

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOTING BEGINS FOR THE JUNE 5, 2012 PRIMARY ELECTIONS

The Office of the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) has begun issuing Vote By Mail ballots for the June 5, 2012 Primary Election. The first mailing included 974,000 Official Vote By Mail ballots. Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean Logan reminded registered voters in the County that they can request Vote by Mail ballots through Tuesday, May 29.

Requesting A Vote By Mail Ballot

Voters may request a Vote by Mail ballot in one of the following ways:

- Complete the Vote by Mail application on the back cover of the Official Sample Ballot booklet; or
- Submit an electronic request by visiting the RR/CC website at www.lavote.net and select the Voting and Elections tab located at the top of the main page; click on the Vote By Mail Application link in the Quick Links box of the Voting and Elections page; or
- Send a letter addressed to the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Vote by Mail Section, P.O. Box 30450, Los Angeles, CA 90030-0450; or
- Apply in person at the RR/CC Headquarters, 12400 Imperial Hwy., 3rd Floor, Room 3002, Norwalk, CA 90650.

Returning Your Vote By Mail Ballot

Voted ballots must be received by the RR/CC no later than Tuesday, June 5, 2012 by 8 p.m. Ballots received after 8 p.m. June 5, regardless of postmark, will not be accepted. In order to be counted, ballots cast by mail must be returned with sufficient time for mail delivery to the RR/CC by 8 p.m. on June 5. Vote by Mail ballots may also be returned in person to the RR/CC Headquarters, or delivered to any polling place in Los Angeles County before the polls close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. A voter may authorize a designated family member to return the voted ballot to a polling place or to the RR/CC in accordance with the procedures outlined on the Vote By Mail ballot return envelope.

Tracking Your Vote By Mail Ballot

Voters who request a Vote by Mail ballot can check on the status of their request using the RR/CC's online look-up. Visit www.lavote.net and select the Voting and Elections tab located at the top of the main page; click on the Vote by Mail Status link in the Quick Links box of the Voting and Elections page. Voters may also call the RR/CC at (562) 466-1323.

About This Election

The June 5, 2012 Statewide Election ballot includes both partisan and non-partisan nominating primaries. The Presidential Primaries are partisan primaries. Primaries for U.S. House of Representatives, State Senate and State Assembly are non-partisan, "Voter Nominated" contests. The ballot may also include local non-partisan contests (County Board of Supervisors, Special Districts, and City Council).

The changes affecting the election process are:

- 1.) Top Two Primaries
- 2.) Crossover Voting for Presidential Primaries
- 3.) 2011 Redistricting

The Presidential Primary and Non-Partisan Voters

Voters with "no party preference" (non-partisan) can choose to vote in the Democratic or American Independent President Primaries. Request a Democratic or American Independent "Crossover ballot from your pollworker. If you are voting by mail, be sure to write down your choice of ballot on the Vote By Mail application.

New "Top-Two" Primary System

Los Angeles County was amongst the first Counties in California to conduct an election under the new "Top-Two" Primary system. The "Top-Two" Primary election system has replaced partisan primaries for all congressional, statewide, and state legislative elections. Under the "Top-Two" Primary system approved by voters in June 2010 and effective January 1, 2011, all candidates regardless of party will appear on a single ballot. Voters may choose to vote for any candidate on the ballot. This means that two candidates of the same party may be nominated to run in a general election.

Residents who are not sure if they are registered to vote should visit <u>www.lavote.net</u> to verify voter registration status online, or call the RR/CC at (562) 466-1310 or (562) 466-1323.

Register to vote by mail on the RR/CC website at www.lavote.net.

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For Multilingual assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, Vietnamese, Hindi, Khmer or Thai call (800) 481-8683

ABOUT THE REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

The mission of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is to serve Los Angeles County by providing essential records management and election services in a fair accessible and transparent manner.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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