

ELECTIONS GLOSSARY

2164	The Quarterly Claim that must be filed with the Secretary of State to receive reimbursement for postage costs specified in Elections Code (E.C.) section 2164
3PCOA	Abbreviation of Third Party Change of Address. One of reasons that the voters record has been changed, a third party has informed us of a voters change of address. Examples would be DMV telling us the voter has moved.
8D2 CARDS	An 8D2 is a residency confirmation card. This postcard is sent by first-class, forwardable mail to a registered voter that has been made inactive. This card is used to update the voter registration file. We send this out to the voter to give them another chance to be sure they don't live there anymore.
ABSENTEE BALLOT	A ballot that is not voted at the polls. There are many varieties of absentee ballots. Now called Vote by Mail
ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION	Document completed by registered voters requesting an absentee ballot for an upcoming election.
ABSENTEE VOTER	A voter that does not want to vote at the polls. They get their ballot by mail or at the counter before election day.
ABSENTEE VOTING	The 29-day period prior to an election when absentee ballots may be cast.
ACS	Abbreviation for Address Correction Service. Information received from the United States Postal Service, used to update the voter registration rolls. We receive an ACS from our undeliverable mail.
ACTIVE VOTER	A voter whose record is current and eligible to vote.
ACCUVOTE	The optical scanner that reads and counts ballots for our Premier (ES&S) ballot counting system.
ADA	Abbreviation for Americans with Disabilities Act. Federal legislation that sets specific minimum standards for employment practices, programs and services, accessibility to buildings, websites, etc. for individuals with disabilities, voting.
AFFIDAVIT	Affidavit of Registration; Voter Registration Card. An official, sworn statement of information used to register to vote by voters.

ALTERNATE RESIDENCY CONFIRMATION

Legislation that provides for an update of the voter files. The Alternate Residency Confirmation or "ARC" is a project that removes voters from the voter file who have not voted nor had any other activity regarding their voter file for a period of four years. It also affords the opportunity to those voters who wish to retain their active voter status to advise the Registrar of Voters of their intention to remain so. We send them a 8D2 card. See E.C. section 2224

APPLICATION TO PURCHASE/VIEW VOTER REGISTRATION

List mostly used by candidates and committees for political purposes during election season. This is the application customers fill out to buy data from us. Filled out by us as a record of service rendered.

ARC

Abbreviation for Alternate Residency Confirmation

ASSEMBLY

State Assembly. Lower House of State Legislature. A person elected serves a 2-year term. Placer has the 3rd, 4th, 5th Assembly District.

AV

Abbreviation for Absentee Voter

AV ROOM

Absentee Voter Room behind computer room where absentee ballots are processed.

AVAILABILITY LETTER

Form letters sent to potential poll workers and/or polling sites requesting their availability for an upcoming election.

BALLOT

The paper used to cast a secret vote in an election.

BALLOT ARGUMENT INSTRUCTIONS

A guide to assist in the ballot argument preparation and submittal process.

BALLOT ARGUMENT RECEIPT

Receipt given to ballot argument authors when submitting a ballot argument at the counter.

BALLOT TRAPPER

Election's reps who visit post offices on election day to gather ballots so they reach us by 8 PM on election day so they can be counted. Ballots must be received by 8 PM on election day, no postmarks.

BOS

Abbreviation for Board of Supervisors of the County

CACEO

Abbreviation for California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials

CAL VOTER

State database managed/monitored by the SOS's Office. We have a dedicated computer that connects directly to the Cal Voter database.

CAMPAIGN

The series of activities designed to bring about election to an office or specific passage of specified legislation. This is done by the candidate or committee.

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE	Forms that are filled out by a candidate (or candidate and treasurer or committee) that itemizes the amount of money received and spent. Organized by form number.
CANDIDATE	A person legally qualified to run for office. No person shall be considered a legally qualified candidate for any office or party nomination for a partisan office under the laws of this state unless that person has filed a declaration of candidacy, or statement of write-in candidacy, with the proper official for the particular election.
CANDIDATE FILING	The process a registered voter goes through in order to have his or her name qualify to be a candidate on the ballot. These forms are filed in the Registrar of Voters office on specific dates.
CANDIDATE GUIDELINES	Provides general information about the nomination and election of candidates. (Elections Specific)
CANVASS	A detailed audit and completion of the election after election day. The law allows up to 28-days to complete this process.
CANDIDATE HANDOUT	A brochure published by the Registrar of Voters Election Services Division for each election. It contains fact, statistics, deadlines and other valuable information for persons wishing to run for office
CEO	Abbreviation for County Executive Officer of the County
CLERK	Poll worker that assists the Inspector and Judge in running the polling place.
CODE	Refers to the elections code book governing state and county regulations.
CONGRESS	U.S. House of Representatives. A person elected serves a 2 year term in Washington D. C.
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	The territorial division of a state from which a member of the U.S. House of Representatives is elected. Placer is in the 4th District.

CONSOLIDATED PRECINCT	"Consolidated" precincts are precincts that are grouped together for a specific election because the voters within those precincts will be casting their ballots on the same races and can vote at the same polling place.
CONTEST	A competition between candidates for elective office or the competition for approval or denial of a ballot measure. Or called a Race.
COUNTY CLERK	County Clerk, Registrar of Voters, or the officer or board charged with the duty of conducting any election E.C. 307
DECLINE TO STATE	Voters registered that do not want to register with a party.
DFM	Our elections software vendor that provides the EIMS database that elections uses.
DIEBOLD	Vendor that provides our voting equipment/hardware now called Premier and now called ES&S
DIRECT PRIMARY	The primary election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year, and on the fourth Tuesday in March in any year divisible by the number four, to nominate candidates from the parties to be voted for at the ensuing general election or to elect members of a party central committee. (E.C. 316-1994) Changes in the law, effective June 2006, move the primary election from March to June
DISTRICT	A agency that is providing services to the public and has elected officers. Examples a school district, congressional district, water district.
DOMICILE	A person's fixed, permanent, and principal home for legal purposes
DOJ	Abbreviation for Department of Justice
DPW	Abbreviation for Department of Public Works
DRE	Abbreviation for Direct Recording Electronic Voting Unit
DTS	Abbreviation for Decline to State, voters that don't want to name a party on their voter registration form.

EC	Abbreviation for election codes. The California Elections Codebook which governs the elections process
E-DAY	Abbreviation for Election Day
EAC	Elections Assistance Commission
EARLY VOTING	The Absentee Voting period that usually involves using touchscreen voting
EIMS	Abbreviation for Elections Information Management System, our elections software database program we use, leased from DFM.
ELECTION FEE SCHEDULE	List of fees for services provided by the Elections Division.
ELECTIVE OFFICE	Means any office which may, under the principal act of the district agency, be filled by way of an election
ELECTIVE OFFICER	Means "elective officer" as defined by the principal act of each district or agency or if not defined, any officer of a district or agency holding an office which can be filled by election. (E.C. 1055-1994)
ELECTOR	Any person who is a United States citizen, 18 years of age or older and a resident of an election precinct at least 15 days prior to an election (Voter)
EO	Abbreviation for Election Officers
FAIL-SAFE	A provision of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA or "motor voter") includes provisions for "fail-safe" voting. This section states that "a voter who has moved from one address to another within the same county and who has not re-registered to vote at that new address may, at his or her option, and upon showing proof of current residence, vote on the day of election at the polling place at which he or she is entitled to vote based on his or her current residence address, or at the office of the county election official or other central location designated by that elections official." The voter shall be re-registered at the place of voting for future elections. Old school for Provisional Voter.

**FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES
COMMISSION (FPPC) MANUALS**

Forms 700, 460, 501 Etc. used for documenting financial activity for all candidates and committees

FILING FEE

The fee a candidate pays to run for office.

FPPC

Fair Political Practices Commission. The mission of the FPPC is to promote the integrity of representative state and local government in California through fair, impartial interpretation and enforcement of political campaign, lobbying, and conflict of interest laws.

FEDERAL ELECTION

An election that contains federal offices, i.e. US Senator, President

FTFV

First Time Federal Voter. A voter that has voted in an election that contains federal offices.

FVAP

Federal Voting Assistance Program of the Department of Defense. Provides voting related information and resources for Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) citizens. U.S. citizens covered by the UOCAVA include: Members of the U.S. Uniformed Services (on active duty) and merchant marine, their family members, and U.S. citizens residing outside the United States.

GENERAL ELECTION

The election held throughout the state on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in each even numbered year. This is after the primary when all candidates are final and decides who wins the office. Measures may be on the ballot also.

GEMS

Abbreviation for Global Election Management Systems, database used by ES&S (ballot counting vendor) to count ballots. What the AccuVote and TSX connect to. Used by Placer County

GIS	Geographical Information Mapping System. The computer software program used for precinct mapping and mapping by other departments.
HAVA	Help America Vote Act. Congress passed the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to ensure fairness in elections, educate voters about their rights and responsibilities and established the Elections Assistance Commission to assist in the administration of Federal elections and to otherwise provide assistance with the administration of certain Federal election laws and programs.
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HOME PRECINCT	A home precinct is a geographical area within the county in which the voter or election officer lives in.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	U.S. Congress
IC	Imaging Center were our office converts paper to digital images.
INACTIVE VOTER	A voters record that has been removed from active status and whose eligibility to vote is in limbo.
INITIATIVE	A procedure (a petition form) enabling a specified number of voters by petition to propose a law and secure its submission to the electorate or to the legislature for approval.
INSPECTOR	The person in charge of the team of poll workers and responsible for Election Day supplies for their polling place. Inspectors are required to attend a training class and receive \$\$ for working election day.
IRV	Abbreviation for Instant Runoff Voting, also known as Ranked Choice Voting for a Primary Election
IT	Abbreviation for Information Technology Department that maintains the computer system.

JUDGE	The assistant inspector or the #2 person in charge of the polling place.
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission, the agency that works on annexations and districts formation at the county level.
MAIL BALLOT PRECINCT	Mail ballot precincts are special precincts that are created when district boundary lines divide a geographic area leaving a group fewer than 250 registered voters that cannot be consolidated with another precinct due to different issues on the ballot or the area is too rural. These voters are sent their ballots by mail for that election and do not have a polling place. We pay for the postage. These voters are absentees in issuing ballots. But in the ballot counting system they are Poll Place voters.
MOTOR VOTER	Nickname for the National Voter Registration Act, see NVRA.
MB	Abbreviation for Mail Ballot
MVM	Master Voter Module used by voter registration in EIMS
NASED	National Association of State Election Directors
NCOA	National Change of Address. A system of updating addresses on the voter registration database through the Secretary of State Cal Voter system. The SOS gets data from the post office on address changes and forwards them to us. See Elections Code 2222 and 2223 (b).
NOMINATION PAPERS	The legally required paperwork that must be filed for a candidate to run for office. Voters from the district that the candidate is running for sign a petition nominating them for that office.
NOM SIGS	The signatures of voters candidates collect on the petition nominating them to office.
NON-PARTISAN OFFICE	An office for which no party may nominate a candidate. Judicial , school, county and municipal offices are considered non-partisan offices. (E.C. 334-1994)

NVRA	National Voter Registration Act of 1993. It also provides citizens the opportunity to register to vote in conjunction with business at various agencies such as the Department of Motor Vehicles, Social Service Agencies, State Funded Service Agencies, or Armed Forces Recruitment Centers.
OBSERVER	People watching or observing procedures at the polls and/or the elections office. <u>Official Observers</u> are volunteers (usually members of the County Grand Jury, League of Women Voters, and/or political parties) that monitor the ballot counting process, beginning with equipment testing prior to and immediately following the actual ballot counting
OC	Out of County
OFFICIAL BALLOT	The special card supplied by the election official for the voter to use to cast their vote. Used in conjunction with the sample ballot pamphlet.
OFFICIAL RESULTS	The final election results issued after completion of the canvass.
OIM	Offices/Incumbent Module, Candidate Services use in EIMS
PAV	Abbreviation for Permanent Absentee Vote, a voter who wants to be an absentee voter in every election.
PARTISAN OFFICE	An office for which a political party may nominate a candidate. Or a candidate runs for that party office in an election.
PARTY	A political party or organization which has qualifies for participation in any primary election. (E.C. 338-1994)
PEACE OFFICER CONFIDENTIALITY INITIATIVE	Requires that individuals' sign an affidavit stating that life-endangering threats have been received while on the job. Through this initiative, all personal information will be blocked from the walking list currently available for sale to electoral candidates and their staff.

PENDING REGISTRATION	Voter registration cards that are returned with missing information or information not verified yet by the SOS are classified as pending.
PERMANENT ABSENTEE VOTER	By written request, a voter can ask to automatically be mailed an absentee ballot for every election for which they are entitled to vote. This eliminates the need for a voter to send in an application for an absentee ballot before each election.
PERMANENT VOTE BY MAIL	Replaces Permanent Absentee Vote, abbreviation of PVBM
PETITION	There are several petition types, including: the recall of an elected official, gathering of signatures in order to run for office, gathering signatures to offset filing fees or gathering signatures for an initiative or referendum to change a law or stop it from being implemented.
PETITION RECEIPT	Form filled out by elections staff when receiving a local or state petition at the counter.
POLL WATCHER	People watching/observing procedures at the polls and/or monitoring who has voted. They are usually representatives of a political party or candidate.
POLL WORKER	Poll Workers are individuals who work at a polling place (vote casting site). They check to make sure that the voter is registered, give them the correct ballot, assist voters and perform various duties on Election Day.
POLL WORKER APPLICATION	Form for Placer County residents interested in becoming a poll worker
POLLING PLACE	A vote-casting location. This may be a location such as a school, business or library. Poll owners may receive \$\$ for the use of their site.

PRECINCT	A grouping of voters in a geographical area usually with a unique combination of districts.
PREMIER	Old name for ES&S, our ballot counting vendor
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY	The primary election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year, and on the fourth Tuesday in March in any year divisible by the number four, to nominate candidates to be voted for at the ensuing general election or to elect members of a party central committee. (E.C. 316-1994) Changes in the law, effective June 2006, move the primary election from March to June
PROVISIONAL BALLOT	A ballot that is voted at a polling place when a voter's registration is in question. These ballots are sealed in an envelope for later verification by the Elections Division after election day. Once it has been determined that the voter is eligible to voter, the ballot is then opened and tallied.
PUNCH CARD	A ballot card with pre-scored, numbered positions that is marked by the voter with a punching device that makes a hole by the voter's choice. Not used since 2004.
PURGE	The procedure by which an active voter file is changed to inactive, cancelled or removed from the system due to voter inactivity. This is done in mass with a system generated job. Not a politically correct term
QUALIFIED CANDIDATE	A candidate that has completed the filing process and is ready to go on the ballot.
QUICK REFERENCE CALENDAR	Short version of election reference calendar.
RACE	A competition between candidates for elective office or the competition for approval or denial of a ballot measure.
RCV	Ranked Choice Voting. Also known as Instant Runoff Voting (IRV)
RECALL	A petition where the voters recall the elected official before their

	term expires.
REGISTRAR	The Registrar of Voters. The officer/department head responsible for the Elections Division and maintaining the official voting and election records.
REGISTRATION CARD	Voter Registration Card. An official, sworn statement of information used to register to vote.
REFERENCE CALENDAR	Election specific information Excel file on tasks with deadlines for an upcoming election, i.e. candidate filing, last day to register, etc.
REFERENDUM	A petition or to change a law or stop it from being implemented
RESIDENCE	"Residence" for voter registration purposes means a person's domicile, where they live.
ROSTER	The list of voters that the poll workers use to check and see if the voter is qualified to vote.
ROVERS	Persons trained to respond to calls for assistance from Inspectors at the polls and to conduct routine inspections of assigned polls on election day.
SAFE AT HOME BROCHURE/ CAL CAP	A mail forwarding program administered by the Secretary of State. Program, participants have their voter registration information kept confidential
SAMPLE BALLOT	The official pamphlet that contains a copy of the ballot and information on the races. This is mailed to the voter 45 days before the election.
SENATE	The Senate of the United States is the upper house of the Congress. It consists of two senators from every state.
SIGN DEPOSIT FORM	Given to candidates and committees conducting campaigns for office or ballot measures. Must be filled out by these entities if they want to place election signs in the unincorporated area of Placer County. They pay a deposit and get it returned after the election if their signs are removed.

SIG-IN-LIEU	Some candidate need to pay a filing fee of 1% of the yearly salary of the office. Candidate can collect signatures of voters to offset these fees.
SOS	Abbreviation for the Secretary of State. The California elected official whose job it is to oversee the county elections offices statewide.
SOV	Abbreviation for Statement of Votes
STATE PAMPHLET	Election specific guide to statewide candidates and measures appearing on the ballot in California
STATE SENATOR	Upper House of State Legislature. A person elected serves a 4 year term. Placer has the 1st and the 4 th district.
STATEMENT OF VOTES	A report that contains the detailed statistics of the number of votes cast in a specific election. Election results are broken down by political party, precinct, and jurisdiction (district).
STUDENT POLL WORKER	Any high school senior with a grade point average of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale, a citizen of the United States, in good standing attending a public or private secondary educational institutional, and is at least 16-years of age, may work at the polls provided that they have their parents/guardian, teacher and school district approval. California law permits up to five high school seniors to work at each polling place on Election Day.
SUPERVISOR	Refers to a member of a County Board of Supervisors. A Board of Supervisors governs each of the 58 counties in California (All but San Francisco has 5 supervisors). Each supervisor serves a 4-year term, with the terms staggered so that no more than 3 seats go to election at one time. The districts they represent is referred to as "supervisorial" districts.

TROUBLESHOOTER	Troubleshooters/Rovers are persons trained to respond to calls for assistance from poll workers and to conduct routine inspections of assigned polling places.
TSX	ES&S touchscreen voting unit.
UNOFFICIAL RESULTS	All election results issued prior to completion of the official canvass.
UNDELIVERABLE	A undeliverable piece of mail by the post office (ballot,etc.) sent to the voter.
UOCAVA	Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. U.S. citizens covered by the UOCAVA include: Members of the U.S. Uniformed Services (on active duty) and merchant marine, their family members, and U.S. citizens residing outside the United States.
US SENATOR	The elected official selected to serve in the Senate of the United States. A person elected to the U.S. Senate serves for a 6-year term.
VNC	Voter Notification Card. A postcard sent to a newly registered voter confirming their registration/application to vote. E.C. 2155
VOTE BY MAIL	Replaces Absentee Voting
VOTER BILL OF RIGHTS	Top 11 reasons why a person's right to vote is important
VOTER GUIDE	General information on voting and the election process
VOTER INSTRUCTION GUIDE FOR VOTING YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT	Instructions for filling out an absentee or mail ballot
VOTER REGISTRATION DISTRIBUTION FORM	Captures required information for circulators requesting 50 or more forms.

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

The form that qualified residents that are US citizens fill out to register with the Counties to vote.

VOTER ROLLS

Our voter registration database

VRC

Abbreviation for the Voter Registration Cards/Affidavits the voter fills out to register to vote

VVPAT

Abbreviation for Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail. Printer attached to touchscreen for the voter to verify the electronic record of their vote.

WRITE-IN

When a voter chooses to manually write-in a vote for a candidate(s) not printed on the ballot.