



County of San Bernardino

Community Services Group

ELECTIONS OFFICE of the REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

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Registrar of Voters

RECOUNT INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

A recount is conducted by the election official for the purpose of verifying the number of votes counted for any office or measure in an election. California Elections Code Chapter 12, Sections 15620 through 15634 govern voter requested recounts.

WHO CAN REQUEST

Any voter may file a request. (E.C. 15620)

TIMING THE REQUEST

The request must be filed within five days after the completion of the official canvass. The canvass is complete when the election official signs the Certification of the Election Results. (E.C. 15620)

FORMAT OF REQUEST

- The request must be in writing. (E.C. 15620)
- Must specify the contest to be recounted. (E.C. 15620)
- Must state on behalf of which candidate, slate of electors, or position on a measure (affirmative or negative) it is filed (E.C. 15620)
- May specify the order in which precincts shall be recounted. (E.C. 15622)
- May specify the method of counting to be used (computer, manual or both). (E.C. 15627)
- May specify any other relevant material to be examined. (E.C. 15630)

PLACE OF FILING

- With the county election official responsible for conducting the election, if the contest is not voted upon statewide. (E.C. 15620)
- If an election is conducted in more than one county, the request may be filed with the county election official of, and the recount conducted within, any and all affected counties. (E.C. 15620)
- With the Secretary of State if the contest is voted upon statewide. (E.C. 15621)
- With the City Clerk if it is a city election (or if the city has not consolidated with the county). (E.C. 15620)

NOTICE OF RECOUNT

A Notice stating the date and place of the recount will be posted by the election official at least one day prior to the recount and the following persons will be notified in person or by any federally regulated overnight mail service. (E.C. 15628)

- All candidates for the office being recounted.
- Authorized representatives of presidential candidates, if the race for presidential delegates is to be recounted.
- Proponents of any initiative or referendum or persons filing ballot arguments for or against any initiative, referendum or measure to be recounted.
- Secretary of State if the recount is for candidates for any state of federal office, delegates to a national convention, or any state measure.

PROCESS OF RECOUNT

- The recount is open to the public. (E.C. 15629)
- Recount must start no later than seven days following the receipt of the request and shall be continued daily, Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays excepted, for not less than six hours each day until completed. (E.C. 15626)
- A manual recount must be conducted under the supervision of the election official by recount boards, consisting of four voters of the county, appointed by the election official. (E.C. 15625)

RESULT OF RECOUNT

- The results of a recount are declared null and void unless every vote in every precinct in which the contest appeared is recounted. (E.C. 15632)
- Upon completion of a recount, if a different candidate, slate of electors, or position on a measure receives a plurality of votes, the results of the official canvass will be changed. (E.C. 15632)
- A copy of the results of any recount conducted shall be posted conspicuously in the office of the election official. (E.C. 15633)

COST AND PAYMENT

- The election official shall determine the amount of the deposit necessary to cover costs of the recount for each day. (E.C. 15624)
- The voter filing the request for recount must deposit, before the recount commences and at the beginning of each day following, such sums as required by the election official to cover the cost of the recount for that day. (E.C. 15624)
- If upon completion of the recount the results are reversed, all of the deposit shall be returned. (E.C. 15624)

AUTOMATIC MANUAL RECOUNT

By law, a random sample of ballots from every election must be recounted manually to verify the computer count. A minimum of all votes cast in one (1%) of the precincts is included in this process. This manual recount must be completed before the election is certified. The Automatic Manual Recount is open to the public.

Please contact the Elections Office of the Registrar of Voters @ 909-387-2046 or 909-387-2083 for further information regarding cost breakdown.