



CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Holly L. Wolcott, City Clerk ♦ Jinny Pak, Election Division Chief

555 Ramirez St., Space 300, Los Angeles, CA 90012 ♦ (213) 978 - 0444 ♦ [clerk.election@lacity.org](mailto:clerk.election@lacity.org)



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2017

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## CITY CLERK REMINDS VOTERS OF THEIR RIGHTS IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS 2017 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles City Clerk Holly L. Wolcott wants to remind voters and candidates of the integrity of the election process and the Office of the City Clerk's dedication to facilitating that process. The City Clerk stands ready to provide information and respond to voters' concerns regarding any part of the voting process and encourages voters to contact us directly so that we can address and attempt to remedy any such concerns. Voters should be aware of some of the many laws that are in place to protect their right to vote privately and free from undue influence.

### Returning Voted Vote-By-Mail (VBM) Ballots

Voters who choose to mail in their VBM ballot must do so early enough to ensure that it arrives in the Election Division office no later than **by the close of polls (8:00 p.m.) on Election Day, May 16, 2017**; however, in accordance with State and City legislation adopted by the City, the City Clerk will accept VBM ballots that are signed and postmarked by Election Day and received within three days of the Election.

In addition, voters may authorize an agent to return their ballot for them by completing the appropriate portion of the VBM return envelope. However, Election Code Section 1014(d) states: "No individual, person, group, or organization shall willfully interfere with or cause interference with the return of a Vote-By-Mail Ballot. A person designated to return a Vote-By-Mail Ballot shall not receive any form of compensation based on the number of ballots that the person has returned and no individual, group, or organization shall provide compensation on this basis. For purposes of this subsection, "compensation" means any form of monetary payment, goods, services, benefits, promises or offers of employment, or any other form of consideration offered to another person in exchange for returning another voter's Vote-By-Mail Ballot. Any acts related to that ballot as described in the State Elections Code, including, but not limited to, fraud, bribery, intimidation, and tampering with or failing to deliver the ballot in a timely fashion, is subject to the appropriate punishment specified in the State Elections Code"

### Poll watching

Observers are permitted in the polling place throughout Election Day. While observers may be present for all phases of our elections processes, they may not in any way interfere with any voter or hinder the poll workers in carrying out their appointed duties. To get more information about being a poll watcher, please call (213) 978-0444.

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### Electioneering

Electioneering is strictly forbidden within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place. Electioneering includes the audible or visual dissemination of any information that advocates for or against any candidate or measure on the ballot. Electioneering includes, but is not limited to, displays of a candidate's name, likeness or logo on a button, t-shirt, or cap; displays of a ballot measure's title, subject, or logo; and materials that urge you to vote for or against a particular candidate or ballot measure.

### Exit Interviews

Individuals are permitted to conduct exit interviews in which they ask voters about their selections *after* the voter has voted. These interviews, however, must be conducted at least 25 feet from the entrance of the polling place.

The City Clerk has specific procedures in place to address these or any violations of election law and to address and attempt to remedy the impacts of any such violations. If you have concerns about any election-related activities, or for further information or assistance, please contact the Office of the City Clerk - Election Division between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at (213) 978-0444 or toll-free at (888) 873-1000.

The Office of the City Clerk administers elections for the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), and the Los Angeles Community College District. More information can be found on the City Clerk's election website at: [clerk.lacity.org/elections](http://clerk.lacity.org/elections).

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