



Candidate Handbook



Presidential Primary Election

March 5, 2024

The Kern County

Elections Division

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Bakersfield, CA 93301

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Compiled by the Kern County Elections Division

This guide was developed in an effort to provide answers to questions frequently asked of the Kern County Elections Division regarding filing for office. It is for general information only and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation or rule. In case of conflict, the law, regulation or rule will apply. Persons using this guide must bear full responsibility to make their own determinations as to all legal standards and duties. The Kern County Elections Division cannot give legal advice or interpretations of law. All references are to the California Elections Code unless otherwise noted.

August 2023

This document is subject to change without notice.



Dear Candidate,

The Elections Division thanks you for making the decision to run for public office. As you may have questions about running for office, we have prepared this Candidate Handbook as a guide to assist you with the process.

The Candidate Handbook is regularly updated to provide the candidate with the most up to date and pertinent information as possible to alleviate any confusion there may be when navigating through the candidate filing process.

The handbook is one of many resources that may be utilized when running for office. Our office has also prepared a training PowerPoint available on our website at KernVote.com for your convenience. This guide provides general information and should not be substituted for legal counsel.

The Elections Division team is available to assist you with your questions Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Questions may also be directed to Sophia Martinez at (661) 868-3596 or e-mail at candidatefiling@kerncounty.com.

Thank you for your participation in the Democratic process.

Sincerely,

Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk-
Registrar of Voters

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CONTACT INFORMATION

KERN COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Phone: (661) 868-3590

Fax: (661) 868-3768

Email: elections@kerncounty.com

Website: kernvote.com

Auditor-Controller-County Clerk-Registrar of Voters.....Aimee X. Espinoza
Assistant Auditor-Controller-County Clerk.....Janelle Austin
Division Chief, Elections-County Clerk.....Laura M. Cantu

Administrative Coordinator, Registration

Lynda Pierce.....(661) 868-3719

Election Data for Sale

Krystal Macknicki.....(661) 868-3704

Administrative Coordinator, Candidates/Vote by Mail

Sophia Martinez.....(661) 868-3596

Campaign Reporting/NetFile

Joshua Luna.....(661) 868-3732

Poll Worker Recruitment

Marcie Welch.....(661) 868-3718

Warehouse/Logistics

Jerome Johnson.....(661) 868-3710

Administrative Coordinator, Election Equipment

Joshua Luna.....(661) 868-3732

ATTORNEY GENERAL

California Department of Justice

General Information.....1(800) 952-5225

Fax.....1(916) 323-5341

Voice.....1(800) 735-2922

Website.....www.oag.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA CODE

Website.....<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes.xhtml>

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

General Information.....(916) 654-2852

(Temporary Political Signs).....(916) 654-6473

FEDERAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

General Information.....(800) 424-9530

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION (FPPC)

Technical Assistance (Mon-Thurs 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM).....(866) 275-3772
Enforcement Division.....(866) 275-3772
Fax.....(916) 322-0886
Email.....complaint@fppc.ca.gov
Website.....www.fppc.ca.gov
Political Advertising Disclaimers.....<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn.html>

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

General Information.....(800) 829-1040
Website.....www.irs.gov

**JUDICIAL CAMPAIGN ETHICS
ONLINE COURSE**

General Information.....(415) 865-7745
Website.....<http://www2.courtinfo.ca.gov/protem/courses/judcampeth/>
Email.....cjerprograms@jud.ca.gov

KERN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

General Information.....(661) 868-2340

SECRETARY OF STATE (SOS) ELECTIONS DIVISION

General Information.....(916) 657-2166
Fax.....(916) 653-3214
Website.....www.sos.ca.gov

STATE FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

General Information.....(800) 338-0505
Website.....www.ftb.ca.gov

CITIES WITHIN KERN COUNTY

Candidates for city seats must contact their respective
City Clerk for candidate filing requirements

Arvin	1 (661) 854-3134	1 (661) 854-0817 fax
Bakersfield	1 (661) 326-3767	1 (661)323-3780 fax
California City	1 (760) 373-7140	1 (760) 373-7511 fax
Delano	1 (661) 720-2228	1 (661) 721-3269 fax
Maricopa	1 (661) 769-8279	1 (661) 769-8130 fax
McFarland	1 (661) 792-3091	1 (661) 792-3093 fax
Ridgecrest	1 (760) 499-5000 or 1 (760) 499-5002	1 (760) 499-1500 fax
Shafter	1 (661) 746-5000	1 (661) 746-0607 fax
Taft	1 (661) 763-1222 ext 16	1 (661) 765-2480 fax
Tehachapi	1 (661) 822-2200	1 (661) 822-8559 fax
Wasco	1 (661) 758-7214	1 (661) 758-5411 fax

NEIGHBORING COUNTIES

Below is a list of counties that are adjacent to Kern County and with whom we share a Congressional,
State Senate, State Assembly, School or Special District.

Candidates must contact the other counties about
cost and submitting a candidate statement in that county.

Fresno Elections Office	1(559) 600-8683
Inyo Elections Office	1(760) 878-0224
Kings Elections Office	1(559) 852-4401
Los Angeles Elections Office	1(562) 462-2317
Mono Elections Office	1(760) 932-5530
San Bernardino Elections Office	1(909) 387-8300
San Luis Obispo Elections Office	1(805) 781-5080
Santa Barbara Elections Office	1(805) 568-2200
Tulare Elections Office	1(559) 624-7300
Ventura Elections Office	1(805) 654-2781

WHO SHOULD YOU CALL?

The Kern County Elections Division appreciates notifications of cases of alleged voter registration, petition or voter fraud; however, this office is **NOT** an enforcement agency and is therefore unable to investigate any violations.

In response to the many inquiries our office receives regarding possible election violations or fraud, the following is a list of resources regarding whom to contact for the various types of violations:

- ▶ **False or misleading campaign materials** - No agency enforcement; these issues are dealt with in court. Contact your local district attorney at 1(661) 868-2340, or the Fair Political Practices Commission at www.fppc.ca.gov or 1(866) 275-3772.
- ▶ **Violations of the Political Reform Act (Title 9 of the California Government Code §81000-91014), i.e. mass mailing requirements, slate mailers, campaign disclosure, proper use of campaign funds, disclosure of economic interests** - Contact your local district attorney at 1(661) 868-2340, or the appropriate city attorney for local candidates or measures, or the Fair Political Practices Commission at www.fppc.ca.gov.
- ▶ **Election fraud** - Contact your local district attorney at 1(661) 868-2340, or the California Secretary of State at 1(916) 657-2166 or www.sos.ca.gov.
- ▶ **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 1 (661) 868-2340, or the California State Attorney General at 1(800) 952-5225 or www.oag.ca.gov/.
- ▶ **Federal campaigns, e.g., U.S. Senate, House of Representatives, the President of the United States, etc.** - Contact the Federal Election Commission at 1(800) 424-9530 or www.fec.gov.
- ▶ **Open meeting laws (Brown Act)** - Contact your local district attorney at 1(661) 868-2340, or the California State Attorney General at 1(800) 952-5225 or www.oag.ca.gov/.
- ▶ **Local ordinances** - Contact your local city attorney or local district attorney at 1(661) 868-2340.
- ▶ **Vandalism or requirements concerning campaign signs** - Contact your local city attorney or local district attorney at 1(661) 868-2340.
- ▶ **Political Advertising Disclaimers**, go to the Fair Political Practices Commission website for information: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn.html> (under Learn - select Campaign Rules) or call 1(916) 322-5660.

POSITIONS STANDING FOR ELECTION

Please note that it is not within the purview of this office to determine whether a candidate meets the requirements for holding office.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that he or she meets all filing requirement deadlines.

For further information regarding qualifications and requirements for State and Federal Offices please go to the Secretary of State's website: <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/>.

U.S SENATE

United States Senator

INCUMBENT: Dianne Feinstein, Democrat

QUALIFICATIONS

Unless otherwise specifically provided, no person is eligible to be elected or appointed to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person's appointment. (§201, EC)

Every candidate shall be at least 30 years of age, a U.S. citizen for nine years, and a resident of California on January 3, 2025, the date to be sworn into office if elected. *1 (U.S. Const. art. I, §3, 20th Amend. §1)

For a full Summary of Qualifications and Requirements for this office, please visit:

<https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/upcoming-elections/pres-prim-march-2024/qualifications>.

TERMS OF OFFICE

Six (6) years commencing at 12:00 o'clock noon on January 3, 2025. (U.S. Const. Amend XX, §1)

FILING FEES

(§§8061, 8062, 8103-8106, EC)

NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE	\$ 3,480.00
% ANNUAL SALARY	2%
NOMINATION SIGNATURES	65-100
SIGNATURES IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	7,000
PETITION IN LIEU VALUE PER SIGNATURE	\$ 0.497143

Candidate Statement of Qualification only available to be printed in State Voter Information Guide. Contact Secretary of State's Office for further information.

*1 There is no durational residency requirement to be a candidate for United States Senator.

CONGRESSIONAL

United States Representative

INCUMBENTS:

U.S. Representative 20th Congressional District	Kevin McCarthy
U.S. Representative 22nd Congressional District	David Valadao
U.S. Representative 23rd Congressional District	Jay Obernolte

QUALIFICATIONS

Unless otherwise specifically provided, no person is eligible to be elected or appointed to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person's appointment. (§201, EC)

Every candidate shall be at least 25 years of age, a U.S. citizen for seven years, and a resident of California on January 3, 2025, the date to be sworn into office if elected. *1 (U.S. Const. art. I, §2, 20th Amend. §1)

For a full Summary of Qualifications and Requirements for this office please visit:

<https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/upcoming-elections/pres-prim-march-2024/qualifications>.

TERMS OF OFFICE

Two (2) years commencing at 12:00 o'clock noon January 3, 2025. (U.S. Const., Amend. XX, §2).

FILING FEES

(§§8061, 8062, 8103-8106, EC)

NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE	\$ 1,740.00
% ANNUAL SALARY	1%
NOMINATION SIGNATURES	40-60
SIGNATURES IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	2,000
SIGNATURE IN LIEU VALUE PER SIGNATURE	\$ 0.87

CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST

(250 words)

Each eligible candidate that desires to file a statement will be required to make a deposit at the time of filing their statement, based upon the number of registered voters in the district for the office for which they are filing. If the actual costs are less than the deposit, the overage will be refunded to the candidate, likewise the candidate must sign an agreement to pay any additional billing if the costs exceed the deposit.

U.S. Representative 20th Congressional District	\$5,334
U.S. Representative 22nd Congressional District	\$4,716
U.S. Representative 23rd Congressional District	\$592

Congressional Candidates may purchase the space to place a statement in the Voter Pamphlet that does not exceed 250 words. The statement may not make reference to any opponent of the candidate. The

statement shall be submitted in accordance with the time frames and procedures set forth in this code for the preparation of the voter information portion of the sample ballot. (§13307.5, EC)

*1 There is no durational residency requirement to be a candidate for United States Representative.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Term Limits as follows:

1st elected **before** 6/5/12: 3 Full Terms in Assembly / 2 Full Terms in Senate.

1st elected **after** 6/5/12: Total of 12 years in the Legislature.

INCUMBENTS:

Member of the State Assembly 32nd District	Vincent Fong
Member of the State Assembly 34th District	Tom Lackey
Member of the State Assembly 35th District	Jasmeet Bains

QUALIFICATIONS

Every Candidate shall:

- A. Be a U.S. citizen. Cal. Const., art. IV, § 2(c) 1
- B. Be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued to the person. § 201
- C. Not have been convicted of a felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes. § 20
- D. Serve no more than 12 years in the State Senate, the Assembly, or both, in any combination of terms during their lifetime if they were first elected to the Legislature after June 2012 and have not previously served in the State Senate or Assembly. Cal. Const., art. IV, § 2(a)(4)
- E. Not have served two terms in the State Senate since November 6, 1990, if they were elected to the State Senate before June 2012. Cal. Const., art. IV, § 2(a)(4)
- F. Not have served three terms in the Assembly since November 6, 1990, if they were elected to the Assembly before June 2012. Cal. Const., art. IV, § 2(a)(4)

For a full Summary of Qualifications and Requirements for this office, please visit:

<https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/upcoming-elections/pres-prim-march-2024/qualifications>.

TERMS OF OFFICE

Senate: Four (4) years commencing December 5, 2022 (Art. IV, §2a, Calif. Const.).

Assembly: Two (2) years commencing December 5, 2022 (Art. IV, §2a, Calif. Const.).

MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY FILING FEES

(§§8061, 8062, 8103-8106, EC)

NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE	\$ 1,226.94
% ANNUAL SALARY	1%
NOMINATION SIGNATURES	40-60
SIGNATURES IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	1,000
SIGNATURE IN LIEU VALUE PER SIGNATURE	\$ 1.22694

CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST
(250 words)

Each eligible candidate that desires to file a statement will be required to make a deposit at the time of filing their statement, based upon the number of registered voters in the district for the office for which they are filing. If the actual costs are less than the deposit, the overage will be refunded to the candidate, likewise the candidate must sign an agreement to pay any additional billing if the costs exceed the deposit.

Member of the State Assembly 32nd District	\$5,134
Member of the State Assembly 34th District	\$884
Member of the State Assembly 35th District	\$4,623

Estimated costs are based on one statement being filed per office. Final costs will vary if multiple candidates for the same office file statements and share in the associated costs.

State Legislative Candidates who have **voluntarily agreed** to the expenditure limitations set forth in Gov. C. §85400, may purchase a 250-word candidate statement in the Voter Pamphlet. The statement may not make references to any opponent of the candidate. The statement must meet the county time frames for submittal. Statement may vary from county to county and must be paid for in each county. [Gov. Code 85400, 85601(c)]

JUDICIAL Judge of the Superior Court

Judicial office numbers have been assigned in alphabetical order by the incumbent's last name by the Elections Office staff. These numbers are assigned only for identification purposes during the election process and are not official office or district numbers.

INCUMBENTS:

Office #20	Jose Benavides
Office #22	Christi Canales Norris
Office #25	Thomas Clark
Office #27	Susan Gill
Office #28	Colette Humphrey
Office #29	Chad Louie
Office #30	John Lua
Office #33	Stephanie Childers
Office #34	Kenneth Pritchard
Office #36	Stephen Schuett
Office #38	Marcus Cuper
Office #39	Newly Funded - Vacant
Office #40	Dawn Bittleston

QUALIFICATIONS

Unless otherwise specifically provided, no person is eligible to be elected or appointed to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person's appointment. (§13.5, 201, EC)

A person is ineligible to be a judge of a court of record unless for 10 years immediately preceding selection, the person has been a member of the State Bar or served as a judge of a court of record in this State. (Calif. Const. Art. VI §§15, 16: §13.5 EC)

TERMS OF OFFICE

Six (6) years commencing on first Monday after Jan 1st. (Calif. Const. Art. VI, §16c)

FILING FEES

(§§8061, 8062, 8103-8106, EC)

NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE	\$2,321.74
% ANNUAL SALARY	1%
NOMINATION SIGNATURES	20-40
PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	6,965
PETITION IN LIEU VALUE PER SIGNATURE	\$0..3333

CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST (200 words)

Each candidate that desires to file a statement will be required to make a deposit at the time of filing their statement, based upon the number of registered voters in the district for the office for which they are filing.

If the actual costs are less than the deposit, the overage will be refunded to the candidate, likewise the candidate must sign an agreement to pay any additional billing if the costs exceed the deposit.

PLEASE NOTE: *Estimated costs are based on one statement being filed per office. Final costs will vary if multiple candidates for the same office file statements and share in the associated costs.*

Judge of the Superior Court Statement Cost	\$9,847
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Kern County Ordinance (Chapter 2.130.010 – 2.130.230). Any person, who is running for Supervisor or a Countywide Office who voluntarily accepted the Local Campaign Finance expenditure limits **prior** to accepting contributions, is entitled to a free candidate statement in the Kern County Voter Pamphlet. If you remain unopposed at the close of nominations, you may either choose to withdraw your candidate statement OR be billed for the cost of its inclusion in the Voter Pamphlet. If withdrawn, the statement will appear on the Elections website but will not be included in materials mailed to voters.

County Member of the Board of Supervisors

INCUMBENTS:

1st District – Phillip Peters
 4th District – David Couch
 5th District – Leticia Perez

QUALIFICATIONS

Unless otherwise specifically provided, no person is eligible to be elected or appointed to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person's appointment. (§24001, Gov. C.; §13.5, 201, EC)

A member of the Board of Supervisors shall have been a registered voter of the district that he/she seeks to represent for at least 30 days immediately preceding the deadline for filing nomination documents and shall reside in the district during incumbency. (§25041, Gov. C.)

TERMS OF OFFICE

Four (4) years commencing at 12:00 o'clock noon on the first Monday after Jan 1st. (§24200, Gov. C.)

FILING FEES

(§§8061, 8062, 8103-8106, EC)

NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE	\$1,104.25
% ANNUAL SALARY	1%
NOMINATION SIGNATURES	20-40
PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	3,314
PETITION IN LIEU VALUE PER SIGNATURE	\$0.3333

CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST (200 words)

Each candidate that desires to file a statement will be required to make a deposit at the time of filing their statement, based upon the number of registered voters in the district for the office for which they are filing. If the actual costs are less than the deposit, the overage will be refunded to the candidate, likewise the candidate must sign an agreement to pay any additional billing if the costs exceed the deposit.

PLEASE NOTE: *Estimated costs are based on one statement being filed per office. Final costs will vary if multiple candidates for the same office file statements and share in the associated costs.*

1st District Supervisor Statement Cost	\$2,834
4th District Supervisor Statement Cost	\$1,904
5th District Supervisor Statement Cost	\$1,872

Kern County Ordinance (Chapter 2.130.010 – 2.130.230). Any person, who is running for Supervisor or a Countywide Office who voluntarily accepted the Local Campaign Finance expenditure limits **prior** to accepting contributions, is entitled to a free candidate statement in the Kern County Voter Pamphlet. See

pages 34 through 35 of this handbook for further information. If you remain unopposed at the close of nominations, you may either choose to withdraw your candidate statement OR be billed for the cost of its inclusion in the Voter Pamphlet. If withdrawn, the statement will appear on the Elections website but will not be included in materials mailed to voters.

County Central Committee

Elected During the Presidential Primary Only

Central Committees have not yet decided if they choose to appear on the Public Ballot. Number of seats up for election and the method of allocation that will be elected are to be determined at a later date.

QUALIFICATIONS*

Unless otherwise specifically provided, no person is eligible to be elected or appointed to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person’s appointment. (§201, EL. C.)

For Central Committee qualifications, please contact the party for further information.

***Requirements are subject to change by Parties**

Party Affiliation of Candidate – Party Nominated

Requirements are subject to change by parties, contact the party for further information on requirements.

TERMS OF OFFICE

Four (4) years commencing at the time of the party’s organizational meeting.

Central Committee Candidates are not eligible to purchase a candidate statement.

City Offices

Candidates for city seats must contact their respective City Clerk for candidate filing requirements, see page 5 for contact number.

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST
(200 words)**

Contact your City Clerk for submission of a candidate statement.

City of Bakersfield - Mayor	\$4,927
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CANDIDATES CHECKLIST

Listed below is an informal checklist indicating some of the various mandatory and optional forms to be filed for candidates running in the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election. It is the obligation of the candidate, incumbents, and challengers to ensure that filing requirements and deadlines have been met. All candidates are urged to file the required documents as early as possible to avoid a last-minute rush, confusion or misunderstanding. Additionally, it is recommended that the candidate file all documents personally.

DOCUMENT	APPLIES TO	FILING PERIOD 2023/2024	FILED
Candidate Intention Statement <i>Pages 35-36</i>	Pertains to Candidates for: Supervisor	Complete and Submit to the Elections Office prior to accepting any contributions.	
Campaign Disclosure Statements <i>Pages 20</i>	For all Candidates that will be opening a committee.	File with appropriate office.	
Petition in Lieu <i>Pages 22-23</i>	Optional for all Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan Candidates that have a filing fee. Period to circulate and file petition in lieu of filing fee – All candidates. Petitions for Judicial candidates must be filed at the time of, or prior to, filing the Declaration of Intent.	10/2/2023 – 11/8/2023 (E-155 to E-118)	
Declaration of Intent <i>Page 24</i>	Judicial Candidates only. Non-refundable filing fee due at this time.	10/30/2023 - 11/8/2023 (E-127 to E-118)	
Extension Period for Declaration of Intent <i>Page 24</i>	Anyone other than the incumbent judge who did not file. Extension period for filing Declaration of Intent <i>when incumbent fails to file.</i>	11/9/2023 – 11/13/2023 (E-117 to E-113)	
Declaration of Candidacy & Nomination Forms <i>Pages 24-25</i>	Voter-Nominated/Nonpartisan Candidates Period to file Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination documents.	11/13/2023 – 12/8/2023 (E-113 to E-88)	
Code of Fair Campaign Practices <i>Pages 27-29</i>	Optional for all Candidates.	File with Dec. of Candidacy.	
Candidate's Statement of Qualifications <i>Pages 29-31</i>	Optional for all. Voter-Nominated/Nonpartisan Candidates.	If filed, must be filed & paid for with Dec. of Candidacy.	
Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) <i>Page 35</i>	Required for all. Voter-Nominated/Nonpartisan Candidates Exceptions: US Senate, Congress and Central Committee candidate do not file.	File with Dec. of Candidacy.	
Judicial Campaign Ethics Online Course <i>Page 36</i>	Judicial Candidates only.	See page 36 for details and deadline.	

DOCUMENT	APPLIES TO	FILING PERIOD 2023/2024	FILED
Extension Period for Declaration of Candidacy for Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan <i>Page 24</i>	Anyone other than the incumbent who did not file. Extension period for filing nomination documents <i>when incumbent fails to file nomination documents</i> . This extension will not apply if the incumbent failed to file nomination documents because of term limits.	12/9/2023 – 12/13/2023 (E-87 to E-83)	
Write-In Period <i>Page 37</i>	For all Candidates that did not file during the regular filing period.	1/8/2024 – 2/20/2024 (E-57 to E-14)	
<p>Please note that the above listing does not include all forms that will be signed when you come into the office to file for office. It is intended to give a summary of some of the forms and required deadlines.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that he or she meets all filing requirement deadlines.</u></p>			

*NOTE: Where the day on, before, or within which the law prescribes the performance of these duties falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, it is indicated that the same must or may be performed on the preceding business day or on the next following business day, depending on whether, considering the nature of the act or duty to be performed, the law requires that the time be restricted or permits such time to be extended.

2023/2024 PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR

PETITIONS IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	
9/14/2023 E-173	First day Elections Office to furnish forms for securing signatures on the petition in lieu of filing fee. (§8106, EC)
DECLARATION OF INTENT	
10/30/2023 E-127 to 11/8/2023 5:00 p.m. E-118	Period for filing a signed Declaration of Intent by each candidate for a Judicial Office, on a form supplied by the Elections Office or Secretary of State. <u>Filing fee or petitions in lieu required</u> at the time of filing declaration. (§§8023, 8105, EC)
DECLARATION OF INTENT - EXTENSION	
11/9/2023 E-117 to 11/13/2023 5:00 p.m. E-113	Period for any person, other than the incumbent , to file Declaration of Intent and pay filing fee to run for office, if the incumbent failed to file a Declaration of Intent by 5:00 p.m., November 8, 2023. (§§8023, 8024, 8105, EC)
NOMINATION PERIOD – VOTER-NOMINATED/NONPARTISAN	
11/13/2023 E-113 to 12/8/2023 5:00 p.m. E-88	Period for candidates to circulate and/or file nomination documents. (§§8020, 8100, EC)
PETITIONS IN LIEU OF FILING FEE	
11/8/2023 E-118	Last day for candidates to file petitions in lieu of filing fee. Petitions for Judicial offices must be filed at the time of or prior to filing the Declaration of Intent. (§8106(b)(3), EC)
NOMINATION EXTENSION - JUDICIAL OFFICE	
12/9/2023 E-87 to 12/13/2023 5:00 p.m. E-83	If incumbent Judge has filed a Declaration of Intent, but for any reason fails to qualify for nomination by this date, an additional 5 days shall be allowed for circulating nomination papers by any qualified person other than the incumbent. (§§8023, 8024, 8204, EC)
NOMINATION EXTENSION – VOTER-NOMINATED/NONPARTISAN	
12/9/2023 E-87 to 12/13/2023 5:00 p.m. E-83	If for any office the incumbent fails to qualify for nomination by this date, an additional 5 days shall be allowed for circulating nomination papers by any qualified person other than the incumbent. (§8022, 8024, 8204, EC) This extension will not apply if the incumbent failed to file nomination documents because of term limits.
NOMINATION PAPERS - AFTER DEATH OF CANDIDATE (VOTER-NOMINATED)	
12/9/2023 E-87 to	If only one candidate has declared candidacy for a party-nominated or voter-nominated office and that candidate dies during this period, any person qualified under §8001 EC may circulate and deliver nomination papers for that office to the

12/22/2023 5:00 p.m. E-74	Elections Official not later than 5:00 p.m., December 22, 2023. (§8025, EC)
JUDGES - WHEN NOT ON BALLOT	
12/18/2023 E-78	If only the incumbent has filed nomination papers for the Office of Superior Court Judge in any county or any judicial district, their name shall not appear on the ballot unless a petition signed by 100 registered voters is filed on or before December 18, 2023 indicating a write-in campaign will be conducted for the office. (§8203, EC)
RANDOM DRAWING	
12/14/2023 11:00 AM E-82	On this date, the Secretary of State to hold drawing of randomized alphabet to determine order of candidates on the Primary ballot. Elections Office to hold separate random drawing for state legislative offices. (§§13111(i), 13112, EC)
WRITE-IN CANDIDATES	
1/8/2024 E-57 to 2/20/2024 E-14	Period write-in candidates may file statement of write-in candidacy and nomination papers. (§8601, EC)
MAIL VOTER PAMPHLETS	
1/25/2024 E-40 to 2/13/2024 E-21	Period for Elections Official to mail sample ballots and polling place notices. Post sample ballots in a conspicuous place. (§13304, EC)
VOTE BY MAIL VOTER BALLOT APPLICATIONS	
2/5/2024 E-29 to 2/27/2024 E-7	Any voter may file with the Elections Official, in person or by mail, a written application during this period for a vote by mail voter ballot. (§§3001, 3003, EC)
REGISTRATION CLOSES	
2/19/2024 E-15	Last day to Register to Vote at the polls. (§2102 EC)
CONDITIONAL VOTE REGISTRATION	
2/20/2024 E-14 to 3/4/2024 E-1 3/5/2024	Conditional Voter Registration in the Elections Office only. (§§2170-2173, EC) Conditional Voter Registration at Poll Sites and at Elections Office.
NEW CITIZEN/NEW RESIDENT VOTING	
2/20/2024 E-14 to 3/5/2024	Period anyone who becomes a new citizen or new resident of the state may register and vote at the Elections Office. (§§331, 332, 3500-3503, EC)
PROCESSING AND COUNTING VOTE BY MAIL VOTER BALLOTS	

<p>2/5/2024 E-29</p>	<p>At any time thereafter, Elections Official may start to process vote by mail voter ballots and after polls close on election day commence count. (§15101, EC)</p>
VOTER RETURN OF VOTE BY MAIL VOTER BALLOTS	
<p>Delivered by March 5, 2024 8:00 p.m. or postmarked by March 5, 2024</p>	<p>Personally, delivered ballots: Must be delivered by close of polls on March 5, 2024; Mailed ballots: Must be postmarked on or before March 5, 2024, and received by our office no later than March 12, 2024. (§§3017, 3020, EC)</p> <p>Any voter may cast a vote by mail ballot in the Elections Office before this time. (§3018, EC)</p>
DAY OF ELECTION	
<p>3/5/2024</p>	<p>Polls open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (§§1201, 1202, 14212, EC)</p>
CANVASS PRIMARY RETURNS	
<p>03/07/2024 E+2 through 04/04/2024 E+30</p>	<p>Period for Elections Official to canvass returns and certify to Secretary of State and Board of Supervisors. (§§15301, 15372, 15375, EC)</p> <p>Elections Official to issue Certificates of Nomination to candidates nominated for nonpartisan offices. (§§8145, 8146, 15401, EC)</p>
STATEMENT OF VOTE PRIMARY ELECTION	
<p>04/15/2024 E+38</p>	<p>Deadline for Secretary of State to compile and file Statement of Vote. (§15501 EC)</p> <p>The Secretary of State shall issue Certificates of Nomination to candidates nominated for Congressional Office, State Senate, Assembly and State Constitutional Offices. (§§8147, 15504 EC)</p>

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

Pre-Campaign Reporting Requirements for Candidates and/or Committees

Any individual who plans to be a candidate and intends to solicit or receive campaign contributions for any purpose, or who intends to spend funds for campaign purposes must:

Prior to the solicitation or receipt of any contribution or loan, an individual who intends to be a candidate for an elective state office, as that term is defined by Section 82024, shall file with the Secretary of State an original statement, signed under penalty of perjury, of intention to be a candidate for a specific office.

An individual who intends to be a candidate for any other elective office shall file the statement of intention with the same filing officer and in the same location as the individual would file an original campaign statement pursuant to subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of Section 84215.

For purposes of this section, “contribution” and “loan” do not include any payments from the candidate’s personal funds for a candidate filing fee or a candidate statement of qualifications fee. (§85200, Gov. C.)

(All candidates for local Judicial, County Officers and Special Districts file with Kern County Elections Division.)

85201. (a) Upon the filing of the statement of intention pursuant to Section 85200, the individual shall establish one campaign contribution account at an office of a financial institution located in the state.

(b) As required by subdivision (f) of Section 84102, a candidate who raises contributions of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more in a calendar year shall set forth the name and address of the financial institution where the candidate has established a campaign contribution account and the account number on the committee statement of organization filed pursuant to Sections 84101 and 84103.

(c) All contributions or loans made to the candidate, to a person on behalf of the candidate, or to the candidate’s controlled committee shall be deposited in the account.

(d) Any personal funds which will be utilized to promote the election of the candidate shall be deposited in the account prior to expenditure.

(e) All campaign expenditures shall be made from the account.

(f) Subdivisions (d) and (e) do not apply to a candidate’s payment for a filing fee and statement of qualifications from the candidate’s personal funds.

(g) This section does not apply to a candidate who will not receive contributions and who makes expenditures from personal funds of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year to support the candidate’s candidacy. For purposes of this section, a candidate’s payment for a filing fee and statement of qualifications shall not be included in calculating the total expenditures made.

(h) An individual who raises contributions from others for that individual’s campaign, but who raises or spends less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year, and does not qualify as a committee under Section 82013, shall establish a campaign contribution account pursuant to subdivision (a), but is not required to file a committee statement of organization pursuant to Section 84101 or other statement of bank account information.

*Effective January 1, 2016 the amount increased to \$2,000 from \$1,000. Pursuant to Government Code 84300(a), no contributions of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more shall be made or received in cash.

Pursuant to Government Code 84300(b), no expenditure of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more shall be made in cash.

You will receive written notification from the Secretary of State's Office assigning an identification number to your committee. (Identification numbers are also posted on the Secretary of State's web site at www.cal-access.sos.ca.gov.)

NOTE: If it becomes necessary to file a Form 410 during the 16 days prior to the election, it must be filed within 24 hours.

Additional Requirements which may apply:

Candidates for the following elective local candidate offices, who wish to accept expenditure limits, must complete the local Candidate Intention Statement **prior** to either receiving or spending campaign funds (excepting personal monies):

Supervisor, Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator, District Attorney, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk, Assessor-Recorder, Treasurer-Tax Collector, Superintendent of Schools.

A full copy of Ordinance No. A-341 adding chapter 2.130 to title 2 of the County of Kern campaign finance reform can be obtained at the Kern County Elections Office or at www.kernvote.com, select Candidate Information and then click on Text of Ordinance.

Amendments to the Contribution Limits must be completed within 14 days following the Primary Election.

The acceptance form can be found at www.kernvote.com, select Candidate Information and then click on Candidate Intention Statement Form.

Campaign Reporting – NetFile

Candidates can now file electronically on our website by using NetFile – Campaign Filer Portal.

Please visit our website at: www.kernvote.com and under Candidate Information, click on Campaign Filer Portal and create a NetFile User account for filing of campaign forms.

**FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ELECTIONS OFFICE OR ON THE WEBSITE AT
KernVote.com**

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

The Political Reform Act of 1974, as amended, is applicable to all state and local candidates, their committees, and committees supporting or opposing ballot measures. This Act requires candidates and committees to report, in detailed statements, campaign contributions and expenditures. Up to three filings may be required, two prior to the applicable election, and one filing after the election.

When the candidate applies for nomination papers, they will receive the appropriate forms and an information manual, if requested. Candidates should familiarize themselves thoroughly with the information in the manual and to note carefully the filing deadlines, as the Act imposes penalties for late filing of campaign statements.

A schedule of filing dates will be provided at the time of filing as a candidate or you may visit the FPPC at the following website for further information: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>.

Candidates who anticipate receiving less than \$2,000 in contributions and spending less than \$2,000 during the entire calendar year, exclusive of the costs of the filing fee and/or candidate statement, if paid from personal funds, may reduce their filing obligation by filing a Candidate and Officeholder Campaign Statement-Short Form 470. No further campaign statements need be filed for this election **unless** the \$2,000 threshold is reached. (§84206, Gov. Code)

A judge who is not listed on the ballot for reelection during a calendar year is not required to file semi-annual statements if (1) the judge has not received any contributions and (2) the only expenditures are contributions from the judge's personal funds to other candidates or committees totaling less than \$1,000. (§84200, Gov. C.)

Legal and technical questions need to be directed to:

Fair Political Practices Commission
1102 Q Street, Suite 3000
Sacramento, CA 95811

Advice Line: 1-866-275-3772 (press 2) or advice@fppc.ca.gov

General Contact Line: 916-322-5660

Enforcement Complaint 1-866-275-3772 (press 1) or complaint@fppc.ca.gov

CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS FOR FEDERAL OFFICE

The Political Reform Act of 1974 does not apply to the following federal office candidates: U.S. Senator or Representative in Congress. Candidates for federal offices are subject to federal disclosure statements.

Candidates need to contact the following for information and forms:

Federal Elections Commission
999 "E" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463
1-800-424-9530

LIMITATIONS ON USE OF SURPLUS CAMPAIGN FUNDS

Government Code Section 89519:

(a) Upon the 90th day after leaving an elective office, or the 90th day following the end of the postelection reporting period following the defeat of a candidate for elective office, whichever occurs last, campaign funds under the control of the former candidate or elected officer shall be considered surplus campaign funds and shall be disclosed pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100).

(b) Surplus campaign funds shall be used only for the following purposes:

(1) The payment of outstanding campaign debts or elected officer's expenses.

(2) The repayment of contributions.

(3) Donations to a bona fide charitable, educational, civic, religious, or similar tax-exempt, nonprofit organization, where no substantial part of the proceeds will have a material financial effect on the former candidate or elected officer, any member of the former candidate's or elected officer's immediate family, or the former candidate's or elected officer's campaign treasurer.

(4) Contributions to a political party committee, provided the campaign funds are not used to support or oppose candidates for elective office. However, the campaign funds may be used by a political party committee to conduct partisan voter registration, partisan get-out-the-vote activities, and slate mailers as that term is defined in Section 82048.3.

(5) Contributions to support or oppose a candidate for federal office, a candidate for elective office in a state other than California, or a ballot measure.

(6) The payment for professional services reasonably required by the committee to assist in the performance of its administrative functions, including payment for attorney's fees and other costs for litigation that arises directly out of a candidate's or elected officer's activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer, including, but not limited to, an action to enjoin defamation, defense of an action brought for a violation of state or local campaign, disclosure, or election laws, and an action from an election contest or recount.

(c) For purposes of this section, the payment for, or the reimbursement to the state of, the costs of installing and monitoring an electronic security system in the home or office, or both, of a candidate or elected officer who has received threats to the candidate's or elected officer's physical safety shall be deemed an outstanding campaign debt or elected officer's expense, provided that the threats arise from the candidate's or elected officer's activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer and that the threats have been reported to and verified by an appropriate law enforcement agency. Verification shall be determined solely by the law enforcement agency to which the threat was reported. The candidate or elected officer shall report an expenditure of campaign funds made pursuant to this section to the Commission. The report to the Commission shall include the date that the candidate or elected officer informed the law enforcement agency of the threat, the name and the telephone number of the law enforcement agency, and a brief description of the threat. No more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in surplus campaign funds may be used, cumulatively, by a candidate or elected officer pursuant to this subdivision. Payments made pursuant to this subdivision shall be made during the two years immediately following the date upon which the campaign funds become surplus campaign funds. The candidate or elected officer shall reimburse the surplus fund account for the fair market value of the security system no later than two years immediately following the date upon which the campaign funds became surplus campaign funds. The campaign funds become surplus campaign funds upon sale of the property on which the system is installed, or prior to the closing of the surplus campaign fund account, whichever comes first. The electronic security system shall

be the property of the campaign committee of the candidate or elected officer.

CAMPAIGN FILING REQUIREMENTS

For further information on Campaign Filing Requirements, please contact the Fair Political Practices Commission at:

Phone: (916) 322-5660 or 1-866-ASK-FPPC (1-866-275-3772)

Mailing: 1102 Q Street, Suite 3000, Sacramento, CA 95811

Web: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/>

PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE

(EC §§ 100, 100.5, 102, 8105, 8106 and 8452)

September 14, 2023 through November 8, 2023

PETITION IN LIEU OF FILING FEE – 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 Elections Division will issue to the candidate a master petition identifying the candidate. If additional forms are required, the candidate may duplicate the form provided.

Judicial candidates must submit the petition at the same time or prior to the filing of the Declaration of Intent.

Any registered voter who is a candidate for any office may obtain signatures and sign his or her own nomination papers. Any circulator obtaining signatures to the nomination papers of a candidate for any office may, if otherwise qualified, sign such papers themselves.

Valid signatures on the petition in lieu of the filing fee are counted towards the number of signatures on a Nomination Paper. Signatures are verified within ten (10) days after receipt of the petition, the elections office shall notify the candidate of any deficiency. The candidate shall then, at the time of obtaining nomination forms, pay a pro rata portion of the filing fee to cover the deficiency.

Petition in lieu of filing fees must be filed no later than the applicable filing deadline. Valid signatures on the petition in lieu may be applied to the nomination petition signature requirement. However, the petition in lieu forms cannot be substituted for purposes of filing nomination petitions. Nomination petition forms will be available commencing November 13, 2023 through December 8, 2023.

No petition or paper may be signed within 100 feet of any election booth or polling place.

CANDIDATES PLEASE NOTE: The Petition in Lieu is only one of many documents required for candidacy. Sufficient “in lieu” filing fee petitions do not indicate that all requirements for candidacy have been completed. Candidates must check with the Elections Division to determine whether all election requirements have been fulfilled.

SIGNER QUALIFICATIONS:

Voter-Nominated Office Must be signed by voters residing within the district or political subdivision in which the candidate intends to run. (§8068, EC)

Nonpartisan Office Must be signed by voters residing within the district or political subdivision in which the candidate intends to run. (§8068, EC)

1. EACH SIGNER Must print and sign own name and include residence address.

Exception: A signer who is unable to personally affix his or her own name and/or address on the petition may be assisted by another person. The voter must, however, affix his or her own mark/signature on the petition. A witness to signature (or mark) is required and such witness must also sign their own name. Exception: a signature stamp may be used, if it appears on the original registration form on file in the Elections Office. Prior to using a signature stamp, an elections official must witness the signature stamp being stamped on the registration form.

2. MARRIED women must sign own name, not husbands.

(Example: don't use Mrs. John Smith)

3. P.O. BOX numbers or mailing addresses are not acceptable.

4. DITTO marks are not acceptable.

CIRCULATOR QUALIFICATIONS

Must be 18 years of age or older at time of circulating nomination papers.

Only ONE (1) circulator allowed to circulate a petition section.

Each petition section must contain an original executed circulator's affidavit before the signatures will be counted. Copies or reproduced signatures ARE NOT valid.

AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR

Circulator **MUST** complete "Affidavit of Circulator" in own handwriting. **DO NOT TYPE.**

Fill in appropriate information in blank spaces.

Fill in dates signatures were obtained.

Fill in execution date and place of signing.

SIGN NAME.

FILING PETITION IN LIEU FORMS – petition in lieu of filing fee forms must be filed during the petition in lieu period with the Elections Office of the County in which the signatures were gathered. Petitions may be submitted to the elections official on an on-going basis. At that time, any signatures appearing on the petition may be counted towards the number of signatures required for nomination papers. You will receive a petition in lieu of filing fee receipt at the time of submission.

Each signature and residence address on the petition in lieu of filing fee form is verified against the voter's Affidavit of Registration Information.

If a person signs in lieu petitions for more candidates than there are offices to be filled, the signatures are counted only on those petitions which, taken in the order filed, do not exceed the number of offices to be filled.

DECLARATION OF INTENT **(Judicial Candidates Only)**

October 30 through November 8, 2023

Extension Period November 9 through November 13, 2023

*(Extension period is for anyone other than the Incumbent –
office extends if the Incumbent fails to file)*

The Declaration of Intent shall be filed on a form to be supplied by the Elections Office. The **Filing fee is required at the time of filing the Declaration of Intent**. Checks are to be made payable to the Auditor-Controller-County Clerk and **are non-refundable**. Candidates **must also file nomination papers** in the manner and times as prescribed.

(§8105, EC)

JUDICIAL OFFICE

A candidate for Judge of the Superior Court shall file with the Kern County Elections Division a written and signed Declaration of Intent to become a candidate for that office and shall state for which of the numerically designated offices they intend to become a candidate.

If the incumbent fails to file a Declaration of Intent, persons other than the incumbent may file a Declaration of Intent during the extended period. (§8023, EC)

If the incumbent Judge of a Superior Court for any reason fails to submit the required nomination papers, an extended 5-day filing period is made available. Any person other than the incumbent, if otherwise qualified, may file for office during the extended period. No Declaration of Intent is required in this event. (§8204, EC)

NOMINATION DOCUMENTS

NOMINATION PERIOD:

Voter-Nominated/Nonpartisan Candidates: November 13 through December 8, 2023

EXTENSION PERIOD:

Voter-Nominated/Nonpartisan Candidates: December 12 through December 13, 2023

*(Extension period is for anyone other than the Incumbent – period extends if the Incumbent fails to file.
If the Incumbent is termed out or it is a vacant office there is no extension.
There is no extension period for Central Committee seats.)*

Candidates must obtain nomination forms from the Elections Division, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301. At the time of applying for the forms, the candidate must state the office for which they wish to run and must pay the filing fee. The Elections Division cannot issue any nomination papers until the filing fees are paid. Filing fees for **Nonpartisan Offices** must be paid by check and made payable to the **Auditor-Controller-County Clerk**. Filing fees for **Voter-Nominated Offices** must be **made payable to the Secretary of State**. **Filing fees are not refunded in the event the candidate fails to qualify**. Only "Official Filing Forms," issued by the Elections Division, containing the candidate's name and office for which the candidate is running, may be used for filing. (§§8101, 8105, EC)

The Declaration of Candidacy shall be obtained from, and delivered to, the elections office of the county in which the candidate resides and is a voter. A candidate shall not remove a Declaration of Candidacy form from the Elections Division; said form shall be completed in the Elections Division. A candidate may, in a written statement signed and dated by the candidate, designate a person to receive a Declaration of Candidacy form and deliver it to the candidate. Such statement shall indicate that the candidate is aware that the Declaration of Candidacy must be properly executed and delivered to the elections office in the county of the candidate's residence not later than 5:00 p.m., on the last day to file. (§§8028, 8064, EC)

It is suggested that prospective candidates for the coming election obtain the necessary forms as soon as possible on or after the first day to circulate and file, and that the papers be filed as soon as completed as to allow the Elections Division adequate time to review documents. **If the papers are found "Not Sufficient" after the 88th day, no additions or corrections can be made.** The Elections Division will assist any candidate in the proper preparation of their nomination documents.

In all cases it is suggested that more than the minimum number of signatures be obtained so that in case any are marked "Not Sufficient," there will be enough "Sufficient" signatures remaining to validate the nomination paper.

All expenditures of \$100 or more must be paid by check or other written instrument.
A candidate MAY NOT pay the filing fee in cash.

NOMINATION PAPERS: CIRCULATING, SIGNING, AND FILING

CIRCULATORS

A person shall not circulate a state or local initiative, referendum, or recall petition or nominating paper unless the person is 18 years of age or older. There is no party affiliation required of the circulator. (§102, 8066, EC)

An Elections Official or a Deputy Elections Official may not circulate nomination papers, and circulators shall not obtain signatures within 100 feet of any election booth or polling place. (§8452, EC)

NOTE: The office of the Elections Division is a polling place.

The Elections Official shall not accept any nomination paper for filing, unless all blanks in the certificate are filled in. (§8065 EC)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Nomination papers for a **Voter-Nominated Office** must be signed by voters residing within the district or political subdivision in which the candidate intends to run. (§8068, EC)

Nomination papers for a **Nonpartisan Office** must be signed by voters residing within the district or political subdivision in which the candidate intends to run. (§8068, EC)

Each signer of a nomination paper can sign only as many Nomination Papers as there are places to be filled for such office. No more signers shall be secured for any candidate than the maximum, nor less than the minimum, required for the office. (§§8062, 8067, 8069, EC)

A person signing a nomination paper should sign their name as they are registered, which is usually their first name, middle initial, and last name. Married women must sign their **legal** name and not that of their husband.

Each voter must sign and print their name on the nomination paper in the presence of the circulator, write in

the place of residence, giving street and residence number. Ditto marks cannot be used for residence or cities. It is important that the signer write in the above requirements. **Signers are cautioned to give their residence, and not their business or mailing address on nomination papers.**

When the desired number of signatures have been obtained, the circulator must swear to the declaration appearing at the end of each section of the nomination paper, indicating the dates between which all signatures were obtained, and return all sections to the candidate. The candidate must then return all sections to the elections office in the county in which the signers reside for examination or certification and filing. (§104, EC)

FILING NOMINATION DOCUMENTS

The Elections Division will not accept for filing any declaration or nomination paper unless all blanks are filled in. Any signature that does not appear in the same handwriting as appears on the affidavit of registration on file in the Elections Division (or for a party nominated office, for which the declaration of party affiliation is not in accordance with the declaration of party affiliation on such affidavit of registration) will be marked "Not Sufficient". (§§8065, 8081, EC)

All nomination papers for the Primary must be left with the Elections Division for examination and filing, or for examination, certification and forwarding to the Secretary of State. The last day to file is on Friday, **December 8, 2023** and the Elections Division will close promptly at 5:00 p.m., after which no nomination papers will be received. (§8020, EC)

NO CANDIDATE MAY WITHDRAW

No candidate whose Declaration of Candidacy has been filed for any Primary Election may withdraw as a candidate. (§8800, EC)

No candidate nominated at a Primary Election may withdraw as a candidate at the ensuing General Election, except those candidates permitted to withdraw pursuant to certain provisions of the Elections Code. (§8801, EC)

PARTY PREFERENCE

To be declared on the Declaration of Candidacy

Candidates for Voter-Nominated Offices:

(a) A candidate for a voter-nominated office shall indicate one of the following upon their declaration of candidacy, which shall be consistent with what appears on the candidate's most recent affidavit of registration:

(1) "Party Preference: _____ (insert the name of the qualified political party as disclosed upon your affidavit of registration)."

(2) "Party Preference: None (if you have declined to disclose a preference for a qualified political party upon your affidavit of registration)."

(b) The selection made by a candidate pursuant to subdivision (a) shall appear on the primary and general election ballot in conjunction with the candidate's name and shall not be changed between the primary and general election.

(c) Regardless of the party preference, or lack of party preference, of the candidate or the voter, any qualified voter may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated office if the voter is otherwise entitled to vote for candidates for the office to be filled. Nothing in Section 2151, 13102, or 13502 shall be construed to limit the ability of a voter to cast a primary election ballot for any candidate for a voter-nominated office,

regardless of the party preference, or lack of party preference, designated by the candidate for inclusion upon the ballot pursuant to this section, provided that the voter is otherwise qualified to cast a ballot for the office at issue.

(d) A candidate designating a party preference pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not be deemed to be the official nominee of the party designated as preferred by the candidate. A candidate's designation of party preference shall not be construed as an endorsement of that candidate by the party designated. The party preference designated by the candidate is shown for the information of the voters only and may in no way limit the options available to voters.

(e) All references to party preference or affiliation shall be omitted from all forms required to be filed by a voter-nominated candidate pursuant to this division in the same manner that such references are omitted from forms required to be filed by nonpartisan candidates pursuant to Section 8002, except that the declaration of candidacy required by Section 8040 shall include space for the candidate to list the party preference disclosed upon the candidate's most recent affidavit of registration, in accordance with subdivision (a). (§8002.5 EC)

PROVISION OF THE CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES **as found in Chapter 5 of Division 20 of the California Elections Code**

Chapter 5. Fair Campaign Practices **Article 1. General Intent**

20400 - The Legislature declares that the purpose of this chapter is to encourage every candidate for public office in this state to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

It is the ultimate intent of the Legislature that every candidate for public office in this state who subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices will follow the basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play in order that, after vigorously contested, but fairly conducted campaigns, the citizens of this state may exercise their constitutional right to vote, free from dishonest and unethical practices which tend to prevent the full and free expression of the will of the voters.

The purpose in creating the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is to give voters guidelines in determining fair play and to encourage candidates to discuss issues instead of untruths or distortions.

Article 2. Definitions

“Campaign Advertising or Communication” Definition

304. “Campaign advertising or communication” means a communication authorized by a candidate or a candidate's controlled committee, as defined in Section 82016 of the Government Code, or by a committee making independent expenditures, as defined in Section 82031 of the Government Code, or by a committee formed primarily to support or oppose a ballot measure, as defined in Section 82047.5 of the Government Code, for the purpose of advocating the election or defeat of a qualified candidate or ballot measure through any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, outdoor advertising facility, direct mailing, or any other type of general, public, political advertising.

“Candidate” Definition

305 (c) “Candidate for public office” means an individual who has qualified to have his or her name listed on the ballot of any election, or who has qualified to have written votes on his or her behalf counted by election officials, for nomination for, or election to, any state, regional, county, municipal, or district office which is filled at an election.

20420. - As used in this chapter, "Code" means the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

Article 3. Code of Fair Campaign Practices

20440. - At the time an individual is issued his or her declaration of candidacy, nomination papers, or any other paper evidencing an intention to be a candidate for public office, the elections official shall give the individual a blank form of the code and a copy of this chapter. The elections official shall inform each candidate for public office that subscription to code is voluntary.

In the case of a committee making an independent expenditure, as defined in Section 82031 of the Government Code, the Secretary of State shall provide a blank form and a copy of this chapter to the individual filing, in accordance with Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code, an initial campaign statement on behalf of the committee.

20441. - The Secretary of State shall print, or cause to be printed, blank forms of the code. The Secretary of State shall supply the forms to the elections officials in quantities and at times requested by the elections officials.

20442. - The elections official shall accept, at all times prior to the election, all completed forms that are properly subscribed to by a candidate for public office and shall retain them for public inspection until 30 days after the election.

20443. - Every code subscribed to by a candidate for public office pursuant to this chapter is a public record open for public inspection.

20444 - In no event shall a candidate for public office be required to subscribe to or endorse the code.

The text of the code shall read as follows:

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES (§ 20440)

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play which every candidate for public office in the State of California has a moral obligation to observe and uphold in order that, after vigorously contested but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their constitutional right to a free and untrammelled choice and the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

- (1) I SHALL CONDUCT my campaign openly and publicly, discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and criticizing without fear or favor the record and policies of my opponents or political parties that merit this criticism.
- (2) I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT the use of character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or his or her personal or family life.
- (3) I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT any appeal to negative prejudice based on a candidate's actual or perceived race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, sex, including gender identity, or any other characteristic set forth in Section 12940 of the Government Code, or association with another person who has any of the actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Section 12940 of the Government Code.

- (4) I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT any dishonest or unethical practice that tends to corrupt or undermine our American system of free elections, or that hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters including acts intended to hinder or prevent any eligible person from registering to vote, enrolling to vote, or voting.
- (5) I SHALL NOT coerce election help or campaign contributions for myself or for any other candidate from my employees.
- (6) I SHALL IMMEDIATELY AND PUBLICLY REPUDIATE support deriving from any individual or group that resorts, on behalf of my candidacy or in opposition to that of my opponent, to the methods and tactics that I condemn. I shall accept responsibility to take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.
- (7) I SHALL DEFEND AND UPHOLD the right of every qualified American voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of California or treasurer or chairperson of a committee making any independent expenditures, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct my campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Date

Signature

Candidate chooses not to sign. Clerks Initials: _____

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

(Filing Optional)

The law permits Candidates to file a Candidate’s Statement to be mailed with the Voter Pamphlet. Filing of the Statement is not mandatory, but is permissive if the candidate desires to file.

The Statement shall be prepared on a form provided by the Elections Division and the candidate shall file the Statement, if any, at the same time the nomination papers are filed.

Candidates must type the Candidate Statement in upper and lower-case type. Exercise caution as **neither grammar nor spelling** will be proofread or changed. All Statements will be printed in uniform style and size of type.

All costs of printing, handling, etc., shall be paid by the candidate upon filing the statement.

The provisions, conditions, and restrictions of the law are as follows:

Each candidate for nonpartisan elective office in any local agency may prepare a candidate’s statement on an appropriate form provided by the elections official. The statement may include the name, age and occupation of the candidate and a brief description of no more than 200 or 250 (depending on office filing for, refer to candidate pages for further information on requirements for candidate statements) words, of the candidate’s education and **qualifications expressed by the candidate himself or herself**. However, the governing body of the local agency may authorize an increase in the limitations on words for the statement from 200 to 400 words. The statement shall not include the party affiliation of the candidate, nor

membership or activity in partisan political organizations. The statement shall be filed in the office of the elections official when the candidate's nomination papers are returned for filing, if it is for a primary election, or for an election for offices for which there is no primary. The statement shall be filed in the office of the elections official no later than the 88th day before the election, if it is for an election for which nomination papers are not required to be filed. If a runoff election or general election occurs within 88 days of the primary or first election, the statement shall be filed with the elections official by the third day following the governing body's declaration of the results from the primary or first election. Except as provided in Elections Code Section 13309, the 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.

The elections official shall send to each voter, together with the sample ballot, a voter's pamphlet which contains the written statements of each candidate that is prepared pursuant to this section. The statement of each candidate shall be printed in type of uniform size and darkness, and with uniform spacing.

The local agency may estimate the total cost of printing, handling, translating, and mailing the candidate's statements filed pursuant to this section, including costs incurred as a result of complying with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended. The local agency may require each candidate filing a statement to pay in advance to the local agency his or her estimated pro rata share as a condition of having his or her statement included in the voter's pamphlet. In the event the estimated payment is required, the receipt for the payment shall include a written notice that the estimate is just an approximation of the actual cost that varies from one election to another election and may be significantly more or less than the estimate, depending on the actual number of candidates filing statements. Accordingly, the local agency is not bound by the estimate and may, on a pro rata basis, bill the candidate for additional actual expense or refund any excess paid depending on the final actual cost. In the event of underpayment, the local agency may require the candidate to pay the balance of the cost incurred. In the event of overpayment, the local agency which or the elections official who collected the estimated cost shall prorate the excess amount among the candidates and refund the excess amount paid within 30 days of the election. (§13307, EC)

Indigent:

If a candidate alleges to be indigent and unable to pay in advance the requisite fee for submitting a candidate statement, the candidate shall submit to the local agency a statement of financial worth to be used in determining whether or not he or she is eligible to submit a candidate statement without payment of the fee in advance.

The statement of financial worth shall be submitted by the candidate together with his or her candidate statement in accordance with the deadline specified in Section 13309 of the Elections Code. The statement of financial worth form shall be furnished by the local agency and may include questions relating to the candidate's employer, income, real estate holdings, tangible personal property, and financial obligations. The candidate shall certify the content of the statement as to its truth and correctness under penalty of perjury. The candidate shall also sign a release form of the candidate's most recent federal income tax report.

Upon receipt of a statement of financial worth, a determination shall be made by the local agency of whether or not the candidate is indigent and shall notify the candidate of its findings.

If it is determined that the candidate is not indigent the candidate shall within three days of the notification, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, withdraw the statement or pay the requisite fee. If the candidate fails to respond within the time prescribed, the local agency shall not be obligated to print and mail the statement.

If the local agency determines that the candidate is indigent the local agency shall print and mail the statement.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to make any statement or the authors thereof free or exempt from any civil or criminal action or penalty because of any false, slanderous or libelous statements offered for printing or contained in the voter's pamphlet. (§13307, EC)

ALL CANDIDATES

In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 13307, any candidate's statement submitted pursuant to Section 13307 shall be limited to a recitation of the candidate's own personal background and qualifications and shall not in any way make references to other candidates for that office or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities. The elections official shall not cause to be printed, posted on an Internet Web site, or circulated any statement that the elections official determines is not so limited or that includes any reference prohibited by this section. (§13308, EC)

CANDIDATE STATEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

Notwithstanding the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code), the statements filed pursuant to Section 13307 shall remain confidential until the expiration of the filing deadline. (§13311, EC)

COST OF FILING A CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

Each candidate that desires to file a statement will be required to make a deposit at the time of filing their statement, based upon the number of registered voters in the district for the office for which they are filing. If the actual costs are less than the deposit, the overage will be refunded to the candidate. Likewise, the candidate must sign an agreement to pay any additional billing if the costs exceed the deposit.

PLEASE NOTE: Estimated costs are based on one statement being filed per office. Final costs will vary if multiple candidates for the same office file statements and share in the associated costs.

RULES GOVERNING FILING OF CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

(§13307, 13307.5, 13308, 13309, 13311 and 13313)

The law permits the following Voter-Nominated offices to file an optional **250-word** Candidate's Statement to be mailed with the Voter Pamphlet:

Congressional Representatives

State Senate (if expenditure limits were accepted)

State Assembly (if expenditure limits were accepted)

The law permits the following Non-Partisan offices to file an optional **200-word** Candidate's Statement to be mailed with the Voter Pamphlet:

Superior Court Judges

County Seats: Board of Supervisors

The law permits the following Non-Partisan offices to file an optional **200-word** Candidate's Statement to be

mailed with the Voter Pamphlet:

City Offices (file with City Clerks)

Filing of Statement is not mandatory, but permissive if the candidate desires to file.

The Statement shall be prepared on a form provided by the Elections Official and the candidate shall file the Statement, if any, when the candidate files the Declaration of Candidacy or when the Candidate's Nomination papers are returned for filing or before the last day of the nomination period for a Candidate who has filed nomination papers in another county and is eligible to file in Kern County. Runoff Candidates must file a new Candidate Statement if they wish to have it included in the General Election Voter Pamphlet, the deadline is the 88th day before the General Election. Runoff candidates may use previous statement, but it must be refiled and paid for it to appear in the General Election Voter Pamphlet. It will not automatically appear.

Candidate's Statement must be typed in upper and lower-case type. All statements will be printed in uniform style and size of type.

All costs of printing, handling, translating, etc., shall be paid by the candidate.

The candidate's statement may include the name, age, and occupation of the candidate and a brief description of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate. Such statement shall not include the party affiliation of the candidate nor membership or activity in partisan political organizations. Such statement shall be filed in the Elections Office no later than the 88th day before the election. It may be withdrawn, but not changed, during the nomination period, and until 5 p.m. of the next working day after the close of nomination period.

The Elections Official shall send to each voter together with the sample ballot and a voter's pamphlet which contains the written statements of each candidate that is prepared pursuant to this section. The statement of each candidate shall be printed in type of uniform size and darkness and with uniform spacing. The Elections Official shall provide a Spanish translation for candidates.

The local agency may estimate the total cost of printing, handling, translating, and mailing the candidate's statement filed pursuant to this section, including costs incurred as a result of complying with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and may require each candidate filing a statement to pay in advance to the local agency his or her estimated pro rata share as a condition of having his or her statement included in the voter pamphlet. In the event of the underpayment, the Elections Official shall require the candidate to pay the balance of the costs incurred. In the event of overpayment, the Elections Official shall pro rate the excess share among the candidates paying estimated costs and refund the excess amount paid within 30 days of the election. If you believe that you may meet eligibility requirements to claim indigency status, please advise us and we will provide you with an application.

Nothing in this statement shall be deemed to make any such statement or the authors thereof free or exempt from any civil or criminal action or penalty because of any false, slanderous, or libelous statements offered for printing or contained in the voter pamphlet. (E.C. 13307)

Notwithstanding the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code), the statements filed pursuant to Section 13307 shall remain confidential until the expiration of the filing deadline. (E.C. 13311)

Any candidate in an election or incumbent in a recall election who knowingly makes a false statement of

material fact in a Candidate's statement, prepared pursuant to Section 13307 or 11327, with the intent to mislead the voters in connection with his or her campaign for nomination or election to a nonpartisan office is punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). (E.C. 18351)

In addition to the restrictions set forth in Section 13307, any candidate's statement submitted pursuant to Section 13307 shall be limited to a recitation of the candidate's own personal background and qualifications and shall not in any way make reference to other candidates for that office or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities. The elections official shall not cause to be printed, posted on an Internet Web site, or circulated any statement that the elections official determines is not so limited or that includes any reference prohibited by this section. (E.C. 13308)

Elections Division Policy

It is the policy of the Kern County Elections Division that if a candidate statement is determined not to be in compliance with the Elections Code, the Elections Division may: strike any language not in compliance, may not print or circulate the statement, or seek a writ of mandate or an injunction, requiring that the candidate statement be amended or deleted.

It is the policy of the Kern County Election Division that the candidate be fully responsible for ensuring that all spelling, punctuation, and grammar in a candidate statement are correct. The Elections Division is not responsible for proofreading, spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors.

It is the policy of the Kern County Elections Division that any named individual or specific organization listed as an endorsement in a candidate statement must be verified as endorsing the candidate prior to printing in the Voter Pamphlet. Verification of the endorsement must be in the form of a copy of a letter of endorsement, or in a direct communication from the endorser to the Elections Division in the form of an email or facsimile correspondence. All endorsements or verification of endorsements from an individual or organization of a candidate should be submitted by the candidate no later than five days after the end of the filing period.

Example A:

"... I am endorsed by County Supervisor John Doe, Senator Jane Smith, and the League of Women Voters."

The Elections Division would require an email, facsimile, or copy of the letter of endorsement from Supervisor Doe, Senator Smith, and the League of Women Voters to allow these endorsements to be printed.

Example B:

"... I am endorsed by police, firefighters, nurses, and teachers throughout Kern County."

The Elections Division would not require verification of the endorsement because the statement does not identify a specific individual or organization.

WORD COUNTING GUIDELINES FOR CANDIDATE STATEMENTS/ARGUMENTS/REBUTTALS & OTHER ENCLOSURES

(Elections Code Division 0.5 Preliminary Provisions,
Chapter 1. General Provisions, Section 9)

The following guidelines are used by the Kern County Elections Division for counting words on candidate statements, ballot measure text, arguments, rebuttals and other ballot enclosures. The guidelines do **not** apply to ballot designations for candidates except as incorporated in the California Code of Regulations Section 20714 (f). If the text exceeds the specified 200 or 250-word limit, the author will be asked to delete words or change text until the statement conforms with requirements.

PUNCTUATION MARKS	Punctuation marks are not counted. However, symbols such as “&” (and), and “#” (number/pound) are not considered punctuation and each symbol is counted as one (1) word.	“ ”, “ ”, “. ”
ALL PROPER NOUNS	All proper nouns, including the names of individuals, things, and Geographical names (requiring a defined jurisdiction) are counted as one (1) word.	"City of San Joaquin", "City and County of San Francisco", "George Washington"
ABBREVIATIONS and ACRONYMS	Acronyms or abbreviations for a word, phrase, or expression are counted as one (1) word.	CSUF, PTA, UCSF, U.S.M.C.
HYPHENATED WORDS	Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary published in the U.S. at any time within the last 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election are counted as one (1) word. Be aware that many word processing programs will count a hyphenated word as one word even if it does not fit these criteria.	Attorney-at-law, full-time (as an adjective), in-law
NUMERIC COMBINATIONS	Numeric combinations will be counted as one (1) word. Numeric combinations consisting of a combination of words and digits are counted as multiple words.	15000, 13 1/2, 5%, 06/01/1995, \$200,000 Six %, July 4, 2012, December Twenty-Fifth, \$15 million
TELEPHONE and FAX NUMBERS	Telephone and fax numbers are counted as (1) word.	(559) 600-8683, 1-800-345-VOTE
EMAIL ADDRESSES and WEBSITES	Email addresses and websites are counted as (1) word.	http://www.kernvote.com www.sos.ca.gov

DEFINITION OF A PROPER NOUN:

A word or group of words (such as “Noah Webster,” “California,” or “U.S. Congress”) that is the name of a particular person, place, or thing and that usually begins with a capital letter.

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS

The Conflict of Interest provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974, as amended, require that certain candidates file a Statement of Economic Interests no later than the final filing date for Declaration of Candidacy.

This article is applicable to elected state officers, judges and commissioners of courts of the judicial branch of government, members of the Public Utilities Commission, members of the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, members of the Fair Political Practices Commission, members of the California Coastal Commission, members of the High-Speed Rail Authority, members of planning commissions, members of the board of supervisors, district attorneys, county counsels, county treasurers, and chief administrative officers of counties, mayors, city managers, city attorneys, city treasurers, chief administrative officers and members of city councils of cities, and other public officials who manage public investments, and to candidates for any of these offices at any election. (§§87202, Gov. C.)

Every candidate for an office specified in Section 87200 other than a justice of an appellate court or the Supreme Court shall file no later than the final filing date of a declaration of candidacy, a statement disclosing the candidate's investments, the candidate's interests in real property, and any income received during the immediately preceding 12 months.

This statement shall not be required if the candidate has filed, within 60 days prior to the filing of the candidate's declaration of candidacy, a statement for the same jurisdiction pursuant to Section 87202 or 87203. (§87201, Gov. C.)

(a) Every person who is elected to an office specified in Section 87200 shall, within 30 days after assuming the office, file a statement disclosing the person's investments and the person's interests in real property held on the date of assuming office, and income received during the 12 months before assuming office. Every person who is appointed or nominated to an office specified in Section 87200 shall file such a statement not more than 30 days after assuming office, provided, however, that a person appointed or nominated to such an office who is subject to confirmation by the Commission on Judicial Appointments or the State Senate shall file such a statement no more than 10 days after the appointment or nomination. The statement shall not be required if the person has filed, within 60 days prior to assuming office, a statement for the same jurisdiction pursuant to Section 87203.

(b) Every elected state officer who assumes office during the month of December or January shall file a statement pursuant to Section 87203 instead of this section, except that:

(1) The period covered for reporting investments and interests in real property shall begin on the date the person filed the person's declarations of candidacy.

(2) The period covered for reporting income shall begin 12 months prior to the date the person assumed office.

Every person who leaves an office specified in Section 87200 shall, within thirty days after leaving the office, file a statement disclosing the person's investments, interests in real property, and income during the period since the previous statement filed under Sections 87202 or 87203. The statement shall include any investments and interests in real property held at any time during the period covered by the statement, whether or not they are still held at the time of filing. (§87203, Gov. C.)

Not required for US Senate Candidate, Congressional Candidates and Central Committee Candidates.

JUDICIAL CAMPAIGN ETHICS **ONLINE COURSE**

The Supreme Court of California in 2013 added a requirement to the Code of Judicial Ethics that every candidate for judicial office “complete a judicial campaign ethics course approved by the Supreme Court no earlier than one year before or no later than 60 days after either the filing of a declaration of intent by the candidate, the formation of a campaign committee, or the receipt of any campaign contribution, whichever is earliest.” (Canon 5B(3))

This 90-minute online course, approved by the Supreme Court and produced by CJER and the collaborative effort of the California Judges Association, the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Code of Judicial Ethics, and the California State Bar, satisfies that requirement.

Please contact the Judicial Council for more information on completing the online course:

Email: cjerpubs@jud.ca.gov

Website: <http://www2.courtinfo.ca.gov/protem/courses/judcampeth/>

WRITE-IN CANDIDACY

January 8 to February 20, 2024

WRITE-IN PROCEDURE

Persons who did not file a Declaration of Candidacy and fulfill their nomination requirements to place their name on the ballot may run for office as a write-in candidate. Write-in votes will be counted and certified in the Statement of Votes only for **qualified write-in candidates** who file the required forms with the Elections Office no later than 14 days prior to Election Day.

To qualify as a write-in candidate, a person must file with the Elections Division the following documents:

- A “**Statement of Write-in Candidacy**” which shall contain the candidate's name, residence address, a declaration stating that he or she is a write-in candidate, the title of the office for which he or she is running, the party nomination they seek (if it is a partisan office) and the date of the election.
- A “**Nomination Paper**” with the requisite number of sponsor signatures required for the office sought.

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. **No filing fee or charge shall be required of a write-in candidate.** (§8601-8605, EC)

Write-in candidates are subject to the same requirements as other candidates with regard to disclosure of economic interests and campaign disclosure and must file a form 700 by the write-in filing deadline. (§82007, Gov. C.; §305, EC)

Write-in Candidates do not complete a Candidate Statement of Qualifications for the Voter Pamphlet and their names do not appear on the ballot.

The Elections Division will provide polling places with a list of **qualified write-in candidates**.

COUNTING THE WRITE-IN VOTES

In order for a write-in vote to be valid, the voter must write the candidate's name in the space provided ***and completely fill in the oval***. The names of the official write-in candidates are provided at the polls. Vote by mail voters do not receive a list of write-in candidates because the filing period takes place after ballots have been mailed.

OFFICES OMITTED FROM BALLOT

Prospective write-in candidates should note that write-in candidacy is possible only if the office appears on the ballot.

WRITE-INS FOR VOTER-NOMINATED OFFICES

In order to have your name printed on the general election ballot for a voter-nominated office, the write in candidate must receive the highest number of votes cast for the office or the second highest number of votes cast for this office, unless there is a tie or a vacancy. (§8142, 8605, EC)

A person may not run as a write-in candidate at the General Election for a voter-nominated office. (§8600(c), EC)

ELECTION TO OFFICE

General Election Candidates

Only the two candidates for a voter-nominated office who receive the highest and second-highest numbers of votes cast at the primary shall appear on the ballot as candidates for that office at the ensuing general election. More than one candidate with the same party preference designation may participate in the general election pursuant to this subdivision. Notwithstanding the designation made by the candidate pursuant to Section 8002.5, no candidate for a voter-nominated office shall be deemed to be the official nominee for that office of any political party, and no party is entitled to have a candidate with its party preference designation participate in the general election unless such candidate is one of the two candidates receiving the highest or second-highest numbers of votes cast at the primary election. (§8141.5, EC)

Nonpartisan Office

A candidate for a nonpartisan office is elected at the Primary Election if that person receives a majority of the votes cast for that office. If no candidate for the office receives a majority of the votes cast, there will be a run-off contest at the November General Election between the two candidates with the highest votes at the Primary. (§§8140, 8141, EC)

BALLOT DESIGNATION

Candidates have the option of using a ballot designation. The Ballot Designation Worksheet shall be filed with the elections official at the same time that the candidate files his or her Declaration of Candidacy. In the event that a candidate fails to file a Ballot Designation Worksheet in accordance with subdivision (a), no designation shall appear under the candidate's name on the ballot.

The ballot designation that a candidate may use is governed by Elections Code Section 13107, which provides as follows:

(a) With the exception of candidates for Justice of the State Supreme Court or court of appeal, immediately under the name of each candidate, and not separated from the name by any line, unless the designation made by the candidate pursuant to Section 8002.5 must be listed immediately below the name of the candidate pursuant to Section 13105, and in that case immediately under the designation, may appear at the option of the candidate only one of the following designations:

(1) Words designating the elective city, county, district, state, or federal office which the candidate holds at the time of filing the nomination documents to which he or she was elected by vote of the people.

(2) The word "incumbent" if the candidate is a candidate for the same office which he or she holds at the time of filing the nomination papers and was elected to that office by a vote of the people.

(3) No more than three words designating either the current principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate, or the principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents.

(4) The phrase "appointed incumbent" if the candidate holds an office by virtue of appointment, and the candidate is a candidate for election to the same office, or, if the candidate is a candidate for election to the same office or to some other office, the word "appointed" and the title of the office. In either instance, the candidate may not use the unmodified word "incumbent" or any words designating the office unmodified by the word "appointed." However, the phrase "appointed incumbent" shall not be required of a candidate who seeks reelection to an office which he or she holds and to which he or she was appointed, as a nominated candidate, in lieu of an election, pursuant to Sections 5326 and 5328 of the Education Code or Section 7228, 7423, 7673, 10229, or 10515 of this code.

(b) (1) Except as specified in paragraph (2), for candidates for judicial office, immediately under the name of each candidate, and not separated from the name by any line, only one of the following designations may appear at the option of the candidate:

(A) Words designating the city, county, district, state, or federal office held by the candidate at the time of filing the nomination documents.

(B) The word "incumbent" if the candidate is a candidate for the same office that he or she holds at the time of filing the nomination papers.

(C) No more than three words designating either the current principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate, or the principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents.

(2) For a candidate for judicial office who is an active member of the State Bar employed by a city, county, district, state, or by the United States, the designation shall appear as one of the following:

(A) Words designating the actual job title, as defined by statute, charter, or other governing instrument.

(B) One of the following ballot designations: “Attorney,” “Attorney at Law,” “Lawyer,” or “Counselor at Law.” The designations “Attorney” and “Lawyer” may be used in combination with one other current principal profession, vocation, or occupation of the candidate, or the principal profession, vocation, or occupation of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents.

(3) A designation made pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) shall also contain relevant qualifiers, as follows:

(A) If the candidate is an official or employee of a city, the name of the city shall appear preceded by the words “City of.”

(B) If the candidate is an official or employee of a county, the name of the county shall appear preceded by the words “County of.”

(C) If the candidate is an official or employee of a city and county, the name of the city and county shall appear preceded by the words “City and County.”

(D) If the candidate performs quasi-judicial functions for a governmental agency, the full name of the agency shall be included.

(c) A candidate for superior court judge who is an active member of the State Bar and practices law as one of his or her principal professions shall use one of the following ballot designations as his or her ballot designation: “Attorney,” “Attorney at Law,” “Lawyer,” or “Counselor at Law.” The designations “Attorney” and “Lawyer” may be used in combination with one other current principal profession, vocation, or occupation of the candidate, or the principal profession, vocation, or occupation of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents.

(d) For purposes of this section, all California geographical names shall be considered to be one word. Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.

(e) The Secretary of State and any other elections official shall not accept a designation of which any of the following would be true:

(1) It would mislead the voter.

(2) It would suggest an evaluation of a candidate, such as outstanding, leading, expert, virtuous, or eminent.

(3) It abbreviates the word “retired” or places it following any word or words which it modifies.

(4) It uses a word or prefix, such as “former” or “ex-,” which means a prior status. The only exception is the use of the word “retired.”

- (5) It uses the name of any political party, whether or not it has qualified for the ballot.
- (6) It uses a word or words referring to a racial, religious, or ethnic group.
- (7) It refers to any activity prohibited by law.

(f) If, upon checking the nomination documents and the ballot designation worksheet described in Section 13107.3, the elections official finds the designation to be in violation of any of the restrictions set forth in this section, the elections official shall notify the candidate by registered or certified mail return receipt requested, addressed to the mailing address provided on the candidate's ballot designation worksheet.

(1) The candidate shall, within three days, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays, from the date he or she receives notice by registered or certified mail, or from the date the candidate receives actual notice of the violation, whichever occurs first, appear before the elections official or, in the case of the Secretary of State, notify the Secretary of State by telephone, and provide a designation that complies with subdivision (a) or (b).

(2) If a candidate fails to provide a designation that complies with subdivision (a) or (b) within the three-day period specified in paragraph (1), a designation shall not appear after the candidate's name.

(g) A designation given by a candidate shall not be changed by the candidate after the final date for filing nomination documents, except as specifically requested by the elections official as specified in subdivision (f) or as provided in subdivision (h). The elections official shall maintain a copy of the ballot designation worksheet for each candidate that appears on the ballot in the county for the same period of time as applied to nomination documents pursuant to Section 17100.

(h) The designation shall remain the same for all purposes of both primary and general elections, unless the candidate, at least 98 days before the general election, requests in writing a different designation which the candidate is entitled to use at the time of the request.

(i) In all cases, the words so used shall be printed in a manner consistent with the space requirements of Sections 13207 and 13211.

(j) If a foreign language translation of a candidate's designation is required under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), as amended, to appear on the ballot in addition to the English language version, it shall be as short as possible, as consistent as is practicable with this section, and shall employ abbreviations and initials wherever possible in order to avoid undue length.

Support Your Ballot Designation Using Ballot Designation Worksheet

It is the candidates responsibility to justify their proposed ballot designation and to provide all requested details.

- (a) A candidate who submits a ballot designation pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 13107 shall file a ballot designation worksheet that supports the use of that ballot designation by the candidate, in a format prescribed by the Secretary of State.
- (b) The ballot designation worksheet shall be filed with the Elections Official at the same time that the candidate files his or her Declaration of Candidacy.
- (c) In the event that a candidate fails to file a ballot designation worksheet in accordance with subdivision (a), no designation shall appear under the candidate's name on the ballot. (§13107.3, EC)

Use of the Term “Community Volunteer” as a Ballot Designation

A candidate's ballot designation as "community volunteer" shall constitute a valid principal vocation or occupation for purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 13107, if not otherwise in violation of any of the restrictions set forth in that section, and subject to the following conditions:

- (1) A candidate's community volunteer activities constitute his or her principal profession, vocation, or occupation.
- (2) A candidate is not engaged concurrently in another principal profession, vocation, or occupation.
- (3) A candidate may not use the designation of "community volunteer" in combination with any other principal profession, vocation, or occupation designation.
(EC §13107.5(a))

PRINTING OF CANDIDATE’S NAME ON BALLOT

The candidate’s name will be printed on the ballot exactly as it appears on the Declaration of Candidacy. If a candidate changes his or her name within one 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. (§13104, EC)

The ballot name should be recognizable as the name under which the candidate is registered.

- First, middle and last name.
- Initials only and last name.
- Middle name and last name – **NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
Must be preceded by first name - RICHARD “MARTY” SMITH cannot use MARTY SMITH (shortened version of middle name MARTIN).
- A nickname may be included but must appear after the first name and be in quotation marks “ ”. **NO parentheses ().**
- A short version of the first name is acceptable, such as “BILL” for WILLIAM, “DICK” for RICHARD or “KATHY” for KATHLEEN, “MANDO” for ARMANDO. So, name could be BILL JONES, instead of WILLIAM JONES (FIRST name).
- No title or degree shall appear on the same line on a ballot as a candidate name, either before or after the candidate’s name, in the case of any election to any office. (§13106, EC) (Note: Can be used on the candidate’s statement.)

Further examples: JOHN WILLIAM SMITH could use the following variations as JOHN SMITH, JOHN W. SMITH, JOHN WILLIAM “JOHNNY” SMITH, J.W. SMITH, J.W. “JOHNNY” SMITH, JOHN W. “BUD” SMITH, etc.

INCOMPATIBILITY OF OFFICES

Please note that it is not within the purview of this office to determine whether a candidate meets the requirements for holding office.

The Political Reform Act does not prohibit any office holder from holding multiple public offices or seeking more than one elective office. For example, a deputy district attorney can hold the office of city council member, or a water board director may also be elected to a park and recreation district. There are, however, instances of holding more than one office that are considered incompatible.

Elections Code §10603(c) states that no person shall file nomination papers for more than one school district office, including a county board of education office, at the same election. In addition, Elections Code §8003(b) states no person may file nomination papers for a party nomination and an independent nomination for the same office, or for more than one office at the same election.

The Declaration of Candidacy for statewide offices signed by the candidate under penalty of perjury declares: "I meet the statutory and constitutional qualifications for this office (including, but not limited to, citizenship, residency, and party preference, if required). If nominated/elected I will accept the nomination/office and not withdraw." (§8040, EC)

The Declaration of Candidacy for nonpartisan offices signed by the candidate under penalty of perjury declares: "If elected, I will qualify and accept the office of _____ and serve to the best of my ability." (§10511, EC)

There is no single statute that defines "incompatibility of offices". The common law doctrine of incompatibility of offices, however, prevents an elected official from holding two offices simultaneously ***if the offices have overlapping and conflicting public duties***. (§1099, Gov. C)

The courts have defined this concept as follows: "One individual may not simultaneously hold two public offices where the functions of the offices concerned are inherently inconsistent, as where there are conflicting interests, or where the nature of the duties of the two offices is such as to render it improper due to considerations of public policy for one person to retain both."

The State of California Attorney General's Office has issued many opinions of particular compatibility questions. Here are six examples of incompatible offices:

1. The offices of city councilman and school district board member where the city and the school district have territory in common;
2. Fire chief of a county fire protection district and member of the board of supervisors of the same county;
3. High school district trustee and trustee of an elementary school district which is wholly within the geographic boundaries of the high school district;
4. Water district director and a city council member;
5. Water district director and a school district trustee having territory in common; and
6. Deputy sheriff and county supervisor.

If you have a question about whether two public offices which you hold or seek to hold would be considered incompatible, contact the Attorney General's office at (916) 324-5437 or visit their website, www.oag.ca.gov. For further information about conflict of interest or incompatibility of offices, contact the Fair Political Practices Commission's website at www.fppc.ca.gov, or phone toll free 1 (866) 275-3772.

TOP-TWO OPEN PRIMARY ACT

On June 8, 2010, California voters approved Proposition 14, which created the "Top-Two Open Primary Act".

The "Top-Two Open Primary Act" changes the way elections are conducted for all statewide offices including:

Governor	Controller	State Senator
Lt. Governor	Insurance Commissioner	State Assembly
Secretary of State	Board of Equalization	U.S. Senator
State Treasurer	U.S. Representatives	Attorney General

Prior to the "Top-Two Open Primary Act", candidates running for partisan office appeared only on their own party's ballot. The top vote-getter from each qualified political party and any candidates who qualified using the independent nomination process would then move on to the general election.

Now, under the "Top-Two Open Primary Act", all candidates running, regardless of their party preference, will appear on a single combined ballot, and voters can vote for any candidate from any political party. The "Top-Two Open Primary Act" would not affect the election of President or County Central Committees, which are still party specific contests.

The "Top-Two Open Primary Act" requires that only the two candidates for voter-nominated offices who receive the highest and second-highest number of votes cast at the primary shall appear on the ballot as candidates at the ensuing general election. (§8141.5, EC)

Nonpartisan offices such as judges, schools, special districts, municipalities and the Superintendent of Public Instruction would remain open to all eligible voters.

Quick facts about the "Top-Two Open Primary Act"

What does this mean for the Voter?

It changes the way candidates are elected in a primary election.

There are three types of candidate contests

1) Party-Nominated (Formerly known as Partisan)

Party-Nominated offices are contests in which the nominee is selected by the political party. Only registered voters in that political party can vote for that party's candidate on the ballot.

Who can vote: Only voters registered with the same party preference as the candidate. (Except parties who allow nonpartisan voters to cross-over and join their primary).

Party Nominated Offices: U.S. President and County Central Committees.

Who advances to the general: Presidential contest only, the top vote-getters in each party.

2) Voter-Nominated

Voter-Nominated offices are contests in which the nominee is selected by the voter. In voter-nominated contests, any voter can vote for any candidate, regardless of party.

Who can vote: All voters, regardless of party preference, will receive ballots containing listings of all candidates running for each office. Candidates may also choose to have their party preference or lack of party preference printed on the ballot.

Voter-Nominated Offices: Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Controller, State Insurance Commissioner, State Board of Equalization, Attorney General, State Senator, State Assembly, US Senator, and US Representative.

Who advances to the general election: The top-two vote-getters, regardless of party preference.

3) Nonpartisan

A Nonpartisan office is an office in which no political party nominates a candidate. Judicial, school, county and municipal offices are examples of nonpartisan offices.

Who can vote: All voters, regardless of party preference.

Nonpartisan Offices: Superintendent of Public Instruction, Superior Court Judges, County Offices, Municipal Offices, Schools and Special Districts.

Who advances to the general: In majority vote contests, candidates that receive a majority of the votes win outright in the primary. If no candidate receives a majority of the vote, then the top-two vote-getters move on to the general election.

How does this affect write-in candidates?

- You may write in a qualified write-in candidate's name on the ballot in a primary election contest.
- In the general election, you may only write-in a qualified candidates name in a party-nominated or nonpartisan contest. Write-in votes are not allowed in a voter-nominated general election.

ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS

WHERE:

Ballots will be delivered to and tabulated at the central counting center located at:

Kern County Elections Office
1115 Truxtun Ave., 1st Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301

ELECTION NIGHT RETURNS:

Results will be posted shortly after 8 pm and continuously updated until the last polling place ballot is counted. The first results released on election night will be from the vote by mail returns. For results, please visit: www.KernVote.com.

SEMI OFFICIAL RESULTS:

Once the last polling place ballot is counted, the Semi-Official Results will be released and available at the Elections Division, from KernVote.com, and on KGOV.

FINAL OFFICIAL RESULTS:

The official canvass of returns will begin no later than the Thursday following Election Day and by law must be completed no later than the 30th day following the election.

Upon completion of the official canvass, the final results will be certified by the elections official and made available KernVote.com.

INFORMATION PROVIDED TO VOTERS REGARDING ROBOCALLS

ROBOCALL INFORMATION SHEET (*)

1) What is a robocall?

- A robocall is a recorded message delivered to your phone by an automatic dialing announcing device (ADAD). These devices store thousands of telephone numbers and then dial them automatically and play the message.

2) When and how can an ADAD be used legally?

- ADADs can be used between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. California time.
- The recording must be introduced by a live person and the person called must give their consent to hear the recorded message.
- The following companies and agencies may use ADADs without the introduction by a live person, outside the specified time period, and without the call recipient's consent to hear the recorded message:
 - i. School regarding pupil attendance
 - ii. Bank for contacting its members
 - iii. Cable company regarding previously arranged appointment times
 - iv. Private or public utility regarding previously arranged facilities installations, or notification of emergency actions, public safety repairs, or restoration of services.
 - v. Petroleum refinery, chemical processing plant or nuclear power plant in regard to a life-threatening emergency
 - vi. Fire protection agency, public health agency, public environmental agency, or an agent acting on their behalf when providing information regarding public safety, police or fire emergencies or warnings of emergencies
 - vii. A known party, business party, customer or any other person the call recipient has a relationship or understanding with, or from whom the call recipient had agreed beforehand to receive the ADAD call

3) What about ADAD messages received during election periods from candidates or involving election issues?

- These calls must follow relevant state and federal laws. Laws about using ADADs in California are in the Public Utilities Code, Sections 2871-2876.

4) What can I do if I receive or answer an unwanted robocall?

- Utilize a caller ID service. While such a service is not always perfect in identifying telephone numbers, it allows you to screen calls and then not answer calls from telephone numbers you do not recognize.
- If you answer a telephone call and it is a robocall, immediately hang up the phone. Do not press any buttons on your phone even if you are told doing so will prevent these calls in the future.

5) Where can I get more information regarding ADADs and robocalls and how to prevent them?

- The Federal Trade Commission has information on its website: (www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0025-robocalls)
- The Federal Communications Commission has information on its website: (www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/robocalls)
- Adding your telephone number to the National Do Not Call Registry can prohibit calls to your telephone number unless you have given prior consent to be contacted. The National Do Not Call Registry is at: <https://www.donotcall.gov/>

6) Where can I file a complaint about a robocall?

- You can file a complaint with the Federal Communication Commission at: <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov>
- You can file a complaint with the Federal Trade Communication at: <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov>

(*) Note: This is an excerpt from California Public Utilities Commission web portal: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>

REGULATIONS/PROHIBITIONS CONCERNING POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

Political Advertising Disclaimers, go to the Fair Political Practices Commission

Website for information: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn.html> (under Learn - select Campaign Rules)

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

Every person who subscribes to any nomination petition a fictitious name, or who intentionally subscribes thereto the name of another, or who causes another to subscribe such a name to such a petition is guilty of a felony. (§18200, EC)

No person shall falsely make or fraudulently deface or destroy all or any part of a nomination paper. (§18201, EC)

Every person acting on behalf of a candidate is guilty of a misdemeanor who deliberately fails to file at the proper time and in the proper place any nomination paper or declaration of candidacy in his or her possession, entitled to be filed under the provisions of this code. (§18202, EC)

No person shall file or submit for filing a nomination paper or Declaration of Candidacy knowing that it or any part of it has been made falsely. (§18203, EC)

No person shall willfully suppress all or any part of a nomination paper or Declaration of Candidacy either before or after filing. (§18204, EC)

A person shall not directly or through any other person advance, pay, solicit, or receive or cause to be advanced, paid, solicited, or received, any money or other valuable consideration to or for the use of any person in order to induce a person not to become or to withdraw as a candidate for public office. (§18205, EC)

Any paid political advertisement which refers to an election or to any candidate for State or Local elective office and which is contained in or distributed with a newspaper, shall bear on each surface or page thereof, 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". Such words shall be set apart from any other printed matter.

As used in this section "paid political advertisement" shall mean and shall be limited to, published statements paid for by advertisers for purposes of supporting or defeating any person who has filed for an elective state or local office. (§20008, EC)

MASS MAILINGS

Government Code 82041.5

"Mass mailing" means over two hundred substantially similar pieces of mail, but it 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) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee shall not 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 that is in a color or print that 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 candidate's, candidate

controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate's, or political party committee's address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate or a political party committee, shall not send a mass mailing that is not required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84504.2 unless the name, street address, and city of the committee is 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 that is in a color or print that 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 committee'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) (1) A candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee shall not send a mass electronic mailing unless the name of the candidate or committee is shown in the electronic mailing preceded by the words "Paid for by" in at least the same size font as a majority of the text in the electronic mailing.

(2) A committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate or a political party committee, shall not send a mass electronic mailing that is not required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84502 or 84504.3 unless the name of the committee is shown in the electronic mailing preceded by the words "Paid for by" in at least the same size font as a majority of the text in the electronic mailing.

(d) 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) or (c).

(e) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Mass electronic mailing" means sending more than 200 substantially similar pieces of electronic mail within a calendar month. "Mass electronic mailing" does not include a communication that was solicited by the recipient, including, but not limited to, acknowledgments for contributions or information that the recipient communicated to the organization.

(2) "Sender" means the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee who pays for the largest portion of expenditures attributable to the designing, printing, and posting of the mailing which are reportable pursuant to Sections 84200 to 84216.5, inclusive.

(3) To "pay for" a share of the cost of a mass mailing means to make, to promise to make, or to incur an obligation to make, any payment: (A) to any person for the design, printing, postage, materials, or other costs of the mailing, including salaries, fees, or commissions, or (B) as a fee or other consideration for an endorsement or, in the case of a ballot measure, support or opposition, in the mailing.

(f) This section does not apply to a mass mailing or mass electronic mailing that is paid for by an independent expenditure.

Every person who violates the provisions of Section 84305 of the Government Code relating to mass mailing is subject to the penal provisions set forth in Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000) of Title 9 of the Government Code. (§18303, EC)

Government Code 84305.7

(a) If a slate mailer organization sends a slate mailer or other mass mailing that displays a logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark that is identical or substantially similar to the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark of a governmental agency, and that would reasonably be understood to imply the participation or endorsement of that governmental agency, the slate mailer organization shall obtain express written consent from the governmental agency associated with the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark prior to using the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark in the slate mailer or other mass mailing.

(b) If a slate mailer organization sends a slate mailer or other mass mailing that displays a logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark that is identical or substantially similar to the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark of a nongovernmental organization that represents law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety personnel, and that would reasonably be understood to imply the participation or endorsement of that nongovernmental organization, the slate mailer organization shall obtain express written consent from the nongovernmental organization associated with the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark prior to using the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark in the slate mailer or other mass mailing.

(c) If a slate mailer organization sends a slate mailer or other mass mailing that identifies itself or its source material as representing a nongovernmental organization with a name that includes the term “peace officer,” “reserve officer,” “deputy,” “deputy sheriff,” “sheriff,” “police,” “highway patrol,” “California Highway Patrol,” “law enforcement,” “firefighter,” “fire marshal,” “paramedic,” “emergency medical technician,” “public safety,” or any other term that would reasonably be understood to imply that the nongovernmental organization is composed of, represents, or is affiliated with, law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety personnel, the slate mailer or mass mailing shall disclose the total number of law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety members in the nongovernmental organization identified in the slate mailer or mass mailing, as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision (d). If the slate mailer organization is not composed of or does not represent any members who are law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety personnel, the slate mailer or mass mailing shall disclose that the slate mailer organization does not represent public safety personnel, as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d).

(d) A disclosure pursuant to subdivision (c) shall include one of the following statements:

(1) If the slate mailer organization represents public safety personnel members: “This organization represents ____ public safety personnel.” The slate mailer organization shall fill in the blank part of the statement with the number of public safety personnel members it represents.

(2) If the slate mailer organization does not represent public safety personnel members: “This organization does not represent any public safety personnel.”

(e) A disclosure pursuant to subdivision (d) shall be in a format that satisfies all of the following:

(1) Printed in roman type that is no less than 14-point font.

(2) Located on the outside of the slate mailer or mass mailing within one-half of an inch of the recipient’s name and address.

(3) Contained in a box with an outline that has a line weight of at least 3.25 pt. The background color of the box shall be in a contrasting color to the background of the slate mailer or mass mailing. The outline of the box shall be in a contrasting color to both the background color of the mailing and the background color of the box. The color of the text of the disclosure shall be in a contrasting color to the background color of the box.

(f) (1) For purposes of subdivision (c), “member” means any of the following:

(A) A person who, pursuant to a specific provision of an organization’s articles or bylaws, may vote directly or indirectly for the election of a director or officer or for the disposition of all or substantially

all of the assets of the organization in a merger or dissolution.

(B) A person designated as a member in the articles or bylaws of an organization that is tax exempt under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)) and who has the right to vote to change the organization's articles or bylaws or has paid dues to the organization.

(C) Members of a local union are considered to be members of any national or international union of which the local union is a part and of any federation with which the local, national, or international union is affiliated.

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

It is unlawful for any person that includes in any part of its name the name of any political party that was qualified to participate in the last preceding primary election, to directly or indirectly solicit funds for any purpose whatsoever upon the representation either express or implied that the funds are being solicited for the use of that political party unless that person shall have previously obtained the written consent of one of the following: a member of the national committee from California or the majority of the members of the national committee if there are more than two national committee members from California, chairman of the state central committee, executive committee of the state central committee, or executive committee of the county central committee of the party whose name is being used in that county in which the solicitation is being made. If the county central committee of the party does not have an executive committee, the written consent of the chairman and secretary of that county central committee is sufficient.

All persons soliciting funds in accordance with this section shall be furnished with adequate credentials bearing the name of the solicitor and a copy of the written consent that bears the signature of the person authorizing the solicitation. (§20201, EC)

CAMPAIGN LITERATURE

Use of Seal in Campaign Literature – Elections Code § 18304

(a) Any person who uses or allows to be used any reproduction or facsimile of the seal of the county or the seal of a local government agency in any campaign literature or mass mailing, as defined in Section 82041.5 of the Government Code, with intent to deceive the voters, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) For purposes of this section, the use of a reproduction or facsimile of a seal in a manner that creates a misleading, erroneous, or false impression that the document is authorized by a public official is evidence of intent to deceive.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "local government agency" means a school district, special or other district, or any other board, commission, or agency of local jurisdiction.

AUTHORIZATION TO USE CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE NAME

It is unlawful for any person who solicits funds for the purpose of supporting or promoting any candidate or committee to include in any part of its name, the name of that candidate, or committee unless that person shall have previously obtained the authorization of the candidate or committee or the candidate's or committee's designated agent to use the candidate's or committee's name in the name of that person.

Authorization by a candidate or committee shall not be construed as rendering the person soliciting funds a controlled committee as defined by Section 82016 of the Government Code. (§20202, EC)

NOTICE OF NON-AUTHORIZATION TO BE INCLUDED IN FUND RAISING COMMUNICATION

Any person who solicits or receives contributions on behalf of any candidate or committee for the purported and exclusive use of that committee or the candidate's election campaign and who is not authorized by the candidate or committee or the candidate's or committee's designated agent to do so, shall include a notice in any fundraising communication, whether through any broadcasting station, newspapers, magazine, printed literature, direct mailing, or any other type of general public advertising, or through telephone or individual oral fundraising appeal, clearly and conspicuously stating that the person is not authorized by the candidate or committee and that the candidate or committee is not responsible for the actions of that person. (§20203, EC)

FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION TO VOTERS

Every person is guilty of a misdemeanor who, with intent to mislead the voters in connection with his or her campaign for nomination or election to a public office or in connection with the campaign of another person for nomination or election to a public office, does either of the following acts:

(a) Assume, pretend, or imply, by his or her statements or conduct, that he or she is the incumbent of a public office when that is not the case.

(b) Assume, pretend, or imply, by his or her statements or conduct, that he or she is or has been acting in the capacity of a public officer when that is not the case.

Any violation of this section may be enjoined in a civil action brought by any candidate for the public office involved. (§18350, EC)

No candidate or committee in his or her behalf shall represent in connection with an election campaign, either orally or in campaign material, that the candidate has the support of a committee or organization that includes as part of its name the name or any variation upon the name of a qualified political party with which the candidate is not affiliated, together with the words "county committee," "central committee," "county," or any other term that might tend to mislead the voters into believing that the candidate has the support of that party's county central committee or state central committee, when that is not the case.

This section shall not be construed to prevent a candidate or committee from representing that the candidate has the support of a committee or group of voters affiliated with another political party, which committee or group is identified by the name of that party, where the name of the committee or group also includes the name of the candidate.

Any member of a county central committee or state central committee may commence an action in the superior court to enjoin misrepresentation by a candidate or committee in his or her behalf, in the manner prohibited by this section, to the effect that the candidate has the support of the state or county central committee involved. (§20007, EC)

(a) Every simulated ballot or simulated county voter information guide shall bear on each surface or page thereof, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type or 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:

"NOTICE TO VOTERS"
(Required by Law)

"This is not an official ballot or an official county voter information guide prepared by the county elections official or the Secretary of State.

"This is an unofficial, marked ballot prepared by ____ (insert name and address of the person or organization responsible for preparation thereof)."

This section shall not be construed as requiring this notice in any editorial or other statement appearing in a regularly published newspaper or magazine other than a paid political advertisement.

(b) A simulated ballot or simulated county voter information guide referred to in subdivision (a) shall not bear an official seal or the insignia of a public entity, and that seal or insignia shall not appear upon the envelope in which it is mailed or otherwise delivered.

(c) The superior court, in a case brought before it by a registered voter, may issue a temporary or permanent restraining order or injunction against the publication, printing, circulation, posting, or distribution of any matter in violation of this section, and all cases of this nature shall be in a preferred position for purposes of trial and appeal, so as to assure the speedy disposition of cases of this nature.

(§20009, EC)

In addition to any other penalty, a person who prints or otherwise duplicates, or causes to be printed or duplicated, a simulated ballot or simulated county voter information guide that does not contain the statement required by Section 20009, or that uses an official seal or insignia in violation of Section 20009, is guilty of a misdemeanor. (§18301, EC)

(a) A person is guilty of a misdemeanor who knowingly causes to be mailed or distributed, or knowingly mails or distributes, literature to a voter that includes a designation of the voter's precinct polling place other than a precinct polling place listed for that voter in an official precinct polling list that constituted the latest official precinct polling list at sometime not more than 30 days prior to the mailing or distribution.

(b) A person is guilty of a misdemeanor who, with actual knowledge and intent to deceive, causes to be distributed or distributes, including distribution by mail, radio or television broadcast, telephone call, text message, email, or any other electronic means, including over the Internet, literature or any other form of communication to a voter that includes any of the following:

(1) The incorrect location of a vote center, office of an elections official, satellite office of an elections official where voting is permitted, vote by mail ballot drop box, or vote by mail ballot drop-off location.

(2) False or misleading information regarding the qualifications to vote or to register to vote.

(3) False or misleading information regarding the qualifications to apply for, receive, or return a vote by mail ballot.

(4) False or misleading information regarding the date of an election or the days, dates, or times voting may occur at a place described in paragraph (1). (§18302, EC)

ELECTIONEERING

(a) "Electioneering" means the visible display or audible dissemination of information that advocates for or against any candidate or measure on the ballot within the 100-foot limit specified in subdivision (b). Prohibited electioneering information or activity includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(1) A display of a candidate's name, likeness, or logo.

(2) A display of a ballot measure's number, title, subject, or logo.

(3) Buttons, hats, pencils, pens, shirts, signs, or stickers containing electioneering information.

(4) Dissemination of audible electioneering information.

(5) Obstructing access to, loitering near, or disseminating visible or audible electioneering information at vote by mail ballot drop boxes.

- (b) The activities described in subdivision (a) are prohibited within 100 feet of either of the following:
- (1) The entrance to a building that contains a polling place as defined by Section 338.5, an elections official's office, or a satellite location specified in Section 3018.
 - (2) An outdoor site, including a curbside voting area, at which a voter may cast or drop off a ballot. (§319.5, EC)
- (a) A person shall not, on election day, or at any time that a voter may be casting a ballot, within the 100 foot limit specified in subdivision (b), do any of the following:
- (1) Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, or nomination petition or any other petition.
 - (2) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking the voter's ballot.
 - (3) Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of the voter's qualifications except as provided in Section 14240.
 - (4) Do any electioneering as defined by Section 319.5.
- (b) The activities described in subdivision (a) are prohibited within 100 feet of either of the following:
- (1) The entrance to a building that contains a polling place as defined by Section 338.5, an elections official's office, or a satellite location specified in Section 3018.
 - (2) An outdoor site, including a curbside voting area, at which a voter may cast or drop off a ballot.
- (c) A person shall not, on election day, or at any time that a voter may be casting a ballot, do any of the following within the immediate vicinity of a voter in line to cast a ballot or drop off a ballot:
- (1) Solicit a vote.
 - (2) Speak to a voter about marking the voter's ballot.
 - (3) Disseminate visible or audible electioneering information.
- (d) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. (§18370, EC)

INTIMIDATION OF VOTERS

Every person who makes use of or threatens to make use of any force, violence, or tactic of coercion or intimidation, to induce or compel any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election or to vote or refrain from voting for any particular person or measure at any election, or because any person voted or refrained from voting at any election or voted or refrained from voting for any particular person or measure at any election is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months or two or three years.

Every person who hires or arranges for any other person to make use of or threaten to make use of any force, violence, or tactic of coercion or intimidation, to induce or compel any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election or to vote or refrain from voting for any particular person or measure at any election, or because any person voted or refrained from voting at any election or voted or refrained from voting for any particular person or measure at any election is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months or two or three years. (§18540, EC)

(a) A person shall not, with the intent of dissuading another person from voting, within the 100 foot limit specified in subdivision (b), do any of the following:

- (1) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking the voter's ballot.
- (2) Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of the voter's qualifications except as provided in Section 14240.
- (3) Photograph, video record, or otherwise record a voter entering or exiting a polling place.
- (4) Obstruct ingress, egress, or parking.

(b) The activities described in subdivision (a) are prohibited within 100 feet of either of the following:

(1) The entrance to a building that contains a polling place as defined by Section 338.5, an elections official's office, or a satellite location specified in Section 3018.

(2) An outdoor site, including a curbside voting area, at which a voter may cast or drop off a ballot.

(c) A person shall not, with the intent of dissuading another person from voting, do any of the following within the immediate vicinity of a voter in line to cast a ballot or drop off a ballot:

- (1) Solicit a vote.
- (2) Speak to a voter about marking the voter's ballot.
- (3) Disseminate visible or audible electioneering information.

(d) A violation of this section is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 12 months, or in state prison. Any person who conspires to violate this section is guilty of a felony. (§18541, EC)

Any person in possession of a firearm or any uniformed peace officer, private guard, or security personnel or any person who is wearing a uniform of a peace officer, guard, or security personnel, who is stationed in the immediate vicinity of, or posted at, a polling place without written authorization of the appropriate city or county elections official is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months or two or three years, or a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.

This section shall not apply to any of the following:

- (1) An unarmed uniformed guard or security personnel who is at the polling place to cast his or her vote.
- (2) A peace officer who is conducting official business in the course of his or her public employment or who is at the polling place to cast his or her vote.
- (3) A private guard or security personnel hired or arranged for by a city or county elections official.
- (4) A private guard or security personnel hired or arranged for by the owner or manager of the facility or property in which the polling place is located if the guard or security personnel is not hired or arranged solely for the day on which an election is held. (§18544, EC)

BALLOT SECRECY

Any person other than an elections official or a member of the precinct board who receives a voted ballot from a voter or who examines or solicits the voter to show their voted ballot is punishable by a fine not

exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years, or in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment. This section does not apply to persons returning a vote by mail ballot pursuant to Section 3017 or persons assisting a voter pursuant to Section 14282. (§18403, EC)

POLITICAL SIGNS

The placement of political signs may be regulated by the State, County, or City depending upon the location of such signs. Candidates need to check with the City Clerk of the City in which they wish to place political signs to make sure such signs are not in violation of any city ordinance, see page [insert page] for City Clerk contact information].

KERN COUNTY ORDINANCE CODE

19.84.100 - Design and development standards—Temporary campaign signs.

Temporary political, religious and civic campaign signs may be erected for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days and shall comply with the following standards:

- A. The signs shall be removed within fifteen (15) days following the conclusion of the campaign.
- B. In residential districts, each sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area or a height of four (4) feet.

19.34.110 - Signs.

- A. The following signs are permitted in the CH district in accordance with Chapter 19.84 of this title:
 - 1. Temporary real estate signs advertising the property for sale or rent, not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet, excluding the area of any vertical and/or horizontal support members;
 - 2. Temporary construction signs;
 - 3. Temporary political, religious, or civic campaign signs;
 - 4. Institutional identification signs;
 - 5. Wall signs attached to buildings;
 - 6. Monument signs, not to exceed forty-eight (48) square feet each;
 - 7. Pole signs, not to exceed two hundred forty (240) square feet in area each and not exceeding a height of thirty-five (35) feet;
 - 8. Off-site advertising signs, not exceeding a height of thirty-five (35) feet.

19.22.110 - Signs.

The following types of signs are permitted in the R-3 district in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 19.84 of this title:

- A. Apartment or bed and breakfast identification signs, not exceeding thirty-six (36) square feet;
- B. Temporary real estate signs advertising the property for sale or rent, not to exceed eight (8) square feet, excluding the area of any vertical and/or horizontal support members;
- C. Temporary subdivision signs;
- D. Permanent subdivision signs;
- E. Temporary construction signs;
- F. Temporary political, religious, and civic campaign signs;
- G. Institutional identification signs, approved in conjunction with a conditional use permit.

19.06.020 - Authority to administer.

The planning director shall be vested with the authority to administer this title. In the course of these duties, the planning director shall have the authority to interpret the provisions of this title. Where there is a question as to the meaning or the intent of any requirement of this title, including interpretations of conditions of approval required in conjunction with the approval of any ministerial or discretionary permit authorized therein, the planning director shall provide any necessary interpretation, and the decision of the planning director shall be final.

On State roadways, a “Statement of Responsibility for Temporary Political Signs” is required to be filed with the State Department of Transportation.

For further laws and regulations on political signs, please visit the following:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov>

City of Bakersfield Municipal Code:

Title 17 Zoning - Chapter 17.60 Signs at: <https://bakersfield.municipal.codes/Code/17>

Political Advertising Disclaimers, go to the Fair Political Practices Commission website for information:

<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn.html> (under Learn - select Campaign Rules)

Information Regarding Voting by Mail for Voters

Personally delivered ballots: Must be delivered by close of polls on March 5, 2024 to the Kern County Elections Office, or to any polling place.

Mailed ballots: Must be postmarked on or before March 5, 2024 and received by our office no later than March 12, 2024.

Any vote by mail voter who is unable to return their ballot, may designate any person to return their ballot for them. (§§3017, 3020, EC)

INFORMATION REGARDING VOTING BY MAIL
(For candidates and campaigns)**VOTER FILE INFORMATION**

To purchase voter registration information, contact the Elections Office. It will be necessary for you to complete the Application, pay the fee for the items ordered, and show proper identification.

(a) Except as provided in Section 2194.1, the affidavit of voter registration information identified in Section 7924.000 of the Government Code:

(1) Shall be confidential and shall not appear on any computer terminal, list, affidavit, duplicate affidavit, or other medium routinely available to the public at the county elections official’s office.

(2) Shall not be used for any personal, private, or commercial purpose, including, but not limited to:

(A) The harassment of any voter or voter’s household.

(B) The advertising, solicitation, sale, or marketing of products or services to any voter or voter's household.

(C) Reproduction in print, broadcast visual or audio, or display on the internet or any computer terminal unless pursuant to paragraph (3).

(3) Shall be provided with respect to any voter, subject to the provisions of Sections 2166, 2166.5, 2166.7, and 2188, to any candidate for federal, state, or local office, to any committee for or against any initiative or referendum measure for which legal publication is made, and to any person for election, scholarly, journalistic, or political purposes, or for governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State.

(4) May be used by the Secretary of State for the purpose of educating voters pursuant to Section 12173 of the Government Code.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, the California driver's license number, the California identification card number, the social security number, and any other unique identifier used by the State of California for purposes of voter identification shown on the affidavit of voter registration of a registered voter, or added to voter registration records to comply with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), are confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law, the signature of the voter shown on the affidavit of voter registration or an image thereof is confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person, except as provided in subdivision (c).

(c) (1) The home address or signature of any voter shall be released whenever the person's vote is challenged pursuant to Sections 15105 to 15108, inclusive, or Article 3 (commencing with Section 14240) of Chapter 3 of Division 14. The address or signature shall be released only to the challenger, to elections officials, and to other persons as necessary to make, defend against, or adjudicate the challenge.

(2) An elections official shall permit a person to view the signature of a voter for the purpose of determining whether the signature compares with a signature on an affidavit of registration or an image thereof or a petition but shall not permit a signature to be copied.

(d) A governmental entity, or officer or employee thereof, shall not be held civilly liable as a result of disclosure of the information referred to in this section, unless by a showing of gross negligence or willfulness.

(e) For the purposes of this section, "voter's household" is defined as the voter's place of residence or mailing address or any persons who reside at the place of residence or use the mailing address as supplied on the affidavit of registration pursuant to paragraphs (3) and (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 2150.

(f) Notwithstanding any other law, information regarding voters who did not sign a vote by mail ballot identification envelope or whose signature on the vote by mail ballot identification envelope did not compare with the voter's signature on file shall be treated as confidential voter registration information pursuant to this section and Section 6254.4 of the Government Code. This information shall not be disclosed to any person except as provided in this section. Any disclosure of this information shall be accompanied by a notice to the recipient regarding Sections 18109 and 18540. Voter information provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be updated daily, include the name of the voter, and be provided in a searchable electronic format. (§2194, EC)

You must further agree **NOT** to sell, lease, loan, or deliver possession of the registration information, or a copy thereof, or any portion thereof, in any form or format, to any person, organization or agency without **FIRST** received written authorization from the Secretary of State to release such registration information.

This information **MAY NOT** be used, taken, or transmitted outside of the United States. (§2188.5, EC)

(a) It is a misdemeanor for a person in possession of information identified in Section 2138.5 or obtained pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 2183) of Chapter 2 of Division 2 of this code or Section 7924.000 of the Government Code, knowingly to use or permit the use of all or any part of that information for any purpose other than as permitted by law.

(b) It is a misdemeanor for a person knowingly to acquire possession or use of voter registration information from the Secretary of State or a county elections official without first complying with Section 2188. (§18109, EC)

RECEIVING A VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT FROM A VOTER

Any person other than an elections official or a member of the precinct board who receives a voted ballot from a voter or who examines or solicits the voter to show their voted ballot is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years, or in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment. This section does not apply to persons returning a vote by mail ballot pursuant to Section 3017 or persons assisting a voter pursuant to Section 14282. (§18403, EC)

PENAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO VOTE BY MAIL VOTING

Fictitious Signatures

Any person who applies for, or who votes, or attempts to vote, a vote by mail ballot by fraudulently signing the name of a fictitious person, or of a regularly qualified voter, or of a person who is not qualified to vote, is guilty of a felony. (§18578, EC)

Electioneering During Vote by Mail Voting

No candidate or representative of a candidate shall solicit the vote of a vote by mail voter, or do any electioneering, while in the residence or in the immediate presence of the voter, and during the time he or she knows the vote by mail voter is voting. (§18371, EC)

Any person having charge of a completed vote by mail ballot who willfully interferes or causes interference with its return to the local elections official having jurisdiction over the election is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by both the fine and imprisonment. (§, 18577, EC)

VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT COUNTING
Voted Vote by Mail and Mail ballots
are the first results
announced on election night.

Fair Political Practices Commission

Filing Schedule for Candidates and their Controlled Committees for Local Office Listed on the March 5, 2024 Ballot

Deadline	Period	Form	Notes
Jan 31, 2024** <i>Semi-Annual</i>	* – 12/31/23	460	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file this statement. May be filed on January 25, 2024.
Within 24 Hours <i>Election Cycle Reports</i>	12/6/23 – 3/5/24	497	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if a contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is received from a single source. File if a contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is made to or in connection with <i>another</i> candidate or measure being voted on the March 5, 2024, ballot. The recipient of a non-monetary contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate must file a Form 497 within 48 hours from the time the contribution is received. File by personal delivery, e-mail, guaranteed overnight service, or fax. The committee may also file online, if available.
Jan 25, 2024 <i>1st Pre-Election</i>	1/1/24 – 1/20/24	460 or 470	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each candidate listed on the ballot must file Form 460 or Form 470 (see below).
Feb 22, 2024 <i>2nd Pre-Election</i>	1/21/24 – 2/17/24	460	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file this statement. File by personal delivery or guaranteed overnight service. The committee may also file online, if available.
July 31, 2024 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	2/18/24 – 6/30/24	460	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file Form 460 unless the committee filed termination Forms 410 and 460 before June 30, 2024.

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 earlier 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 may file the 2023 semi-annual statement on January 25, 2024.
- **Local Ordinance:** Always check on whether additional local rules apply.
- **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.

Fair Political Practices Commission

- **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 (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.
- **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 fppc.ca.gov> Learn > Campaign Rules.