

# County of Santa Clara

## Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

1553 Berger Drive, Bldg. 1

San Jose, CA 95112

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 611360, San Jose, CA 95161-1360

1(408) 282-3008 1(866) 430-VOTE (8683) FAX: 1(408) 282-3115

www.sccvote.org



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 8, 2015

CONTACT: Philip Chantri  
Media Officer  
1-408-282-3008

## **BALLOTS REMAINING TO BE COUNTED FOR APRIL 7TH SPECIAL ELECTION IN SAN JOSE COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.** – The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters reported Semi-final Unofficial Election Night Results at 10:06 p.m. last night after all precincts had reported and Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots received prior to Election Day had been counted. Those results show an estimated 14 percent of outstanding ballots remaining to be processed during the canvass period.

The estimates of remaining ballots include Provisional and VBM ballots collected at the polling places as well as VBM ballots collected from Ballot Drop-Off locations at 8:00 p.m. Election Night.

A new law took effect January 1<sup>st</sup> and is being implemented for the first time in Santa Clara County with this election that allows for VBM ballots to be counted if they are postmarked on Election Day and arrive in our office by Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The Registrar of Voters is required to wait until Friday to determine the exact number of outstanding VBM ballots.

### **Approximate Number of Ballots Remaining to be Processed**

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| Provisional:  | 180  |
| Vote by Mail: | 1400 |

### **Post-Election Canvass**

California Elections Code requires the Registrar of Voters to perform a Post-Election Canvass before certifying the final results. The Canvass should be completed and the April 7, 2015 Special Election certified on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

During this time, ROV counts all remaining valid ballots and performs a series of mandated audits to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the election. Election results will be updated daily by 5:00 p.m. during the Canvass period.

**Ballots counted after Election Day:** "Last Minute" VBM Ballots: VBM ballots that arrive prior to 8:00 p.m. Election Day or are postmarked on Election Day and arrive by Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> are processed and counted starting Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>; these take longer to count than a precinct ballot because they have to be signature-verified; most of these will be counted by Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.



**Provisional Ballots:** These are ballots cast by voters whose eligibility could not be determined in the polling places on Election Day or who had received VBM ballots but did not have them to surrender at the polls and wanted to vote in person. These are the last ballots counted because they have to be researched and verified, but every valid vote will be counted.

**Damaged/Unreadable Ballots:** Some ballots are torn, damaged, or marked in such a way that the tallying machines cannot read them and require additional processing.

**Write-In Votes:** When the voter writes in the name of a qualified candidate, that vote must be tallied manually.

**Audits:** A Review of all paperwork completed at the precincts to make sure all ballots are accounted for will be conducted. A Manual recount of ballots from a random 1% sample of the precincts will be done to ensure that the vote tabulation equipment is working accurately.

Media outlets that want to capture footage at the Registrar of Voters Office should contact Public Information Officer Philip Chantri at [media@rov.sccgov.org](mailto:media@rov.sccgov.org) or 1-408-282-3008.

For updated election results, follow us on Twitter @SCCVOTE or visit [www.sccvote.org](http://www.sccvote.org). Election results will be updated daily by 5:00 p.m. during the Canvass period.

The Election included a single contest to decide who would fill a vacancy on the San Jose City Council for District 4. Only registered voters who live in San Jose City Council District 4 were eligible to participate in the election. Because no one candidate received greater than 50% of the vote, a Special Runoff Election for San Jose Council District 4 will be conducted on June 23<sup>rd</sup> between the top two vote getters in the April 7<sup>th</sup> Election.

For more information, contact the Registrar of Voters' Office at 1-408-299-VOTE (8683) or toll-free at 1-866-430-VOTE (8683), or visit [www.sccvote.org](http://www.sccvote.org).

###



Follow us @ SCCVote



Connect with us on Facebook