DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk



September 29, 2008

**TO:** Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer

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

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STATUS REPORT 1: THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

### **Voter Registration, Education and Outreach Efforts**

<u>Voter Registration</u>: To date we have 4,075,640 registered voters in Los Angeles County. The following table shows the week's voter registration totals. This table will be updated weekly and provided in our status reports for your reference and information.

# **VOTER REGISTRATION TOTALS BY WEEK November 4, 2008 – Presidential General Election**

	Reg. Period Total June 6 - Present	TOTAL
Beginning Total Sept. 23	111,757	4,075,640
Week 1: Oct. 1		
Week 2: Oct. 8		
Week 3: Oct. 15		
Week 4: Oct. 22		

On October 20, 2008, the RR/CC and the Board of Supervisors host the close of voter registration "Midnight Madness" event. We will staff voter registration and information booths throughout the County until 12:00 midnight to allow all eligible citizens the option of registering to vote before the legal cutoff for this election.

The following sites are confirmed registration locations for the Midnight Madness event:

District 1: Dodger Stadium, 1000 Elysian Park Ave., Los Angeles

District 2: Magic Johnson Starbucks, 5301 W. Centinela Ave., Los Angeles
District 3: West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood

District 4: RR/CC Headquarters, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk

Long Beach City Hall, 333 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

District 5: Westfield Valencia Town Center, 24201 Valencia Blvd., Valencia

Additional locations may be established through our community partnerships. Promotional information about close of registration events and activities will be posted on our website (www.lavote.net) as it becomes available.

In addition to our regular voter registration outreach at parades, festivals, neighborhood meetings and other venues we sponsored voter outreach and education booths at Dodger Stadium through September 25. A similar outreach effort and sponsorship event is scheduled this weekend at the UCLA Bruins football game. Additionally, we have an aggressive voter information Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaign in place that highlights Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requirements including accessibility for voters with disabilities and multi-lingual services.

The RR/CC has developed a contingency plan in anticipation of large numbers of new voter registrations. We will incorporate staff from all bureaus within the department to assist in data entry and we will enter all registrations received through the close of registration by Election Day. We have also developed and will implement a "robo-call" program that notifies newly registered voters throughout the County of their voting options, how to request a sample ballot and how to check their polling place location. Additionally, we will continue our call program to voters whose polling places have changed notifying them of their options for confirming their correct polling places.

<u>Voter Education and Outreach Activities</u>: We are partnered with multiple organizations to provide outreach, registration and education services to Los Angeles County voters and eligible citizens.

Key partnerships for this election include:

- Los Angeles Dodgers;
- UCLA Bruins;
- CBS Television (including KCBS Channel 2 and KCAL Channel 9);
- CBS Radio (including 93.1 JACK FM, 980 AM KFWB, 97.1 KLSX, 1070 AM KNX, 106.7 FM KROQ, 101.1 KRTH FM, 94.7 KTWV FM);
- CBS Outdoor;
- L.A. Sentinel Newspaper;
- KJLH Radio 102.3:
- Los Angeles Times; and
- The Daily News.

Spanish language multilingual outreach includes:

- Univision TV Channel 34;
- Univision Radio KLOVE 107.5;

- Entravision Communications Corporation (including 107.1 Super Estrella, 103.1 INDIE, 97.5 Jose); and
- LaOpinion Newspaper

Asian language multilingual media outreach includes:

- LA 18 KSCI (Asian) Television;
- Los Angeles Asian Journal;
- The Korea Times;
- The Korea Daily;
- Rafu Shimpo;
- · Chinese Daily News;
- Multi-lingual Radio Broadcasting Inc., (Vietnamese, Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, Japanese); and
- Nguoi-Vet Daily News.

Please visit our web site at www.lavote.net for recorded PSAs and graphic promotional materials. Log into our new Press Room and click on "PSAs", "Streaming Video", and "Audio" to see and listen to our campaign.)

### **Deputy Voter Registrar Program**

We conduct an active Deputy Registrar program with over 20 organizations who register thousands of voters every year. Deputy Registrars are non-paid volunteers who register voters at many venues throughout the County. Our team not only conducts Deputy Registrar training sessions but also actively takes part in voter registration drives. Deputy Registrars attend naturalization ceremonies, visit community colleges and universities, churches, veteran's facilities, DMV drivers' license facilities, neighborhood functions and the LA County Fair, just to name a few. We estimate that Deputy Registrars will register over 40,000 voters for the November General Election.

## Vote By Mail, Sample Ballots and Military/Overseas Ballots

The following is a table of our Vote By Mail and Sample Ballot Statistics. These will be updated on a weekly basis.

# VOTE BY MAIL, SAMPLE & MILITARY/OVERSEAS BALLOT REPORTS November 4, 2008 – Presidential General Election

	VOTE BY MAIL <sup>1</sup>		SAMPLE MILITARY & OVERSEAS BALLOT BALLOTS			SEAS	
	Requested	Mailed	Returned	Mailed	Requested	Mailed	Returned
Begin	525,831	Begins E-29	N/A	Begins E-40	20,494	17,511	N/A
Sept. 23		(Oct. 6)		(Sept. 25)			
WEEK							
1 Oct. 1							
WEEK							
2							
Oct. 8							
WEEK							
3							
Oct. 15							
WEEK							
4							
Oct. 22							
WEEK							
5 Oct. 29							
TOTAL	525,831				20,494	17,511	

<u>Vote By Mail Ballots</u>: Voting instructions are included in all Vote By Mail ballot packets. Vote By Mail applications are accepted from October 6 through October 28 and voted ballots must be returned to the RR/CC Headquarters in Norwalk no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Voted Vote By Mail ballots may also be turned in at any Los Angeles County polling place on Election Day.

We include "How to Use" and contact information for anyone with questions regarding their polling place or registration in each packet. Vote By Mail applications are also included in every sample ballot with instructions on how to apply and the deadlines for doing so.

The RR/CC has a new VOTE BY MAIL STATUS FUNCTION on our web site at <a href="www.lavote.net">www.lavote.net</a>. The function will be operable beginning October 6. The function allows voters who have applied for a Vote By Mail ballot to check the date we processed their Vote By Mail application, the date we mailed their Vote By Mail ballot, the date we received their voted ballot and whether or not the ballot was challenged – and if it was challenged, the reason for the challenge.

<u>Sample Ballots</u>: Voters can look up their sample ballot along with their polling place location by logging into <u>www.lavote.net</u> or by calling our toll free number at 1-800-815-2666. All printed materials are available in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Tagalog/Filipino, Vietnamese and Japanese. Online services include these languages in addition to Russian, Armenian and Cambodian.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Our Vote By Mail totals include Permanent Vote By Mail voters and declared Vote By Mail precinct voters.

### Online Poll Worker Training and Poll Worker Recruitment

Our successful Online Poll Worker training program has been expanded to our Inspector recruitment and training efforts. For the November election we require all Inspectors to complete the Provisional Ballot module on the Poll Worker Training site and to complete an online assessment. In addition, we continue to require all Precinct Coordinators to complete the full course and score an 80 percent or higher in order to be placed. Our Poll Worker Training Program is undergoing improvements and will be available online this week.

Although we do not require poll workers to use all aspects of the training on the site, we encourage them to visit it and review the modules before Election Day. The online training augments and reinforces the required in-person training workshops.

In addition, we have incorporated poll worker recruitment messages into all of our media partnership efforts. We are working hard to fill our quota of nearly 26,500 poll workers and our training schedule is designed to train them all in advance of Election Day.

The table below tracks the number of recruited poll workers, County employees and students. This table will be updated each week as part of our status report.

# POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT BY WEEK<sup>2</sup> November 4, 2008 – Presidential General Election Goal: 26,760 (optimum staffing level; exceeds legal requirement)

	STUDENTS	COUNTY	REGULAR	TOTAL
Beginning Total	800	2,668	17,754	21,222
Sept. 23				
Week 1				
Oct. 1				
Week 2				
Oct. 8				
Week 3				
Oct. 15				
Week 4				
Oct. 22				
Week 5				
Oct. 29				
Cumulative Total	800	2,668	17,754	21,222

#### **Braille Institute Voter Education Site**

Our Voter Education and Outreach Information program begins at the Braille Institute on October 22 and continues through October 31. Visitors to the site have access to multilingual voter

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Figures represent confirmed student, County and regular Inspectors, Coordinators, NVC Directors and Clerks.

education materials, Vote By Mail application packets and accessible voting machine demonstrations. Voters can also check their polling place locations and their registration status and ask questions of our trained staff members.

### **Help Desk Program**

We fully implemented our AskEd Help Desk program last June. The Help Desk call system assists the public and RR/CC staff in problem resolution during high call volume periods. It also provides valuable statistics that describe the type of problem or inquiry, the time it took to resolve the issue and whether or not it was solved at the "front end" or routed to another area for follow up. In June, our AskEd operators fielded over 5,000 calls on Election Day. A majority of them – 89 percent – were resolved in under a minute. Our entire staff will attend training as this system has become the standard for fielding Election Day calls.

### **Phone System Modification**

The RR/CC has assembled a project team to implement enhanced telephone service for the November election. The team includes staff from the RR/CC Technical Services Bureau, Information Services Department (ISD) ITS, Los Angeles City Clerk's Office and Verizon. For this election, we will have three call center sites operating – one at Los Angeles City Clerk's Piper Tech Election Operations Center, one at the ISD-ITS headquarters and our main call center at the RR/CC Headquarters in Norwalk. The addition of the remote call centers provides an additional 40 to 50 operators for a total of 150 operators assisting with Election Day calls. All phone staff will be trained on and will utilize our AskEd Help Desk program.

We anticipate Election Day telephone calls may peak at 6,000 calls per hour. Our goal with the enhanced phone system is to ensure every call is answered by either an automated response voice or a live operator. We recognize the limitations of our current telephone communications infrastructure and appreciate the support we have received to make these enhancements.

### **Results Reporting**

We are expecting record high voter turnout for this election. Anticipated long lines at the polls and increased ballot volume <u>will</u> impact timeframes for reporting Election Night results. We are focused on careful transfer and ballot tally operations so that the results we do issue will be accurate and as timely as possible. Information provided to candidates and media in advance of the election will address this issue.