

Media Kit 2012

General Election

Tuesday, November 6, 2012



Los Angeles County
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

lessage from the Registrar of Voters	3
troduction	4
ledia and Communications Services	.5
tatistical Overview	6
lection & Ballot Information	12
allot Processing Trends	13
oting Options	14
lection Day & Night	15
inalizing the Official Vote Tally (Canvass)	16
lection Canvass Schedule	18
equesting a Recount	19





November 1, 2012

Dear Voter,

The electorate in Los Angeles County accounts for more than one out of every four registered voters in California. On Tuesday, November 6, 2012 the nearly 4.7 million registered voters in Los Angeles County will have an opportunity to help strengthen our democracy by voting in the Presidential General Election. This Media Kit provides a detailed overview of the upcoming election in Los Angeles County. The goal of the kit is to provide important statistics on the size and complexity of the County's electorate, the election and the ballot.

As the largest and most diverse County Election jurisdiction in the nation, staging an election across 4,000 square miles and assisting nearly half a million voters in twelve different languages requires a high level of coordination. The staff of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is fully committed to providing voters with fair, accessible, and transparent election services.

We look forward to continuing our commitment and working with you to ensure that every eligible voter has an opportunity to exercise their fundamental right to an independent and secure voting experience.

For more information regarding Los Angeles County elections please consult our website at www.lavote.net.

Sincerely,

Dean C. Logan

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk



About RR/CC Media & Communications Services

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) Media and Communications Services Unit is committed to providing members of the public and news media with timely and clear information regarding the RR/CC and its services.

Obtaining Media Information

For members of the media requiring additional information please contact the Media and Communications Services at (562) 462-2726 or (562) 462-2648.

Interview & Filming Requests

Please contact Media and Communications Services to make interview and filming arrangements. This must be done prior to arriving at our office locations to coordinate any interviews or filming.

For requests and additional information, please call: (562) 462-2726 or (562) 462-2648.

Election Night Results and Information

Election Night results are available via our website www.lavote.net. Members of the media with questions should call Media and Communications Services. The first press bulletin with initial Vote by Mail ballot results will be issued after 8 p.m. As precinct ballots arrive during the evening, updated cumulative results will be available and posted on the RR/CC's website www.lavote.net.

Election Night Results are Always Unofficial:

California allows 28 days for the conduct of the official canvass of final election results. All ballots cannot be counted on Election Night.



Filming & Photography at the Polls

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk permits credentialed media a limited ability to film inside and within 100 feet of polling places on Election Day. This privilege is dependent upon the observance of RRCC policies set forth in this memorandum.

It is the intent of the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder to facilitate a transparent election process while also preserving the fundamental right of voters in California to cast a secret and independent ballot free of any form of intimidation and without unnecessary barriers. Any potential infringement of this fundamental principle in the course of media activities will result in removal from the polling place.

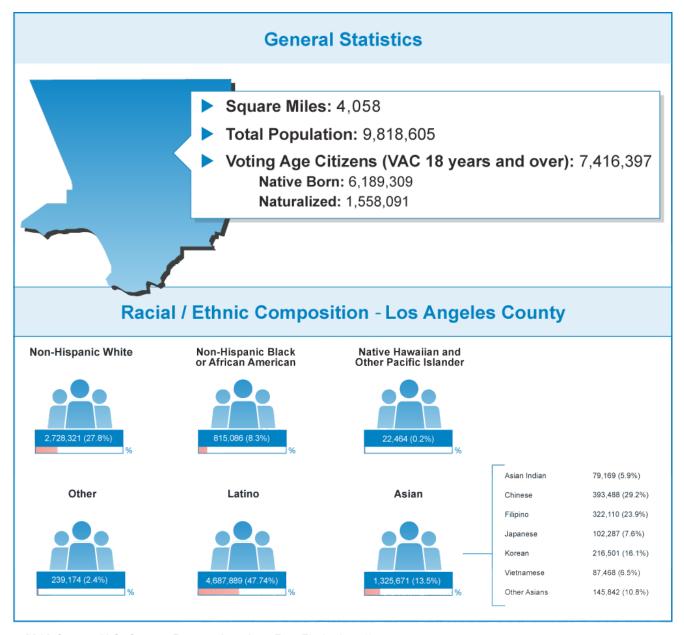
The following policies are set forth by the RRCC with guidance from the California Secretary of State to facilitate media access to polling places while preserving the rights of voters and integrity of the electoral process. These policies apply to filming inside and within 100 feet of any polling place on Election Day.

- 1. Only credentialed media are allowed to film.
- 2. Filming or photography is only permitted with prior consent from the RR/CC Public Information Office.
- 3. Filming or photography inside of voting booths is strictly prohibited.
- 4. Filming or photography of a voter's voted ballot before it is deposited in the ballot box is strictly prohibited.
- 5. Interviews of voters and/or Pollworkers are not permitted inside or within 100 ft. of the polling place.
- 6. Any filming and photography that is deemed to obstruct or impede the voting process will be prohibited.

For more information or questions, contact our Public Information Officer at eknox@rrcc.lacounty.gov .



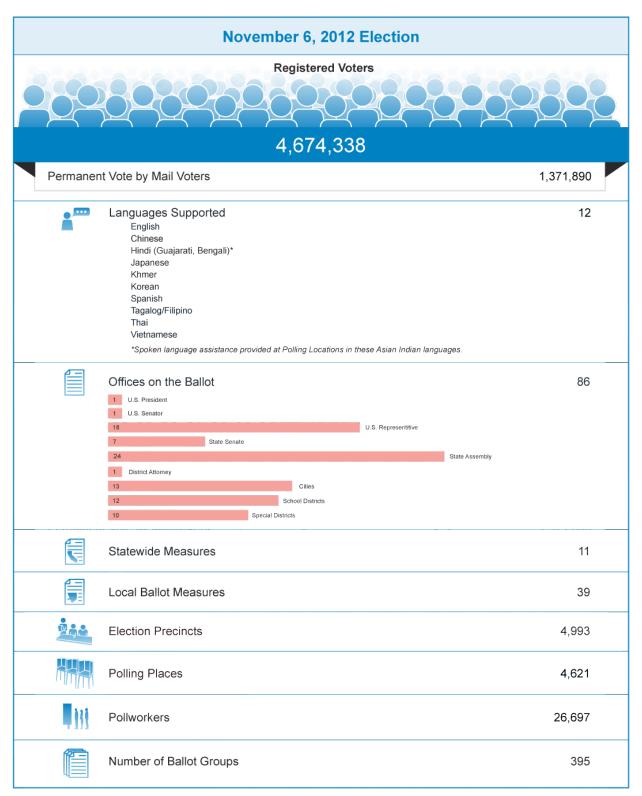
Los Angeles County Profile



2010 Census U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder http://www.census.gov 2006 - 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates http://www.census.gov



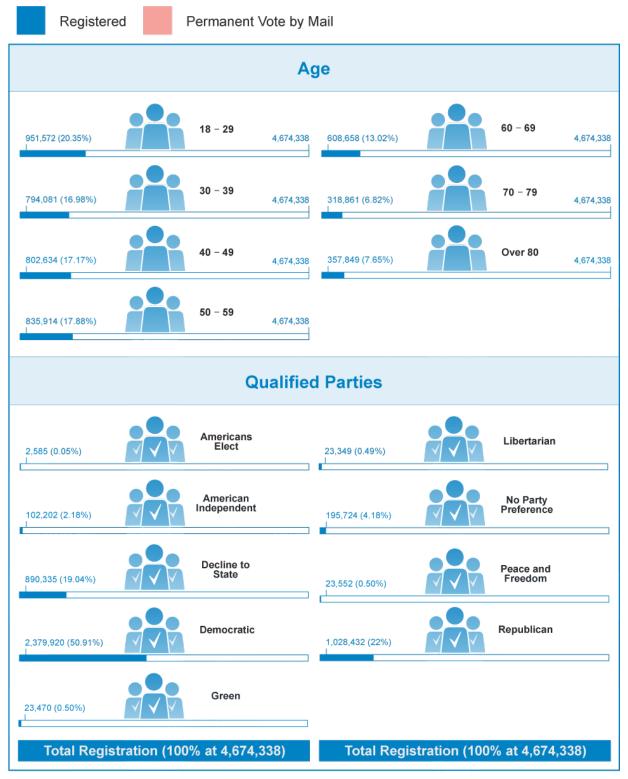
Election Profile



^{*}Figures as of October 30, 2012



Voter Registration Statistics

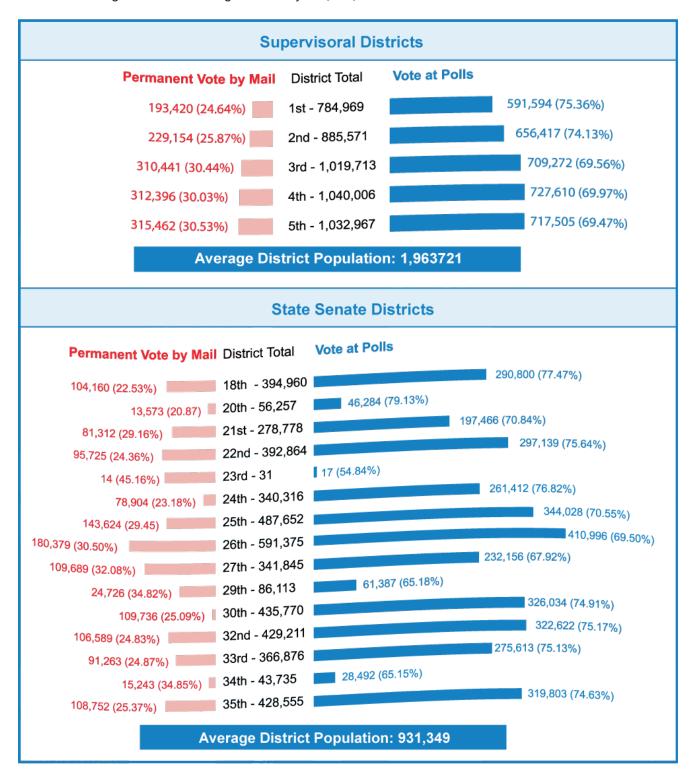


^{*}Figures as of October 22, 2012



Voter Registration Statistics (Continued)

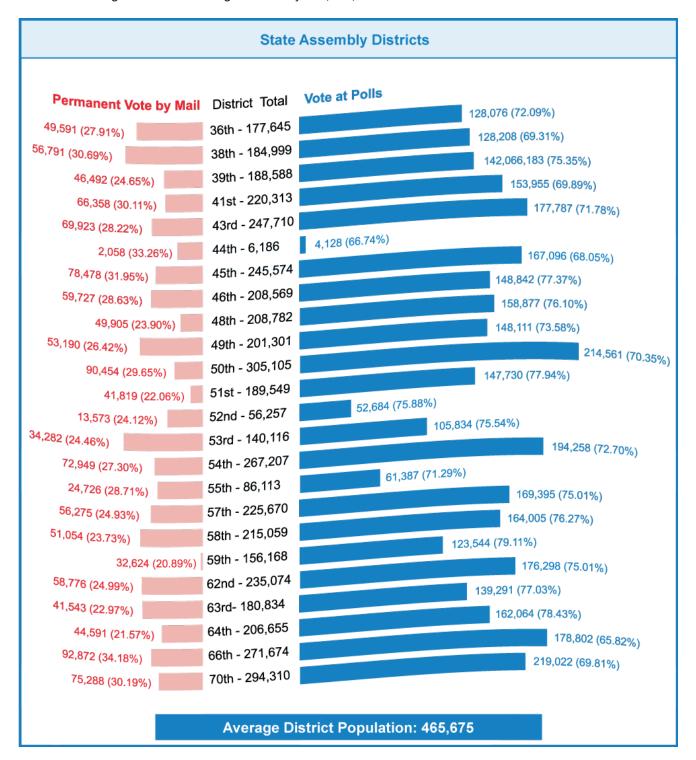
Current voter registration in Los Angeles County is 4,674,338





Voter Registration Statistics (Continued)

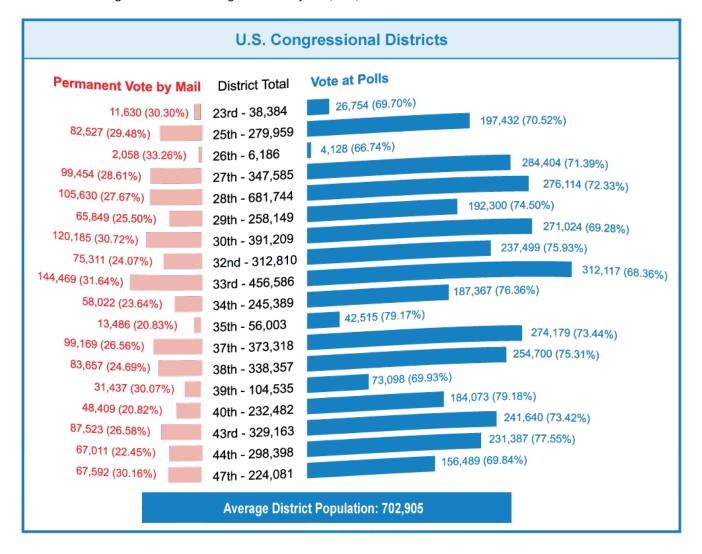
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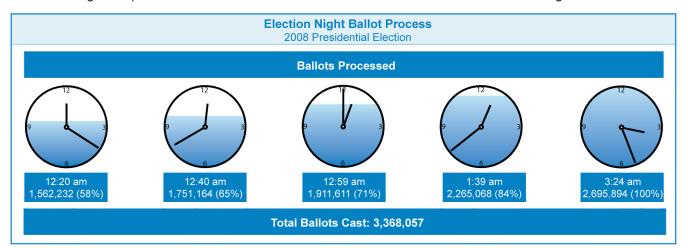
Rotation of Candidate Names on the Ballot

Office	Rotation
Statewide Offices	Candidates' names are arranged in accordance with the random alphabetical drawing beginning with the first Assembly District in the state. The order of candidate names is rotated by Assembly District. Candidates are rotated by moving the candidate's name appearing first on the ballot to the last position
United States Representative	Candidates' names are arranged in accordance with the random alphabetical drawing beginning with the first Assembly District in the state. The order of candidate names is rotated by Assembly District. Candidates are rotated by moving the candidate's name appearing first on the ballot to the last position.
Superior Court Judge	Candidates' names are arranged in accordance with the random alphabetical drawing beginning with the first Assembly District in the state. The order of candidate names is rotated by Assembly District. Candidates are rotated by moving the candidate's name appearing first on the ballot to the last position.



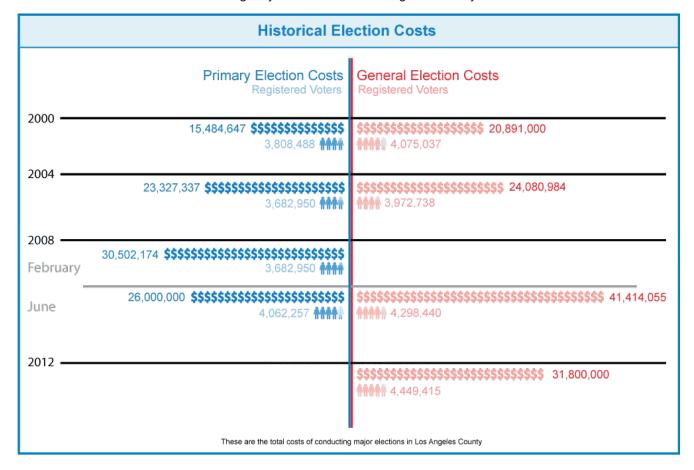
Election Night Ballot Process

The following chart provides statistical information on the rate of ballot tabulation from midnight onward.



Historical Election Costs

Below are the total costs of conducting major elections in Los Angeles County.





Voting Options



Vote by Mail (VBM)

Apply for a VBM ballot using the application printed on your sample ballot or online at www.lavote.net.

Vote your VBM ballot, and insert it into the envelope provided. Make sure you complete all required information.

Return your VBM ballot by mail before Election Day, or drop it off at any polling location on Election Day.



Vote Early

Registered voters can vote up to 29 days before Election Day.

Early voting takes place at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk office located at **12400 Imperial Hwy.**, **Norwalk CA 90650**, **Room 3002**.

The Registrar's office is open on weekends for early voting beginning 14 days before Election Day.



Vote at a Polling Place

Check in and sign the Roster of Voters.

If needed, the pollworker can show you how to use the voting equipment to cast your vote.

The pollworker will give you an official ballot and direct you to a voting booth.

Step into the booth and cast your vote.

When you finish voting, insert your ballot into the Precinct Ballot Reader (PBR). The PBR checks your ballot for errors.

We provide numerous election services for voters with **specific needs**.



Transporting Ballots for Tabulation

On Election Night, ballots from all voting precincts are brought to the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's (RR/CC) headquarters in Norwalk for tabulation.



After the polls close at 8 p.m., pollworkers will secure the voted ballots in sealed ballot boxes and account for unused ballots. Pollworkers will also separately package Vote by Mail ballots that were dropped off at the polls and Provisional ballots. All materials and quantities are accounted for in the Official Ballot Statement. Then pollworkers transport ballots and supplies to a designated check-in centers located throughout the County.



Sheriff Deputies transport the voted ballots from the check-in centers by car, helicopter or boat to Norwalk. Ballots come in from as far away as Lancaster, Palmdale and Catalina Island.



Between 10:30 - 11:30 p.m. a large number of ballots begin to arrive at RR/CC headquarters.



Prior to tabulation, all ballots must be checked in, removed from boxes, inspected and prepared for counting.

Ballots are moved to the tabulation center in a continuous flow. There, operators load the ballot cards onto card readers.

There are eighteen counting stations, each with two card readers, for a total of 36 card readers.

Because there is no specific order of processing/counting, ballots from locations closer to Norwalk are combined with ballots from more distant destinations. Therefore, ballots from locations close to Norwalk are not necessarily counted first.



There are three categories of ballots that cannot be processed on Election Night:

- 1. Vote by Mail ballots (those turned in at voting locations and those received by mail just before or on Election Day).
- 2. Provisional ballots voted at the polls.
- 3. Write-in ballots.

Vote by Mail Ballots Turned in at Polling Locations

Many Vote by Mail voters drop off their ballots at a polling place or at RR/CC headquarters on Election Day. The RR/CC receive these ballots very late on Election Night. All Vote by Mail ballots must be pre-processed before they are counted. The RR/CC must verify every Vote by Mail voter's signature prior to opening the Vote by Mail ballot envelopes to remove the ballots in preparation for counting.

Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots are issued at the polls when a voter's name is not listed on the poll roster, uncertainty about party affiliation or when our records indicate the voter was already sent a Vote by Mail ballot. Provisional ballots are sealed in special envelopes at the polls and must be individually researched and verified at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office before ballots are counted or rejected in accordance with election laws. Once a Provisional voter's eligibility to vote is verified, the ballot is counted.

Ballots with Write-in Votes

When a voter chooses to vote for a write-in candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, that ballot cannot be counted on Election Night. Each ballot containing a write-in vote must be individually reviewed to determine whether the write-in vote is for a qualified write-in candidate and whether the voter over-voted (example: voted for a candidate on the ballot and also voted for a write-in candidate for the same office). When an over-vote occurs, neither vote can be counted, the rest of the ballot selections will be counted. Due to the individual scrutiny involved, no portion of any ballot containing a write-in vote is counted on Election Night. (Vote tallies for write-in candidates are not available until the conclusion of the official canvass because each ballot containing a write-in vote is processed and tallied manually.)



1% Manual Tally Audit

By law, a random sample of ballots from every election must be manually tallied to verify election night machine counts. A minimum of all votes cast in one percent (1%) of the precincts is included in this process. The Vote at Polls and Vote by Mail ballots must include all contests and measures on the ballot. The Automatic Manual Tally is open to the public. (E.C. 15360)

Summary

Ballot counting after Election Night includes Vote by Mail, Provisional, Write-In, and damaged ballots. These ballots are processed and counted during the Official Election Canvass period. Ballot counting of Vote by Mail, provisional and ballots with write-in votes occurs in sequential order after the election, but before certification of official results (For example, all Vote by Mail ballots must be verified and cleared prior to verifying provisional ballots in order to ensure there are no duplicates among these categories). These ballots are not segregated by district prior to counting. Therefore, the number of outstanding ballots for any specific electoral district is unknown until after these ballots are tabulated.

California State Law requires election authorities to complete and certify results within 28 days. This provision of the law recognizes the complexity of completing the ballot count and conducting a thorough audit of the election results to ensure accuracy.

Outstanding ballot counting begins at 1:00 p.m. every Friday and Tuesday throughout the canvass period. The first update of the count will begin on Friday, November 9 at 1:00 p.m. We anticipate the majority of the outstanding Vote by Mail ballots to be included by fourth update on Tuesday, November 20. Due to the extra research required to validate Provisional ballots, these ballots are usually the last to be tallied prior to the completion of the official canvass. Please note that the 8 p.m. time indicates the start of ballot tabulation. Depending on the number of ballots to be tabulated, updated results may not be available until half past the hour.

Candidates and the public are invited to observe supplemental ballot counting and the manual tally of ballots from the randomly selected 1% of the voting precincts. After Election Night, the schedule of supplemental ballot counting will be posted on the entrance door of our office in Norwalk and on the RR/CC website www.lavote.net.

The RR/CC realizes it is difficult for candidates/campaigns involved in close contests to wait for results of the election. The legally mandated processes described above are utilized to guarentee that every vote is counted and included in the official final election returns.



The following provides the canvass schedule of events for supplemental ballot counting.

November 6, 2012 General Election Scheduled Tally Updates

Friday, November 9 – 1 p.m.* First Ballot Counting Update

Tuesday, November 13 – 1 p.m.* Second Ballot Counting Update

Friday, November 16 – 1 p.m.* Third Ballot Counting Update

Tuesday, November 20 – 1 p.m.* Fourth Ballot Counting Update

Friday, November 23 – 1 p.m.* Fifth Ballot Counting Update

Monday, November 26 – 1 p.m.* Sixth Ballot Counting Update

Wednesday, November 28 – 1 p.m.* (if necessary) Seventh Ballot Counting Update

Friday, November 30 – 10 a.m.* (if necessary) Eighth Ballot Counting Update

Public Observation

The ballot counting process is open to public observation. Download our election observer panel plan at www.lavote.net to learn more.

Please note that scheduled times represent the start of ballot processing and are subject to change.

Election results will be updated and posted after ballot processing is completed. For updated election results visit www.lavote.net or call us at (562) 466-1323.



Who Can Request a Recount?

Any voter of the state may file a request. (E.C. 15620). For more information download our brochure at www.lavote.net.

Timing of Request

The request must be filed within five (5) calendar days after the completion of the official canvass. The canvass is complete when the elections official signs the Certification of the Election Results. (E.C. 15620)

Exceptions

For statewide contests, the request must be filed within five (5) calendar days beginning on the twenty-ninth (29th) day after the election.

Notice of Recount

A notice as to the date and place of recount will be posted by an elections official and shall notify the following persons of it in person or by any regulated overnight mail service. (E.C. 15628).

Notices are issued to the following parties:

All candidates for the office being recounted.

Authorized representatives for gubernatorial candidates, if the race for gubernatorial delegates is to be recounted.

Proponents of any initiative of referendum or persons filing ballot arguments for or against any initiative, referendum or measure to be recounted.

Secretary of State if the recount is for candidates for any federal or state office, delegates to a national convention, or any state measure.

A copy of the results of any recount conducted shall be posted conspicuously in the office of the elections official. For a current cost breakdown, please contact the Election Coordination Section at (562) 345-3183.





Providing Los Angeles County essential records management and election services in a fair, accessible and transparent manner.

Services and information available at www.lavote.net

Register to Vote

Vote by Mail

Become a Pollworker

Find Your Polling Location

Election Results

Birth and Death Certificates

Sample Ballot Look-Up

Marriage Licenses and Ceremonies

Property Records

Military Discharge Records

Fictitious Business Names

Notary Public Oath and Bond

Domestic Partnership

Election Calendar

Process Server

Legal Document Assistance

Professional Photocopier

Unlawful Detainer Assistance

Notary Authentication

Certification of Registered Translators/

Interpreters Information

Campaign Finance

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