



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK**

12400 Imperial Highway – P.O. Box 1024, Norwalk, California 90651-1024 – [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net)

**DEAN C. LOGAN**

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

April 14, 2009

**TO:** Supervisor Don Knabe, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer

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

**WEEKLY STATUS REPORT: MAY 19, 2009 STATEWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION**

The following report is provided for the purpose of informing the Board of the ongoing preparations for the May 19<sup>th</sup> Statewide Special Election called by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on February 20, 2009. This is the first of four weekly reports my department will provide, leading up to Election Day, in an effort to keep you and the public informed of our activities and preparations.

**Background**

On February 20, 2009 Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger called for a statewide special election. The election was scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2009 and six statewide measures were placed on the ballot. This presented the County with the task of preparing, coordinating, and conducting a statewide special election under a shortened election calendar—88 days<sup>1</sup>.

Subsequently, on March 10, 2009 the Governor issued a second proclamation calling for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Special Election to fill the vacancy created by the appointment of Congresswoman Hilda Solis as the United States Secretary of Labor. This resulted in the consolidation of the district's Special Primary Election with the May 19, 2009 Special Statewide Election. Since that time, several other elections have been consolidated with the Special Statewide Election (See "List of Contests" section).

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<sup>1</sup> Typically, a minimum of 120 days for preparation and coordination is provided in advance of an election.

While not the specific focus of this report, currently the department is working on a number of stand alone special elections as well. Several other special elections have also been scheduled throughout the summer, following the May 19<sup>th</sup> Special Statewide Election, including the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Special General Election to be held July 14, 2009.

<b>Arcadia Unified School District Election</b>	April 21, 2009
<b>San Marino Unified School District Special Parcel Tax Election*</b>	May 5, 2009
<b>South Pasadena Unified School District Special Parcel Tax Election*</b>	June 16, 2009
<b>Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District Special Parcel Tax Election*</b>	June 23, 2009
<b>Unified School District Special Parcel Tax Election* (Rowland Unified and La Canada Unified)</b>	June 30, 2009
<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Special General Election <i>(if necessary)</i></b>	July 14, 2009

The compressed timeline for the Special Election has presented significant challenges. Candidate Filing Deadlines and the Ballot Designation Public Review Period also presented a challenge that required nearly precise timing and a high level of coordination between our department and our printing vendor, in order to ensure that Sample Ballots and vote recorder pages are printed and mailed on time.

### **General Overview**

This election is being conducted as a countywide election, serving the more than four million voters within our jurisdiction. The following table provides you some general statistics concerning the size and scale of the election.

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\* This election is being conducted as an all Vote By Mail election.

General Statistics for May 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 Special Statewide Election	
Ballot Groups:	384
Vote at Poll Precincts:	3,057
Vote by Mail Precincts:	503
Average Voters per Precinct:	1,500
Registered Voters:	*4,334,165
Check in Centers:	66
Precinct Officers:	15,285 (4 per polling place)
Poll Hours:	7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sample Ballot Translations:	Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese
Estimated Cost of Election:	\$28 million

### List of Contests:

The ballot will include contests for various jurisdictions and levels of office. Contests include: 6 Statewide Measures, 1 Congressional, 1 State Legislative, 3 Municipal Officials, 2 Citywide Measures, and 2 Special Districts.

List of Contests
<b><u>Federal</u></b> 32 <sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Primary
<b><u>State</u></b> Statewide Measures 1A-1F 26 <sup>th</sup> State Senate Special General Election
<b><u>Municipal</u></b> City of Los Angeles Los Angeles City Attorney Los Angeles City Council District 5 City of Palmdale Palmdale City Council Palmdale Measure A Palmdale Measure B
<b><u>Special District</u></b> Los Angeles Community College District Trustee Areas 2 and 6

## **Status of Vote by Mail and Overseas Voting**

As of the date of this report staff has performed with deliberate speed and diligence to prepare for the mailing of Vote by Mail ballots, scheduled to begin on April 20<sup>th</sup> (29 days prior to Election Day). Already, staff has prepared 248,915 Vote by Mail packages, in large part to ensure early mailing of ballots to Permanent Vote by Mail Voters. In addition, an initial 4,404 Vote by Mail ballots were mailed to Military voters on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The mailing of ballots to members of our military will continue on a daily basis until the mailing deadline. We are preparing to mail ballots to approximately 207 Overseas Voters (OVS) in the voter file, who are eligible to vote in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Election.

## **Sample Ballot Mailings**

Mailing of the Official Sample Ballot booklets began yesterday April 13, 2009. For this initial mailing, 200,000 Official Sample Ballots were delivered to the United States Postal Service yesterday afternoon.

The election calendar for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Special Primary Election had presented some special circumstances that required us to periodically delay the printing of materials for voters in the district, until a certified list of candidates was issued by the Secretary of State. The certified list of candidates has been issued and production of the sample ballots is underway.

## **Poll Worker Training and Recruitment/Polling Place Recruitment**

Despite the shortened election calendar, staff has been working tirelessly to recruit the necessary polling places and poll workers to successfully execute the election.

### **Polling Places:**

As of Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> we have confirmed more than 99% of the 3,057 polling places needed for the election. It is important to note that polling places in some parts of the County have changed for the May 19<sup>th</sup> election. Polling place changes are due to two critical factors. First, a number of polling places recruited by the City of Los Angeles for it's Municipal Primary Election were either: 1) not willing to make the facility available, in large part because of the lower allowable compensation the county allocates to polling places compared to the City of Los Angeles; 2) a number of polling place facilities could not accommodate our needs. Second, special precinct consolidation in some areas of the county required that we identify more central polling place locations for the voters in these voting precincts. Parking and accessibility are the primary factors we consider in evaluating and selecting polling places.

To ensure that voters affected by any polling place changes are aware of these changes, we will be notifying them via an automated (robocall) message that will inform the household that their polling place may have changed and instruct them to check

their sample ballot, look up their polling place online at [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net), or call the RR/CC.

### **Poll Workers:**

This election will require at least 15,285 individuals to serve as poll workers. As of this Monday 6,904 (45%) of poll workers needed have been recruited. Pollworker recruitment will continue until the required number has been confirmed.

<b>Poll Worker Recruitment Report</b>					
<b>May 19th Special Statewide Election</b>					
	<b>14-Apr</b>	<b>21-Apr</b>	<b>28-Apr</b>	<b>5-May</b>	<b>12-May</b>
<b>Inspectors</b>					
Required	3,057				
Recruited	2,477				
Outstanding	580				
<b>Clerks</b>					
Required	12,228				
Confirmed	4,427				
Outstanding	7,801				
<b>Special Recruitment</b>					
County Employees	1,554				
Bilingual PW	713				
Students	1,317				

### **Special Update: Vote by Mail**

In an effort to account for the limited number of district level contests on the May 19<sup>th</sup> Ballot and the expected low voter turnout, a greater number of registered voters have been assigned to Declared Vote by Mail Precincts (VBM Precinct). In total, this election will have 503 VMB precincts, a total of 26,190 Registered Voters (excluding Permanent Absentee Voters).

Voting Precincts are declared Vote by Mail when fewer than 250 voters are assigned to a voting precinct. This election, the department applied two different voter limits for precincts. Within the City of Los Angeles, 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, 26<sup>th</sup> State Senate District, a per precinct voter limit of no more than 1,500 voters was applied. In most other areas across the county a per precinct voter limit of no more than 3,000 voters was applied.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Special consolidation procedures were executed in compliance with California Election Code (EC § 12241), which allows the elections official conducting in an election other than a direct primary, presidential primary, or general election to consolidate not more than six precincts into a single consolidated precinct.

Please note that all voters assigned to VBM precincts will automatically receive a Vote by Mail ballot, similar to a Permanent Vote by Mail voter. In addition, voters will receive a special notice informing them of the reason for receiving a vote by mail ballot (see attached).

Voters designated to a VBM Precinct may still drop-off their vote by mail ballot at any polling place. Those voters who wish to vote at the polls also have the option to cast a provisional ballot at any polling place within the county.



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**IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION**

**Dean C. Logan**  
**Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk**

Dear Voter:

This notice is to advise you that all voters in your precinct **must vote by a Vote By Mail Ballot** in the **May 19, 2009 Special Statewide Consolidated Election**. There will be no polling place in your precinct. Your **Vote By Mail Guide** is enclosed in this packet. Separately, we will mail your complete **Official Sample Ballot Booklet** which is viewable online at [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net).

When voters must cast a ballot different from those in adjacent precincts because of legislative or special district boundaries, and, like your precinct, have 250 or fewer registered voters, State law authorizes elections officials to designate precincts for Vote By Mail voting.

A Vote By Mail ballot may be returned to the elections office by mail or delivered to any polling place in Los Angeles County on Election Day. **To be counted, your ballot must be received on Election Day by 8 p.m. at the Norwalk Office of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk or any polling place.**

If you have any questions about Vote By Mail voting please call (562) 466-1323. For addresses of polling places in your area, where you may drop off your voted ballot, please call (800) 481-8683.