



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

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DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk



October 13, 2008

TO: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer

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

STATUS REPORT 2: THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

Voter Registration, Education and Outreach Efforts

Voter Registration: To date we have 4,149,229 registered voters in Los Angeles County. The following table shows the week's voter registration totals and overall registrations on file.

VOTER REGISTRATION TOTALS BY WEEK
November 4, 2008 – Presidential General Election

	Reg. Period Total June 6 - Present	TOTAL REGISTRATIONS
Beginning Total¹ Sept. 29	137,197	4,052,832
Week 1: Oct. 6	195,619	4,111,254
Week 2: Oct. 13	275,821	4,149,229
Week 3: Oct. 20		
Week 4: Oct. 27		
Week 5: Nov. 3		
Total	275,821	4,149,229

¹ Please note reporting dates have been changed from the last report. We will issue Status Reports each Monday including the Monday before the General Election.

On October 20, 2008, the RR/CC hosts the close of voter registration “Midnight Madness” event. We will staff voter registration and information booths throughout the county until 12:00 midnight to allow all eligible citizens the option of registering to vote before the legal cutoff for this election.

The following sites are confirmed registration locations for the Midnight Madness event:

- District 1: Dodger Stadium, 1000 Elysian Park Ave., Los Angeles
Starbucks, 9028 Flair Dr, El Monte
- District 2: Magic Johnson Starbucks, 5301 W. Centinela Ave., Los Angeles
The Korea Daily, 690 Wilshire Place, Los Angeles
- District 3: West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood
Wendy’s, 17684 Sherman Way, Van Nuys
Wendy’s, 14645 Roscoe Blvd, Panorama City
- District 4: RR/CC Headquarters, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk
Long Beach City Hall, 333 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach
- District 5: Westfield Valencia Town Center, 24201 Valencia Blvd., Valencia
Wendy’s, 18507 Devonshire St., Northridge
Starbucks, 942 Arrow Hwy, San Dimas

Additional locations will be established through our community partnerships. Promotional information about close of registration events and activities will be posted on our website (www.lavote.net) as they become available.

In addition to our regular voter registration outreach at parades, festivals, neighborhood meetings and other venues we sponsored voter outreach and education booths at Dodger Stadium and at the UCLA Bruins. These events are linked to an aggressive voter information Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaign that highlights Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requirements including accessibility and multi-lingual services.

The RR/CC has developed a contingency plan in anticipation of large numbers of new voter registrations. We will incorporate staff from all bureaus within the department to assist in data entry and we will enter all registrations received through the close of registration by Election Day. We have also developed and will implement a “robo-call” program that notifies newly registered voters throughout the County of their voting options, how to access a sample ballot and how to check their polling place location. Additionally, we will continue our call program to voters whose polling places have changed notifying them of their options for confirming their correct polling places.

Voter Registration Integrity:

We have followed national media stories concerning allegedly fraudulent voter registration efforts; specifically those associated with a group called “Acorn”. RR/CC records indicate there has been no recent distribution or receipt of voter registration affidavits from this group. We have referred one case of alleged registration irregularity to the District Attorney relating to a change of party transaction during the June 2008 Statewide Direct Primary by the organization Young Political Major (YPM).

Voter Education and Outreach Activities: We are partnered with multiple organizations to provide outreach, registration and education services to Los Angeles County voters and eligible citizens. ²

On Friday, September 19, RR/CC staff and I attended the Dodgers/Giants game with Secretary of State Debra Bowen, who threw out the first pitch. Secretary Bowen and I toured our five voter registration booths at Dodger Stadium and produced a PSA encouraging LA County residents to register and vote. Dodger personnel handed out a “flip book” with the RR/CC “Vote You Count!” logo and message to the first 50,000 fans at the game. RR/CC contact information was included inside the front cover. Additionally, our “Vote You Count!” logo and “Register to Vote” message was displayed throughout the entire game on the stadium’s LED ribbon board.

Last week I gave an interview on KRTH/KTWV where I discussed the RR/CC’s election preparation, voter registration and other election-related issues. Additionally, I appeared on the Tim Conway, Jr. show on 97.1 FM and KCAL 9, “Spotlight on the Community” on KABC and KLOS radio, and Jacqui Stephens’ “L.A. Speaks Out” radio program on KJLH 102.3. We also partnered with the UCLA Bruins where we had a voter information, education and registration booth at last Saturday’s game. The RR/CC received sponsorship recognition throughout the game. We have online presence on the UCLA web site through November 4 and we have placed an ad in the UCLA Bruin Newsletter.

We extended our PSA outreach efforts to 24 cities throughout Los Angeles County who either broadcast them on their local access television channels or provide a link to our PSA’s from their websites..

Please visit our web site at www.lavote.net for recorded PSAs and graphic promotional materials. Log into our new Press Room and click on “PSAs”, “Video Library”, and “Audio” to see and listen to our campaign.)

² Key partnerships for this election include: Los Angeles Dodgers; UCLA Bruins; CBS Television (including KCBS Channel 2 and KCAL Channel 9); CBS Radio (including 93.1 JACK FM, 980 AM KFVB, 97.1 KLSX, 1070 AM KNX, 106.7 FM KROQ, 101.1 KRTH FM, 94.7 KTWV FM); CBS Outdoor; L.A. Sentinel Newspaper; KJLH Radio 102.3; Los Angeles Times; and the Daily News. Spanish language multilingual outreach includes: Univision TV Channel 34; Univision Radio KLOVE 107.5; Entravision Communications Corporation (including 107.1 Super Estrella, 103.1 INDIE, 97.5 Jose); and LaOpinion Newspaper. Asian language multilingual media outreach includes: LA 18 KSCI (Asian) Television; Los Angeles Asian Journal; The Korea Times; The Korea Daily; Rafu Shimpo; Chinese Daily News; Multi-lingual Radio Broadcasting Inc., (Vietnamese, Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, Japanese); and Nguoi-Vet Daily News.

Vote By Mail, Sample Ballots and Military/Overseas Ballots

The following is a table of our Vote By Mail and Sample Ballot Statistics. These will be updated on a weekly basis.

**VOTE BY MAIL, SAMPLE & MILITARY/OVERSEAS BALLOT REPORTS
November 4, 2008 – Presidential General Election**

	VOTE BY MAIL ³			SAMPLE BALLOT	MILITARY & OVERSEAS BALLOTS		
	Requested	Mailed	Returned	Mailed ⁴	Requested	Mailed	Returned
Begin Sept. 29	525,831	Begins E-29 (Oct. 6)	N/A	312,742	20,494	17,511	N/A
WEEK 1 Oct. 6	92,056	Begins E-29 (Today)	N/A	3,145,762	2,379	5,722	3,033
WEEK 2 Oct. 13	98,157	642,235	43,848	549,907	592	592	3,033
WEEK 3 Oct. 20							
WEEK 4 Oct. 27							
WEEK 5 Nov. 3							
TOTAL	716,044	642,235	43,848	4,008,411	23,825	23,825	3,033

Vote By Mail Ballots: Voting instructions are included in all Vote By Mail ballot packets. Vote by mail mailings began Monday, October 6 and will be mailed through October 28. Ballots must be returned to the RR/CC Headquarters in Norwalk no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Voted ballots may also be turned in at any Los Angeles County polling place on Election Day.

The RR/CC's new VOTE BY MAIL STATUS FUNCTION is now operable and on our web site located at www.lavote.net. As previously stated, the function allows voters who have applied for a Vote By Mail ballot to check the date we processed their Vote By Mail application, the date we mailed their Vote By Mail ballot, the date we received their voted ballot, whether or not the ballot was challenged – and if it was challenged, the reason for the challenge.

³ Our Vote By Mail totals include Permanent Vote By Mail voters, declared Vote By Mail precinct voters and Military and Overseas voters.

⁴ Note that this figure constitutes booklets that are confirmed mailed by the USPS and not ballots that have been picked up from the RR/CC.

Sample Ballots : Sample ballot mailing began on September 25 and continues until the weekend before the election. Voters can also look up their sample ballot along with their polling place location by logging into www.lavote.net or by calling our toll free number at 1-800-815-2666. All printed materials are available in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Tagalog/Filipino, Vietnamese and Japanese. Online services include these languages in addition to Russian, Armenian and Cambodian.

Online Poll Worker Training and Poll Worker Recruitment

Our Poll Worker Training Program is now operable. Although we do not require poll workers to use all aspects of the training on the site, we encourage them to visit it and review the modules before Election Day and each poll worker trainee is assigned a username and password for online access. The online training augments and reinforces the required in-person training workshops.

We have reached all initial poll worker recruitment goals and we continue to build our reserve for Election Day. We successfully recruited Inspectors, Clerks, NVC Directors and Coordinators. We have recruited nearly 4,435 county employees and 4,300 student poll workers – both have broken records for the number of recruits in Los Angeles County in any election.

We have scheduled and are now conducting over 500 training classes at 90 locations throughout the county. Training schedules and locations are available on our website.

The table below tracks the number of recruited poll workers.

POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT BY WEEK⁵
November 4, 2008 – Presidential General Election
Goal: 26,760 (optimum staffing level; exceeds legal requirement)⁶

	Inspectors	Clerks	Coordinators	NVC Directors
Beginning Total	4,380	17,154	670	228
Sept. 29				
Week 1	7	2,185	30	40
Oct. 6			Goal Achieved	Goal Achieved
Week 2	7	1,931		5
Oct. 13	Goal Achieved	Goal Exceeded		Goal Exceeded
Week 3				
Oct. 20				
Week 4				
Oct. 27				
Total	4,394	22,687	700	273

⁵ Figures represent *confirmed* student, County and regular Inspectors, Coordinators, NVC Directors and Clerks.

⁶ Any poll workers not assigned are placed in our reserve program and are placed based on available positions.

Braille Institute Voter Education Site

Our Voter Education and Outreach Information program begins at the Braille Institute on October 22 and continues through October 31. Visitors to the site have access to multilingual voter education materials, Vote By Mail application packets and accessible voting machine demonstrations. Voters can also check their polling place locations and their registration status and ask questions of our trained staff members.

Help Desk Program

We fully implemented our AskEd Help Desk program in June. The Help Desk call system assists the public and RR/CC staff in problem resolution during high call volume periods. It also provides valuable statistics that document the type of problem or inquiry, the time it took to resolve the issue and whether or not it was solved at the “front end” or routed to another area for follow up. In June, our AskEd operators fielded over 5,000 calls on Election Day. A majority of them – 89 percent – were resolved in under a minute. Our entire staff will attend training as this system has become the standard for fielding Election Day calls. We recently conducted mandatory AskEd training sessions and we will continue training sessions until all Election Day phone personnel are fully trained.

Phone System Modification

The RR/CC has assembled a project team to implement enhanced telephone service for the November election. The team includes staff from the RR/CC Technical Services Bureau, Information Services Department (ISD) ITS, Los Angeles City Clerk’s Office and Verizon. For this election, we will have three call center sites operating – one at Los Angeles City Clerk’s Piper Tech Election Operations Center, one at the ISD-ITS headquarters and our main call center at the RR/CC Headquarters in Norwalk. The addition of the remote call centers provides in excess of 150 operators assisting with Election Day calls. All phone staff will be trained on and will utilize our AskEd Help Desk program.

We anticipate Election Day telephone calls may peak at 6,000 calls per hour. Our goal with the enhanced phone system is to ensure every call is answered by either an automated response voice or a live operator. We recognize the limitations of our current telephone communications infrastructure and appreciate the support we have received to make these enhancements.

Results Reporting

We are expecting record high voter turnout for this election. Anticipated long lines at the polls and increased ballot volume will impact timeframes for reporting Election Night results. We are focused on careful transfer and ballot tally operations so that the results we do issue will be accurate and as timely as possible. Information provided to candidates and media in advance of the election will address this issue. We will be issuing a historical Election Night reporting analysis to your Board and to the media that shows ballot processing and reporting times in past Presidential Primary and General elections.

Election Operations Center (EOC) Press Conference and Open House

On October 23, the RR/CC will conduct a pre-election press conference and an EOC Open House Dedication ceremony. The press conference begins at 1:30 PM and highlights Election Day plans, voter education and outreach efforts, a voter equipment demonstration and other election-related topics. It is followed at 3:00 by the dedication ceremony.

Poll Worker Recognition Event

The RR/CC has requested that the Board of Supervisors honor our poll workers who have served in over 50 elections. The event is scheduled to take place at the Board meeting on October 21. Honorees include poll workers, multilingual poll workers, a county poll worker, and a volunteer deputy voter registrar who has been registering voters every week for the past thirty five years.