

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 JUNE 23 SPECIAL RUN-OFF ELECTION IN SAN JOSE COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF. – The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters certified the results of the June 23, 2015 Special Run-off Election in San Jose Council District 4 today and reported Final Official Election Results.

A total of 11,040 ballots were processed and counted, with 27.07% of eligible registered voters casting ballots. For specific downloadable tallies, visit sccvote.org. The results were certified today following the conclusion of the Official Post-Election Canvass, which began on Wednesday, June 24.

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 June 23, 2015 Special Run-off Election was certified today.

During this time, the Registrar of Voters 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. during the Canvass period.

Ballots counted after Election Day: "Last Minute" Vote by Mail Ballots: Vote by Mail ballots that arrived prior to 8:00 p.m. Election Day or were postmarked on Election Day and arrived by Friday, June 26 were processed and counted starting Wednesday, June 24. These took longer to count than a precinct ballot because they had to be signature-verified.

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 Vote by Mail 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; they required 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 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 1414 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 the April 7 Special Election; it allows for Vote by Mail ballots to be counted if they were postmarked on or before Election Day and arrived in our office by Friday, June 26. The Registrar of Voters was required to wait until last Friday to determine the exact number of outstanding 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.

San Jose City Council District 4 consists of 40,786 registered voters.

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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