## **NEWS**

## From Supervisor Gary Ovitt Fourth District, San Bernardino County

PRESS RELEASE August 7, 2007



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Ovitt Introduces Online Fleetropie Compaign Disclosure Deports

## Ovitt Introduces Online Electronic Campaign Disclosure Reports Filing System

SAN BERNARDINO – San Bernardino County Fourth District Supervisor Gary Ovitt gave a presentation at the County Board meeting today of the new electronic Campaign Disclosure Filing Report system (Form 460), that includes the July 31<sup>st</sup> semi-annual filing requirement. Those affected would include county political party committees and county elected officials who are required to file a semi-annual report.

Ovitt in his opening remarks said; "This is an important step in making the political process more transparent to county residents. The ability to view the reports online will dramatically increase the number of contact hits on the Registrar of Voters Website. We know because once Financial Disclosure Forms (Form 700) went online, the number of online hits increased the first month to 2,000 from the previous year's in-person visits of approximately 200."

The Campaign Disclosure Reports (Form 460) are required to be filed semi-annually. The closing date for the period beginning January 1, 2007 closed on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Completed forms were due to the Registrar of Voters by July 31, 2007.

The new electronic on-line filing system is available free of charge and allows anyone to enter and file disclosure statements quickly and easily. The on-line system affords benefits to campaigns and committees by providing them open and simple access to campaign statements. Currently, campaign statements can only be viewed by an in-person visit to the Registrar of Voter's Office. The new system will allow the public to view statements on-line over the internet. Addresses on statements will be redacted for security purposes.

Supervisor Ovitt further stated; "This is another important step in our effort to make open and transparent government a reality in our County. The ability to file and review Form 460 reports is a key expansion in making political campaigns, candidates and political parties visible and accountable to the voters in our County and other interested parties. People will be able to view online who contributed to whom and how those contributions were spent."

Ovitt went on to say; "the Registrar of Voters, Kari Verjil and her staff deserve a great deal of credit for making the electronic filing system a reality. They have been enthusiastically supportive since day one and worked hard to make sure the technology was operative to make the concept a reality."

The website for the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters is <a href="www.sbcrov.com">www.sbcrov.com</a>. The office has recently revised their website to provide an easier format for finding County election and voting information.