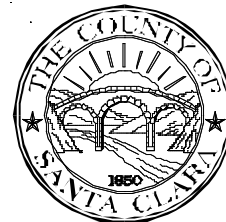


# County of Santa Clara

## Registrar of Voters

1555 Berger Drive, Building 2  
San Jose, California 95112  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1147, San Jose, CA 95108  
(408) 299-VOTE (8683) (866) 430-VOTE (8683) FAX (408) 998-7314  
www.sccvote.org



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 5, 2008

CONTACT: Elma Rosas  
Media Officer  
(408) 282-3008

## **HIGHER THAN EXPECTED TURNOUT CAUSES SOME BALLOT SHORTAGES IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

Due to higher-than-expected turnout in today's Presidential Primary Election, the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters is implementing backup voting procedures to help mitigate potential ballot shortages. The shortage is largely attributed to an unanticipated surge in the number of Decline-to-State (nonpartisan) voters who are choosing to vote a Democratic Party ballot.

Precincts that experience ballot shortages will be provided plain paper copies of the affected ballot types to ensure the continuation of voting. Voters can also choose to cast their ballot on electronic voting machines or use the ballot pages from their Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet. The Registrar's Office routinely has backup voting procedures in place every election to protect the rights of all eligible voters who go to the polls to cast a ballot.

The high voter turnout has already caused some precincts to run out of certain ballot types in the northern areas of Santa Clara County, including Palo Alto and Cupertino. If the high turnout trends continue, the Registrar's Office expects that more precincts could be affected.

Under California state law, qualified political parties can choose to allow voters who are not affiliated with a party to crossover to a partisan ballot. For the February Presidential Primary Election, only the Democratic and American Independent Parties are allowing nonpartisan voters to crossover.

The Registrar's Office is asking that voters who are registered with a political party, particularly Democratic voters, bring their Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlets with them to the polls in case backup voting procedures are necessary. The Registrar's Office is also asking nonpartisan Vote by Mail voters who want to crossover to a partisan ballot to bring their original ballot with them to the polls to avoid having to vote provisionally.

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Ballots that are cast on paper copies or Sample Ballot pages will be duplicated onto official ballots by the Registrar's Office during the official canvass in accordance with state law and will be included in the final election results. The Registrar's Office has ordered additional official ballots to be printed to facilitate the canvass process.

The polls are open until 8 p.m. on Election Day. Voters who are in line to vote at 8 p.m. will be allowed to remain and cast their ballot. The Registrar of Voters' Office is also open for voting until 8 p.m. and is located at 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San Jose.

For more information, contact the Registrar of Voters' Office at:

Toll Free: (866) 430-VOTE [8683]	Spanish: (408) 282-3095
English: (408) 299-VOTE [8683]	Vietnamese: (408) 282-3097
TTY: (408) 288-9820	Chinese: (408) 282-3086
Online: <a href="http://www.sccvote.org">www.sccvote.org</a>	Tagalog: (408) 535-3916

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