

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RESULTS CERTIFIED FOR APRIL 7TH SPECIAL ELECTION IN SAN JOSE COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF. – The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters certified the results of the April 7, 2015 Special Election in San Jose Council District 4 today and reported Final Official Election Results.

A total of 10,452 ballots were processed and counted, with 25.82% of eligible registered voters casting ballots. For specific downloadable tallies, visit sccvote.org. For updates, follow SCCVOTE on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/sccvote) and [Facebook](https://facebook.com/sccvote). The results were certified today following the conclusion of the Official Post-Election Canvass, which began on Wednesday, April 8th.

Post-Election Canvass

California Elections Code required the Registrar of Voters to perform a Post-Election Canvass before certifying the final results. The Canvass was completed and the April 7, 2015 Special Election certified on Tuesday, April 14th.

During this time, ROV counted all remaining valid ballots and performed a series of mandated audits to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the election. Election results were updated at least once daily by 5:00 p.m.

Ballots counted after Election Day: "Last Minute" VBM Ballots: VBM ballots that arrived prior to 8:00 p.m. Election Day or were postmarked on Election Day and arrived by Friday, April 10th were processed and counted starting Wednesday, April 8th; those took longer to count than a precinct ballot because they had to be signature-verified; these were counted by Friday, April 10th.

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 were the last ballots counted because they had to be researched and verified, but every valid vote was counted.

Damaged/Unreadable Ballots: Some ballots were torn, damaged, or marked in such a way that the tallying machines could not read them and required additional processing.

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

Audits: A review of all paperwork completed at the precincts to make sure all ballots were accounted for was conducted. A manual recount of ballots from a random 1% sample of the precincts was done to ensure that the vote tabulation equipment was working accurately. Precinct 1408 was randomly selected the morning after the Election and the ballots were hand counted for vote by mail and polling place voters for comparison with the Semi-Final Unofficial Results. No discrepancies were found between the machine and hand counts.

A new law took effect January 1, and was implemented for the first time in Santa Clara County with this election, that allowed for VBM ballots to be counted if they were postmarked on Election Day and arrived in our office by Friday, April 10th. The Registrar of Voters waited until 8 p.m. Friday to determine the exact number of outstanding VBM ballots.

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 23rd between the top two vote getters in the April 7th 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.

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