

NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
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Denver elections chief selected as new Registrar

The County of San Bernardino has selected an experienced and highly qualified elections manager to serve as the County's new Registrar of Voters.

Michael J. Scarpello, who most recently served as Director of Elections for the City and County of Denver, Colorado, is an expert at improving operations, reporting results quickly and accurately, and developing innovative programs to assist voters.

Scarpello succeeds Kari Verjil, who recently left the County of San Bernardino to return to Riverside County. "Kari was an excellent Registrar who left us with an excellent Registrar's office," said San Bernardino County Chief Executive Officer Greg Devereaux. "Mike's experience indicates he will make our operation even better. San Bernardino County is very fortunate to have attracted such an accomplished and highly qualified election official."

Scarpello said he is well-prepared to serve as San Bernardino County's Registrar of Voters. "I have knowledge of and experience in using the paper-based Sequoia Voting System that is used in San Bernardino County and have successfully delivered timely election results in Denver using that system," Scarpello said. Scarpello is an attorney who studies election law, practices throughout the country, and is knowledgeable about California election laws and practices.

Scarpello, who prior to serving in Denver served as Elections Manager in Douglas County, Nebraska, which includes the City of Omaha, is credited with transforming election offices in Colorado and Nebraska into successful organizations that now conduct fair, accurate, secure, transparent and efficient elections.

His other accomplishments include:

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- Forming an elections advisory committee with members from the public, community organizations, political parties, businesses, and government that partnered with election staff to design an election model that could be successful, affordable, and acceptable to the public.
- Redesigning ballot processing procedures enabling Denver, for the last four elections, to report its results on-schedule, making Denver the first large county in Colorado to finish its election-night counting.
- Developing "Ballot TRACE", a ballot Tracking, Reporting, and Communication Engine – a first-in-the-nation, award-winning system that tracks mail ballots using bar codes and provides reports to election officials about the location of ballots in the postal system and communicates to individual voters via email and text messages about the status and location of their ballots.

"Mike is a true talent in the elections world, and he deserves the major opportunity that his new position represents," said Denver Clerk and Recorder Stephanie Y. O'Malley. "San Bernardino County is gaining one of the most talented and most dedicated elections officials in the country. Mike goes with our congratulations, our good wishes, and our thanks for thoroughly transforming the way elections are administered here in Denver."

Scarpello begins work with San Bernardino County on Monday.