



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Media Inquiries: (213) 978-0444

**CITY CLERK TO VERIFY SIGNATURES ON MEDICAL
MARIJUANA REFERENDUM PETITION**

LOS ANGELES (September 6, 2012) — Los Angeles City Clerk June Lagmay announced today that the raw number count of signatures submitted by proponents of a referendum upon the City's marijuana ordinance is sufficient in number to proceed to the next step which will be to examine and certify the signatures for validity.

As provided by the City's Election Code, starting today the City Clerk will use a random sampling procedure which includes the examination of at least five percent of the signatures. The City Clerk will conclude the random sampling procedure no later than September 20, 2012. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid signatures is less than 90% of the number needed to declare the petition sufficient, the City Clerk shall certify the petition as insufficient. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid signatures is more than 110% of the number needed to declare the petition sufficient, the City Clerk shall certify the petition as sufficient. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid signatures is within 90 to 110% of the number needed to declare the petition sufficient, the City Clerk shall, within 30 days after completing the random sampling, examine and verify each signature filed.

If the results of the signature verification are conclusive and the signatures achieve sufficiency, the City Clerk will prepare a report to Council outlining the Council's options:

1. Repeal the ordinance;
2. Call a special election to be held not earlier than 110 days or later than 140 days after Council action on the petition; or
3. Add the ordinance to the next regular City election to be held more than 110 days from certification of the petition, which in this case would be the City's March 5, 2013 Primary Nominating Election.

For further information or assistance, please call the Election Division at (213) 978-0444 or toll-free at (888) 873-1000 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Office of the City Clerk - Election Division administers elections for the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Los Angeles Community College District. The City's upcoming elections will be held March 5, 2013 and May 21, 2013. More information can be found on the City Election Division's website at: <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/>.

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