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## PLACER COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER-ELECTIONS

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**For Release: March 15, 2010**

**From: Jim McCauley, Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters**  
**To: ALL NEWS MEDIA**  
**Date: March 11, 2010**  
**Subject: Nonpartisan Voter Ballot Options for the Primary Election**  
**Contact: Ferrin Call or Sam Kipp 530-886-5650**

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Nonpartisan voters and voters registered with nonqualified parties (also known as unaffiliated voters) in Placer County may have recently seen postcards in their mailboxes from the Placer County Elections Division. These postcards ask unaffiliated voters who vote by mail to notify the Elections Division which party ballot they would like to receive for the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary Election.

The postcard contains two party options: Republican and Democratic. The Modified Closed Primary system used in California allows qualified political parties to decide whether or not unaffiliated voters may help nominate their candidates. These two parties have opted to give unaffiliated voters that option for the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary Election. Unaffiliated voters may choose a ballot from either party. In addition to federal and state offices, measures and nonpartisan offices will also appear on their ballots. The only offices that these voters will not be able to vote on are the parties' central committees. These voters also have the option to vote a nonpartisan ballot containing only measures and nonpartisan offices.

The remaining qualified political parties in California have chosen to allow only their party members to nominate the federal and state candidates for their respective parties. These parties are the American Independent, Green, Libertarian, and Peace and Freedom parties. If an unaffiliated voter wishes to nominate a candidate for one of those parties, that voter would need to re-register to join the party. The close of registration for the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary Election is May 24, 2010.

If you have any questions about the postcard or the June 8, 2010 Statewide Direct Primary Election you may contact the Elections Division at 530-886-5650 or toll-free in California at 1-800-824-8683. You may also contact the Secretary of State's Office at their toll-free number 1-800-345-8683 or visit their website at [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov) for more information.

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