



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Media Inquiries: Kimberly Briggs
(213) 978-3281
Kimberly.Briggs@lacity.org

CITY CLERK TO VERIFY SIGNATURES ON MEDICAL MARIJUANA INITIATIVE PETITION

LOS ANGELES (December 18, 2012) — Los Angeles City Clerk June Lagmay announced today that the raw number count of signatures submitted on December 7, 2012 by proponents Metcalf, Rusbosin, Schaffer, Leek, and Carver relative to a “Medical Marijuana Collectives Initiative Ordinance,” is sufficient in number to proceed to the next step which will be to examine and certify the signatures for validity.

Proponents had a 120-day window from October 26, 2012, the date the official Title and Summary were issued, to collect 41,138* valid signatures. 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 January 2, 2013. 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. Within 20 days after the certificate is presented to the Council, the Council must take one of the following actions:

1. Adopt the proposed ordinance without alteration;
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. Place the ordinance on the ballot at the next regular City election or the next County election to be held more than 110 days from the date of Council action on the petition, which, if Council takes action by January 31, 2013, would be the City's May 21, 2013 General Municipal 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/>.

*This number reflects 15% of total votes cast for all candidates for the Office of Mayor at the last election at which the Mayor was elected (Charter Section 451b).

###