

Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DEAN C. LOGAN Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

August 30, 2021

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair

Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Janice Hahn Supervisor Kathryn Barger

Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

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WEEKLY STATUS REPORT – 1st Weekly Report for September 14, 2021 California Gubernatorial Recall Election

This report is the first in a series of election status reports to inform your Board and the public of our preparation and operations for the September 14, 2021, California Gubernatorial Recall Election. The information and data included connect to the County's goals of "Operational Effectiveness" and "Community Support and Responsiveness." Additionally, the election status reports support the Department's ongoing commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent election services.

Vote by Mail

The Department is encouraging VBM as the safest and easiest method for voting. The Department began mailing Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots to all active registered voters on August 12. VBM ballots will continue to be mailed to all voters who register to vote by the close of registration deadline on August 30.

A variety of VBM resources are available on our <u>website</u>. Voters may also request VBM ballots and materials in one of nineteen different languages, sign up for "Where's My Ballot" to track their ballot, and request a replacement VBM ballot.

Vote by Mail Ballot Return Options

Voters have three options for returning a VBM ballot:

(A) VBM Drop Box: The Department established 400 VBM Drop Box locations for this election. Most locations are accessible 24-hours; however, a few have more limited hours.

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Voters may return their VBM ballot at any VBM Drop Box up to 8:00 PM on Election Day. Ballots are retrieved from VBM Drop Boxes every 24-hours by authorized County staff. The VBM Drop Box Locator Tool assists voters with finding a location and is available on our <u>website</u>.

- (B) United States Postal Service (USPS): Voters may return their VBM ballot by mail, using the provided postage-paid return envelope. All VBM return envelopes must be postmarked on or before Election Day to qualify for the election. Under a recent revision to the Elections Code, the Department can accept postmarked VBM return envelopes up to 7 days following Election Day.
- (C) Vote Center: Voters may drop their ballot off at any Vote Center. Vote Centers are open from September 4 through September 14. Vote Centers are open from 10:00 AM 7:00 PM and 7:00 AM 8:00 PM on Election Day (September 14). The Vote Center Locator Tool assists with finding a location and is available on our website.

Early Voting and Election Day at Vote Centers

Early in-person voting began at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Headquarters in Norwalk on August 16. Voters can vote in person Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. On Election Day, voters can vote in person from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Vote Centers will open for in-person voting on September 4. A total of 253 Vote Centers throughout the County will be open for this election. The first 108 Vote Centers will open on September 4. On September 11, an additional 145 Vote Centers will open. Vote Centers are open from 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM and 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Election Day (September 14). The Vote Center Locator Tool assists with finding a location and is available on our website.

Vote Centers are equipped with the County's Ballot Marking Device (BMD), which allows voters to mark their ballot, cast their ballot, use accessible voting features, and access a voter experience in 12 languages in addition to English. Vote Centers also provide critical voting services such as Conditional Voter Registration and Curbside Voting.

Voters have the option to utilize the County's <u>Interactive Sample Ballot (ISB)</u> to premark and expedite their voting experience. A search feature has been added to help voters quickly find their candidate and better navigate the extended ballot.

The Department will continue to utilize the Quick Check-In Code, first introduced in the November 3, 2020 Presidential General Election. This form of a QR code allows voters to expedite the check-in process.

The Vote Center Locator Tool assists voters with finding a location and viewing estimated wait times. The Vote Center Locator Tool is available on our website.

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Social Distancing and Public Health Guidelines at Vote Centers

In compliance with State and Local Public Heath Orders, the Department continues to implement the "Safe Election Plan" at all vote centers. This plan aligns with recommendations from the State and follows LA County Public Health requirements and recommendations. The following guidelines will be implemented at all vote centers:

- Both Election Workers and voters must wear a mask inside a Vote Center.
- A Stop Station will be present at the entrance of each Vote Center. Personal
 protective equipment such as masks and hand sanitizer will be available for the
 public.
- Social and physical distancing will be maintained in all lines and the voting area.
- All electronic pollbooks and BMDs will be sanitized after each voter use.
- Any voter that refuses to wear a mask will be allowed to vote using the curbside voting process.

Attachments and Contact

Attached to this report, you will find the Election Activity Statistics and Media Summary for the California Gubernatorial Recall Election. These attachments will be updated with each upcoming election status report.

We appreciate the partnership with your offices in our efforts to serve voters and allow them to exercise their fundamental right to vote.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly or your staff may contact Adrian Avelar, Executive Assistant at (562) 345-8372 or aavelar@rrcc.lacounty.gov.

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Attachments





Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

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Election Activity Statistics September 14, 2021 Gubernatorial Recall Election				
	8/30/21	9/7/21	9/13/21	
Vote By Mail				
Ballots Issued	5,784.878			
Ballots Received Back	750,458			
Military and Overseas				
Ballots Issued	36,149			
Ballots Received	2,336			
Sample Ballots				
Mailed	5,587,543			
Voter Registration Totals by Supervisorial District				
District 1	973,965			
District 2	1,066,947			
District 3	1,202,101			
District 4	1,206,808			
District 5	1,243,788			
Countywide Total	5,693,609			
Voter Registration Totals by Age				
18-29	1,096,903			
30-39	1,134,179			
40-49	881,024			
50-59	881,485			
60-69	832,112			
70-79	542,493			
Over 80	325,380			
No Data	33			
Countywide Total	5,693,609			
Election Workers				
Lead Election Workers	754			
Multilingual Election Workers	2,472			
County Employees	2,945			
Legal Permanent Residents	180			

Countywide Total	5,373	
Voter Centers		
Vote Centers Recruited	253	

MEDIA SUMMARY

8/24/21

LA County Turns In 10% Of Vote-By-Mail Ballots So Far During Recall Election – CBS Local

CA police find 300 unopened recall ballots, with gun, drugs and mail, in man's car- ABC7

8/23/21

Torrance police find 300 unopened recall ballots, with gun, drugs and mail, in sleeping man's car – ABC7

Over 300 California recall election ballots discovered in suspect's vehicle alongside gun, drugs – Fox News

<u>300-plus stolen ballots for governor's recall race found by Torrance police, authorities say</u> – Press-Telegram

300 Recall Election Ballots Found in Man's Car in Torrance - NBC4

Recall election officials respond to concerns that 'yes' vote can be seen from outside return envelope – Fox News

300-plus stolen ballots for governor's recall race found by Torrance police, authorities say – Daily Breeze

Over 300 Mail-In Ballots Found in California Man's Car, Say Police - The Epoch Times

Torrance police find more than 300 recall ballots in suspect's car, along with gun, drugs - L.A. Times

8/22/21

Balloting begins in recall election – AV Press

8/21/21

5 things to know about voting in California's recall election – Spectrum News 1

8/20/21

LA officials address mail-in ballot concerns after some decry holes found on envelopes – Fox News

<u>Fact check: No, California's recall ballot was not designed to help Gavin Newsom and cheat Larry Elder</u> – San Francisco Chronicle

No, voter confidentiality is not compromised by the holes on ballot envelope | VERIFY - ABC

Press Coverage

8/19/21

<u>SoCal Residents Report Having Issues With Their Recall Ballots</u> – NBC4