



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY CLERK REMINDS VOTERS OF THEIR RIGHTS IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS **2015 PRIMARY NOMINATING ELECTION**

LOS ANGELES (February 25, 2015) — 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 is dedicated 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

The City Clerk 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 of the VBM return envelope.

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(c) states: "No individual, person, group, or organization shall willfully interfere with or cause interference with the return of a Vote-By-Mail Ballot nor shall a 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. However, the above may return the ballot of a candidate or a candidate's spouse or domestic partner."

Replacement VBM Ballots

Per Section 1011, a voter may submit a request for a replacement VBM ballot only under specific conditions. Please contact the City Clerk - Election Division for further information at (213) 978-8050.

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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

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 and the Los Angeles Community College District. The City's next regularly scheduled Municipal Elections will be held on March 3, 2015 and May 19, 2015. More information can be found on the City Clerk's election website at: <http://clerk.lacity.org/elections/>.

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