

County of Tulare Election Observer Panel Plan

I. County and System Information

1. Name of County: Tulare
2. Name of Contact: Paul Sampietro
3. Contact's Phone: 559.733.6275
4. Vendor and Voting Systems Used by County:
Sequoia Voting Systems – Optech 400C, Optech Insight, and AVC Edge II
5. Revised Date: October 3, 2008

II. Purpose

The purpose of the Election Observer Panel is to:

1. Educate the interested persons about the election process.
2. Assist in ensuring the integrity of the election process.
3. Encourage participation and build voter confidence in the election process.

III. Invite

The following will receive letters of invitation, sample attached, to observe the conduct of the election:

1. County Grand Jury
2. Political Party representatives
3. Representatives from jurisdictions on the ballot
4. League of Women Voters
5. Media
6. Other groups or individuals who have expressed an interest in observing the vote tallying and other election processes

IV. General Rules for Observers:

Site and function specific rules will be given out at each location.

V. Mechanism for Feedback

All verbal and written feedback, is welcome

October 3, 2008

This is to notify you of the dates, times and place where vote by mail ballots cast for the **November 4, 2008** Presidential General Election will be opened, processed and counted, as well as the date, time, and place where the random selection of precincts to be included in the 1% manual tally will occur.

The opening, processing and counting of vote by mail ballots both prior to and after the election shall be open to public observation on **Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 2:00 PM**. Additionally, all election night activities are open to observation.

Attached is a copy of the "Notice of Central Count Accumulation and Commencement of Absentee Ballot Processing". Observers will be required to sign in whenever they enter the office but will be allowed close enough access to observe any part of the process.

Your organization is invited to appoint an observer to watch all or any part of the process. Please call Paul Sampietro at (559) 733-6275 to give the name and phone number of your appointed observer.

Sincerely,
RITA WOODARD
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

**NOTICE OF CENTRAL COUNT
ACCUMULATION
AND COMMENCEMENT OF VOTE BY MAIL
BALLOT PROCESSING**

As per Elections Code 12109, notice is hereby given that at the General Election to be held on November 4, 2008 all voted ballots will be counted on either a Sequoia Optech Insight or a Sequoia AVC Edge II voting unit at each polling location, and the results will be accumulated at the Tulare County Registrar of Voters Office after the polls close on Election Day. All valid absentee and provisional ballots will be counted at a central location on a Sequoia 400-C central count optical scan voting machine and not at a polling location. That central location will be at the Tulare County Registrar of Voters Office located at: 5951 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, California.

The polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. on Election Day.

As per Elections Code 15104, the Registrar of Voters also hereby notifies all interested organizations that the verifying of signatures on absentee voter ballots cast for the General Election will commence on October 6, 2008, in the County Registrar of Voters Office, 5951 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, California. On October 28, 2008, or at any time thereafter, the opening, processing and central count accumulation of absentee ballots will commence. This process will continue until all election results are tabulated and the election is certified.

Any member of the County Grand Jury, and one member each of the Republican County Central Committee, the Democratic County Central Committee and of any other party with a candidate on the ballot, and any other interested organization, shall be permitted to observe and challenge the manner in which the absentee voter ballots are processed, from the opening through the counting and disposition of the ballots.

To register as an observer call the Elections Office at (559) 733-6275.

Dated: October 3, 2008

RITA WOODARD
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Paul Sampietro
Elections Division Manager

Quienes desean obtener la version en español de este aviso legal pueden solicitar una copia llamando al Departamento de Elecciones, (559) 733-6662.