

# County of Santa Clara

## Registrar of Voters

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San Jose, CA 95112  
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03/27/2019

### **NOTICE OF OBSERVER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MAY 7, 2019 SPECIAL MAIL-BALLOT**

You and your representatives are invited to observe the May 7, 2019 Special Mail-Ballot Election at the Registrar of Voters' Office (ROV), 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San Jose, CA, 95112. ROV's election activities are open to the public to observe at any time. The following is only a partial list of ROV's election activities; the dates are subject to change. Please call one to two days before the date you wish to observe to confirm the actual date and time of the activity you wish to observe.

#### **DRE Touch Screen Voting Machine Preparation and Testing**

This is the loading of election data and comprehensive election logic and accuracy testing that ensures that each machine is securely programmed and prepared properly. Testing is comprised of 19 major sequential steps to ensure the integrity of the vote counting on Election Day. Testing will occur April 2, 2019, at approximately 9:00 a.m.

#### **400C Optical Scan Pre-LAT (Logic and Accuracy Testing)**

The optical scan system is tested prior to each election by using a pre-marked set of test ballots. The ballots test the computer system's ability to prevent over-votes and account for under and invalid votes. The preparation of the ballot test deck and testing of the tabulation equipment will begin on April 19, 2019, at approximately 8:30 a.m.

#### **Returned Vote by Mail Ballot Processing**

In accordance with the California Elections Code Sections 15101, et seq., the ROV will begin the processing of returned Vote By Mail Ballot envelopes on April 23, 2019. Ballots received by 8:00 a.m., on May 7, 2019, in our office and from the Post Office, will be tallied and included in the results posted at 8:05 p.m., on Election Night. Approximately 95 - 98% of the remaining ballots received on Election Day at all return sites, including all polling places, will be counted by May 12, 2019. Due to a recent change in state law, ballots postmarked on Election Day and received by May 10, 2019, are valid. These ballots may continue to be processed and tallied through the evening of May 12, 2019.

As a result of another change in state law, Vote By Mail Ballots returned without the required voter signature on the return envelope can be corrected by the voter by 5:00 p.m., on June 4, 2019. These ballots may continue to be processed and tallied through the evening of June 4, 2019.



If the signature on a Vote by Mail ballot return envelope does not match ROV records, a "Signature Verification Statement" will be mailed to the voter. The voter must complete the "Signature Update Statement" and return it to the ROV's Office by 5:00 p.m. on June 4, 2019.

### **Election Night Ballot Receipt and Counting**

The "Semi-Official Election Results" will be posted at approximately 8:05 p.m., Election Night, on the ROV website at [www.sccvote.org](http://www.sccvote.org). Updates of results can also be found on ROV's website until the canvass of the vote is complete.

### **Official Canvass**

Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 15301, the election canvass must start no later than the Thursday after the election. Santa Clara County prefers to begin the canvass one day earlier, on Wednesday, May 8, 2019. The canvass process is open to the public and must continue for at least 6 hours a day (Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays excepted) until completed. ROV will extend work hours, including weekends and holidays, as needed. After completing this process, the election results are then certified by the Registrar of Voters and made public.

The canvass includes, but is not limited to, the inspection of all materials and supplies; processing and counting valid Vote-by-Mail and Provisional ballots; counting valid write-in votes; selection of the 1% manual recount precincts; and conducting the 1% manual recount. Please contact the ROV regarding the anticipated schedule of specific activities if you are interested in a particular aspect of the canvass process.

We thank you for your interest in the election process.

Sincerely,



Shannon Bushey  
Registrar of Voters