



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY CLERK REMINDS VOTERS OF THEIR RIGHTS IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS 2013 GENERAL MUNICIPAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS

LOS ANGELES (May 16, 2013) — City Clerk June Lagmay wants to remind voters and candidates of the integrity of the election process and that Office of the City Clerk is dedicated to facilitating that process. The City Clerk’s Election Division 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

The Election Division must be in receipt of all VBM ballots by the close of polls (8:00 p.m.) on Election Day. VBM voters can return their ballots by mail or deliver them to a polling place. In addition, voters may authorize an agent to return their ballot for them by completing the appropriate portion on the VBM return envelope. Please select your agent carefully as you give them full authority to handle your ballot.

Additionally, City of Los Angeles Election Code prohibits certain individuals, including any paid or volunteer worker of a campaign committee from returning a voter’s VBM ballot. Specifically, Section 1014(b) states: “No Vote-By-Mail Ballot shall be returned by any paid or volunteer worker of any general purpose committee, controlled committee, independent expenditure committee, political party, candidate’s campaign committee, or any other group or organization at whose behest the individual designated to return the ballot is performing a service.”

A voter may submit a request for a replacement VBM ballot in specific situations. To learn more, please call us at (213) 978-0444 or please visit us at Piper Technical Center, Space 300, 555 Ramirez Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. We encourage voters to act promptly as VBM ballots are already being prepared for tally.

Pollwatching

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 pollwatcher, please call (213) 978-0444.

Electioneering

We also remind the public that electioneering is strictly forbidden within 100 feet of an 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 Election Division 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, please contact us directly at (213) 978-0444 so that we can document your statement and take action to preserve the integrity of the election process.

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 - 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 General Municipal and Special Elections will be held May 21, 2013. More information can be found on the Election Division's website at: <http://clerk.lacity.org/Elections/>.

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