINCT INDEX**

The County Elections Office has a listing of all registered voters by district at the cost of \$0.50 per thousand registered voters (\$0.50 minimum). The listing is sorted by precinct, then by residential address, and name. It also shows political party and telephone number, if provided by the voter. This list is designed for precinct walking or phone banks, but does not have mailing addresses so is not recommended for use in mailing political material.







 **Caltrans Districts**

11/10/2017



# NOTES

# 2024

## January

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## February

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

## March

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## April

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## May

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## June

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## July

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## August

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## September

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## October

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## November

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## December

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					