



MARCH 5, 2024
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

**CANDIDATE HANDBOOK
& RESOURCE GUIDE FOR
*SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE***

I M P O R T A N T

This Candidate Handbook & Resource Guide provides general information to assist candidates and committees. It is not intended to provide legal advice and should not be substituted for legal counsel. In case of conflict, the law, regulation, or rule will apply.

Candidates and others using this handbook bear the full responsibility to make their own determination as to all standards and duties. Thus, the references are for convenience only. The Registrar of Voters strongly recommends any prospective candidate obtain legal advice, to assist in complying with applicable laws and regulations.

Document Revisions:

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MESSAGE FROM THE REGISTRAR

Congratulations on your decision to run for office. For many candidates, the process of running for office can be confusing, with resulting errors and misunderstandings. Although this handbook is a guide for candidates, it is for general information only and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation, or rule. In case of conflict, the law, regulation, or rule will apply. This handbook does not contain all information concerning elections, but a summary of major provisions related to candidates running for office. Candidates and others using this handbook must bear full responsibility to make their own determinations as to all legal standards and duties.

We have attempted to make this handbook as informative as possible and will make every effort to answer your questions. However, the law precludes the Registrar of Voters or staff from answering legal questions. This handbook is NOT intended to be a substitute for legal advice. Candidates are strongly encouraged to consult legal counsel when legal questions arise.

The best advice for all candidates is **FILE EARLY**. The filing deadlines are rigid and cannot be waived or changed. Waiting until the last minute may result in errors or omissions that cannot be corrected and may impact your right to appear on the ballot. Most errors and/or oversights can be mitigated given adequate time.

We hope you find this Candidate Handbook & Resource Guide useful and wish you the best of luck in your campaign. Regardless of who wins, we hope you have a positive experience.

Good luck,

Donna Hillegass
Yuba County Clerk/Recorder – Registrar of Voters

AN OVERVIEW – WHAT TO EXPECT

IMPORTANT: ELECTIONS OFFICE VISITS – ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME

Each step of the filing process is essential and must be completed correctly. Candidates should be prepared to spend *at least 30-45* minutes to begin the filing process. Some future visits will take more time and some less, but it is important candidates are prepared to take whatever time is necessary to complete and review all appropriate documents.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointments are not required but are *strongly recommended*. Individuals with an appointment will be given priority over walk-in applicants. NOTE: Beginning September 7, 2023, candidates may contact our office to schedule their candidate filing appointment. Candidate filing begins September 14, 2023.

THE FIRST VISIT

During a candidate's first appointment, they will receive information regarding the entire filing process. Elections staff will explain optional and required documents, provide information about deadlines, and answer any questions. Questions are encouraged. It is important candidates understand the process and requirements.

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

There are several steps to the filing process. It is important to remember the final step is filing a Declaration of Candidacy. *Only candidates who have filed a Declaration of Candidacy will have their name placed on the ballot.* Candidates who have not filed a Declaration of Candidacy will not appear on the ballot.

DEADLINES

Yuba County Elections has no authority to extend filing deadlines. It is important candidates are aware of all deadlines and ensure that they file all documents by the appropriate deadline. Candidates are encouraged to file well in advance of deadlines to address any corrections needed.

KEY DATES FOR CANDIDATES

Date(s)	Activity
09/14/2023 – 11/08/2023	<p>Petition In-Lieu of Filing Fee Between these dates, candidates may obtain and file Petitions In-Lieu of Filing Fee to secure signatures in-lieu of paying all or part of the filing fee. Valid signatures will be applied to the nomination signature requirement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EC §§ 8061, 8105, 8106</p>
10/30/2023 – 11/08/2023	<p>Declaration of Intention (Judicial Offices) Between these dates, candidates for judicial offices must file a Declaration of Intention to become a candidate. The filing fee must be paid at this time. Signatures in-Lieu of filing fee will not be accepted after the Declaration of Intention is filed. The filing fee is non-refundable.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EC §§ 8023, 8105(b)</p>
11/09/2023 – 11/13/2023*	<p>Declaration of Intention Extension Period (Judicial Offices) Between these dates, if an incumbent fails to file a Declaration of Intention paper by November 8, 2023, there will be not more than 14 nor less than five-calendar day extension period during which any qualified person, other than the incumbent, may file a Declaration of Intention no later than the first day for filing nomination paper.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§ 8023(b)</p>
11/13/2023 – 12/08/2023	<p>Nomination Papers & Declaration of Candidacy Between these dates, candidates must file their Nomination Papers and Declaration of Candidacy. The non-refundable filing fee is due when nomination papers are issued. The fee may be paid by money, valid signatures submitted on Petitions in-lieu of Filing Fee, or a combination of both. <i>No candidate who has filed a Declaration of Candidacy may withdraw.</i></p> <p>Candidate Statement of Qualifications Between these dates, candidates for Superior Court Judge may prepare a statement of qualifications to be included in the County Voter Information Guide. The statement shall be filed and paid for at the time the Declaration of Candidacy is filed. The statement may not be changed but may be withdrawn up until 5:00 p.m. on the day after the close of candidate filing. Note: State Candidates who file their Declaration of Candidacy in a different county will only submit their Candidate Statement and payment. Only State Senate and State Assembly candidates who accept the voluntary expenditure ceiling established for the election may purchase space in the Voter Information Guide.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§ 8105, § 8106</p>
12/09/2023 – 12/13/2023	<p>Nomination & Declaration of Candidacy Extension Extension period for anyone other than the incumbent to file a Nomination Petition and Declaration of Candidacy if the incumbent did not file by December 6th. This provision does not apply if there is no incumbent eligible to be elected.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§ 8024</p>
12/14/2023	<p>Randomized Alphabet Drawing Randomized alphabet drawing to be held by the Secretary of State and Counties to determine the order of candidates on the ballot. This is conducted at 11:00 am.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§ 13112</p>
01/25/2024	<p>Campaign Disclosure Statements – 1st Pre-Election Statement Last day to file 1st Pre-election campaign statement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GC§ 84200</p>
01/31/2024	<p>Campaign Disclosure Statements - Semi-Annual Statement Last day to file a semi-annual campaign statement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GC§ 84200</p>

Date(s)	Activity
02/22/2024	Campaign Disclosure Statements – 2nd Pre-Election Statement Last day to file 2 nd Pre-election campaign statement.

GC§ 84200.5

OFFICES FOR FILING

Office	Term	Begins	Qualifications
Superior Court Judge: Office 1 Incumbent: Stephen W. Berrier	6 years	01/06/2025	<p style="text-align: center;">-DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED-</p> U.S. citizen, registered voter of the state, AND meet <u>one</u> of the following criteria: For 10 years immediately preceding selection, the candidate has been a member of the State Bar or served as a judge of a court of record in this state. (ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTATION: Copy of California State Bar Card or Certificate of Election for Superior Court Judge) <i>(Elec. Code §201, CA Const., Art. VI, §15 & 16)</i>
Superior Court Judge: Office 2 Incumbent: Benjamin Wirtschafter	6 years	01/06/2025	<p style="text-align: center;">-DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED-</p> U.S. citizen, registered voter of the state AND meet <u>one</u> of the following criteria: For 10 years immediately preceding selection, the candidate has been a member of the State Bar or served as a judge of a court of record in this State. (ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTATION: Copy of California State Bar Card or Certificate of Election for Superior Court Judge) <i>(Elec. Code §201, CA Const., Art. VI, §15 & 16)</i>

FILING FEE & SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Candidate filing fees are a fixed percentage of the annual salary for the office.

NON-PARTISAN: JUDICIAL OFFICES				
Office	Filing Fee	Sig-In-Lieu	Value/Sig	Nomination Signatures
Superior Court Judge	\$2,323.99	2,887	\$.8050	20 – 40

COMMON FILING FEE QUESTIONS

When do I pay my filing fee?

Judicial candidates are required to pay their full filing fee when they file their Declaration of Intention.

Who do I make my filing fee check payable to?

Checks must be made payable to Yuba County Clerk.

Do write-in candidates pay a filing fee?

No, write-in candidates do not pay a filing fee. See *Write-In Candidacy* for additional information.

Can I withdraw as a candidate?

No. Candidates who file a Declaration of Candidacy for any primary election may not withdraw.

If I change my mind, is my filing fee refundable?

No. Filing fees are not refundable.

What if the check I pay my filing fee with is returned by my bank?

Returned checks will result in the candidate's name not appearing on the ballot unless payment is made in cash by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day.

Is there an alternative to paying a filing fee?

Yes. Candidates may collect signatures of eligible voters to cover a portion or the entire cost of the filing fee.

CANDIDATE FILING DOCUMENTS

PETITION IN-LIEU OF FILING FEE

Filing Period09/14/2023 – 11/08/2023*

**Note: No Petitions in-Lieu of Filing Fee will be accepted after the candidate's Declaration of Intention has been filed.*

A candidate may submit Petitions In-Lieu of Filing Fee to cover all or part of their filing fee. Petitions must be obtained from and returned to the Yuba County Elections Office. Candidates will be issued two master forms at no charge. Candidates can make additional copies as needed.

Any registered voter qualified to vote for a candidate may sign that candidate's petition in-lieu, but no voter may sign more petitions for candidates than there are offices to be filled.

Petitions In-Lieu of Filing Fee may be submitted to the elections official on an on-going basis. (*Administrative Code §20533*)

The Elections Department will notify each candidate of the total value of valid "in-lieu" signatures. This value will be applied toward the candidate's filing fee.

**PETITION IN-LIEU OF FILING FEE SIGNATURES
WILL BE APPLIED TO NOMINATION SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT**

Candidates who obtain enough valid signatures are not required to circulate Nomination Petitions. If the number of petition in-lieu signatures **does not** meet the nomination signature requirement, the candidate must obtain **Nomination Petitions** from the Elections Department during the appropriate period to obtain the balance of the signatures required. **Petitions In-lieu of Filing Fee will not be accepted after the close of the petition in-lieu period.**

See "*Signature Gathering Guidelines*" for additional information regarding petition signature gathering.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION (DOI)

Filing Period10/30/2023 – 11/08/2023

Candidate Filing FeeDue at time of filing DOI

Candidates for Superior Court Judge must file a Declaration of Intention identifying the office for which they intend to run. The candidate filing fee must be paid at the time the Declaration of Intention is filed. If an incumbent for an open judicial seat does not file a Declaration of Intention, the filing period for that specific seat shall be extended five days.

No Petitions in Lieu of Filing Fee will be accepted after the Declaration of Intention has been filed.

NOMINATION PETITION

Filing Period11/13/2023 – 12/08/2023
Nomination Signatures Required: 20 - 40

Candidates must submit nomination papers signed by a required number of voters. No more than the maximum number of signatures shall be secured for any candidate. Signers must be registered voters in Yuba County.

No signer shall, at the time of signing a nomination paper, have signed his or her name to any other nomination paper for any other candidate for the same office. In the event there are several places to be filled for the same office, no signer shall sign more nomination papers for candidates for that office than there are seats to be filled. (*Elections Code §8069*)

See “*Signature Gathering Guidelines*” for additional information regarding petition signature gathering.

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

Filing Period 11/13/2023 – 12/08/2023

The Declaration of Candidacy is the official nomination document required of all candidates. On the Declaration of Candidacy, the candidate indicates how their name and ballot designation is to appear on the ballot. The candidate further declares that they meet the statutory and/or constitutional qualification for the office sought, and if nominated, the candidate will accept the nomination and not withdraw.

Candidates are required to execute the Declaration of Candidacy in the office of the elections official. Exception: A written statement is signed and dated by the candidate designating a person to receive the Declaration of Candidacy form from the elections official and deliver it to the candidate. The written statement from the candidate must include language indicating the candidate is aware the Declaration of Candidacy must be properly executed and delivered to the elections official in the county of the candidate’s residence by the 88th day prior to the election. **The Declaration must be completed correctly by the filing deadline. There is no provision for extending the filing period for forms that are completed incorrectly.** (*Elections Code §8020, 8023, 8028, 8101*)

NAME ON THE BALLOT

A qualified candidate’s name will appear on the ballot exactly as it appears on their Declaration of Candidacy. This should be recognizable as the name under which the candidate is registered, though the two need not be identical. Example: A candidate registered as “Jonathan William Smith” may use such variations as “John W Smith,” “John Smith,” or “J William Smith.”

OPTIONAL CANDIDATE INFORMATION & DOCUMENTS -Fee may apply-

BALLOT DESIGNATION

Filing Period File with Declaration of Candidacy
Fee No Fee

A ballot designation is a title printed under the candidate’s name on the ballot. Any candidate who wishes to have a ballot designation printed on the ballot **must** complete a Ballot Designation Worksheet (*Elections Code §13107.3*). This worksheet will help a candidate determine an acceptable ballot designation. Please see the Ballot Designation guidelines handout in the candidate packet for more information.

Designations will be reviewed for compliance. If a designation doesn’t comply, the first alternate will be used and the candidate will be notified. If no alternate or no acceptable alternate is provided, the candidate will be contacted by certified mail to provide an acceptable designation in person within three days from the date he or she receives the notice (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays). **NOTE:** If the candidate fails to provide an acceptable designation within three days, no designation will appear on the ballot.

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

Filing Period File with Declaration of Candidacy
Fee No fee

The County Clerk is required to provide each candidate with a copy of the provisions of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices and a form on which to subscribe to the code. **Subscription to the code is voluntary.** Completed forms are retained for public inspection until 30 days after the election. (*Elections Code §20400 - 20444*)

CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Filing Period File with Declaration of Candidacy
Fee Varies by Office

Candidates for non-partisan and some voter nominated offices may purchase a Candidate's Statement of Qualifications to be printed in the County Voter Information Guide. This statement is intended to acquaint voters with the candidate's qualifications for the office they are seeking.

YOUR CANDIDATE STATEMENT WILL BE PRINTED AS SUBMITTED. SPELLING, PUNCTUATION, AND GRAMMATICAL ERRORS WILL NOT BE CORRECTED BY THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT.

ENDORSEMENTS

Use of an endorsement in a candidate statement requires written authorization from the endorser. A copy of the **signed authorization** must be submitted with the Candidate Statement.

CONTENT

The statement *may* contain the candidate's name, age, occupation, and a description of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate -- not to exceed the word count limit. The statement *may not* contain the candidate's party affiliation (unless for partisan office) or membership or activity in partisan political organizations.

- No statement shall contain any demonstrably false, slanderous, or libelous statements (*Elections Code §13307(e)*).
- Candidate Statements shall not in any way make reference to other candidates for that office or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities (*Elections Code §13308*).
- The heading includes the candidate's name and office sought. The Candidate's Statement will begin with the words: "Education and Qualifications:" followed by the text filed by the candidate. These words, as well as the heading, are standardized and included in the space provided. The words, however, do not count toward the number of words allowed for the statement.
- The "Occupation" field in the Candidate's Statement is not governed by the laws and regulations pertaining to the ballot designation that appears under the candidate's name on the ballot. Therefore, it may be different from the candidate's ballot designation, but cannot exceed the space provided.

FORMATTING

- Statements will be printed in block paragraph form, in uniform font, size, darkness and spacing. (*Elections Code § 13307(b)(1)*)
- Subheadings and deviations from the standardized heading will not be accepted.
- Lists of items or phrases must be strung together in paragraph format and cannot be vertical or indented.
- The following are **not** permitted: All caps, bold, italics, bullets (i.e. stars, asterisks) or tables.

Any statement that does not conform to the format rules above will be corrected by the elections official to ensure a uniform appearance.

PAYMENT

Payment for a candidate statement of qualifications must be made at the time it is submitted. The payment must be in the form of a not-to-exceed check payable to Yuba County Clerk.

Candidate Statements remain confidential until 5:00 pm on the last day of filing. Once a statement has been filed, it may be withdrawn, but cannot be changed. The statement can be withdrawn until 5:00 pm on the first business day after the close of filing, and the full fee will be refunded.

BILINGUAL PRINTING REQUIREMENTS

All candidate statements will be printed in English and Spanish. **NOTE: Voters will receive a County Voter Information Guide in English or Spanish based on the language they selected when registering to vote.**

PUBLIC EXAMINATION

Candidates’ statements are available for public examination in the county election official’s office for 10 days following the close of filing.

WORD LIMIT

Superior Court Judge..... 200 Words

HOW TO COUNT CANDIDATE STATEMENT WORDS

The following rules will be used for counting words in candidate statements. Each word shall be counted as one word unless specified differently below:

- All proper nouns including geographical names shall be considered as one word; for example, "City and County of San Francisco" shall be counted as one word.
- Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression shall be counted as one word i.e., PTA, USMC
- Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.
- Dates shall be counted as one word.
- Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, such as "one," shall be considered as a separate word or words. "One" shall be counted as one word whereas "one hundred" shall be counted as two words. "100" shall be counted as one word.
- Telephone numbers shall be counted as one word.
- Internet web site addresses shall be counted as one word.
- Punctuation is not counted.

Elections Code §9

PRINTED CANDIDATE’S STATEMENT EXAMPLE:

This is a sample of a Candidate Statement of Qualifications as it will appear in the County Voter Information Guide.

<p>John Doe Age: 42 Occupation: Small Business Owner/Teacher</p> <p>Education and Qualifications:</p> <p>I can bring diverse viewpoints and experience to the office. Born and raised in Yuba County, with my family still farming, I can appreciate the concerns of the environmentalist. On the other hand, having been in business since my undergraduate days at Yuba College, and with my experience in the rental and real estate fields, I appreciate the practical housing requirements of our community.</p> <p>I have either served or am serving in the following clubs and organizations: Rotary; Chamber of Commerce; PTA; Arts Council; Rock the Vote; and League of Women Voters.</p> <p>If elected to this office, I will do my best to continue to serve as a leader and role model for our community and children.</p>
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SIGNATURE GATHERING GUIDELINES

Petition circulators perform the important duty of obtaining signatures of properly registered voters for the Petition In-Lieu and/or Nomination Petition. If the signatures are not obtained properly and in accordance with the law, the candidate's right to be placed on the ballot could be questioned. Candidates should try to obtain and submit the required number of signatures as soon as possible for their nomination papers to be examined and certified.

CIRCULATOR REQUIREMENTS

Any individual circulating Petitions In-Lieu of Filing Fee or Nomination Petitions must be 18 years of age or older. Candidates may obtain signatures and sign their own nomination petition or petitions in-lieu of filing fee. Their signature will be given the same effect as that of any other qualified signer. The candidate may circulate the petitions throughout the jurisdiction regardless of his/her county of residence. (*Elections Code §106, 102*)

AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR

Per Elections Code §104, all petition circulators must complete in his/her own hand:

- 1) The printed name of the circulator.
- 2) The residence address of the circulator giving street and number, or if no street or number exists, adequate designation of residence so that the location may be readily ascertained.
- 3) The dates between which all the signatures to the petition or paper were obtained.

Each declaration submitted pursuant to this section shall also set forth the following:

- 1) That the circulator circulated that section and witnessed the appended signatures being written.
- 2) That according to the best information and belief of the circulator, each signature is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be.
- 3) That the circulator is 18 years of age or older.

The circulator shall certify the content of the declaration as to its truth and correctness, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, with the signature of his or her name. The circulator shall state the date and place of execution on the declaration immediately preceding his or her signature.

QUALIFIED SIGNERS

Petition signers must be a registered qualified voter at the time they sign a petition. Each voter shall **personally affix** his or her signature, printed name and place of residence, giving street and number. If no street or number exists, then a designation of the place of residence which will enable the location to be readily ascertained. (*Elections Code §100*)

- Signers shall be registered voters in the district or political subdivision in which the candidate is to be voted on. (*Elections Code §8068*)
- Signers need not be registered voters who disclose a preference for any party when signing candidacy papers for a candidate seeking nomination to a voter-nominated office. (*Elections Code §8068*)
- No signer shall, at the time of signing the petition, have his or her name signed to any other petition for any other candidate for the same office. Or, in case there are several places to be filled in the same office, signed to more nomination papers for candidates for that office than there are seats to be filled. (*Elections Code §8069*)

WRITE-IN CANDIDACY

Filing Period: 01/08/2024 – 02/20/2024
Fee No fee

If only the incumbent judge has filed nomination papers, his/her name shall not appear on the ballot unless there is filed with the county elections official within 10 days after the final date for filing nomination papers for the office a petition indicating that a write-in campaign will be conducted for the office. The petition must be signed by at least 100 registered voters qualified to vote for the office in order to place the office on the Presidential Primary Election ballot. (*Elections Code §8203*)

CONFIDENTIAL VOTER DATA FILE

Eligible individuals and/or organizations may purchase a voter data file. For an application, please contact the Elections Department at (530) 749-7855 or email elections@co.yuba.ca.us.

All applications must be reviewed and approved to ensure compliance with the law. Typically review takes 2-3 business days but could take significantly longer if legal review is required. Items such as mailing labels require additional processing time.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES

Candidates and/or committees wishing to distribute voter registration cards may obtain voter registration cards from the Elections Department during regular office hours. For any quantity of 50 or more, the individual requesting the cards must fill out an application. For quantities of 2,000 or more, the distribution form shall be sent to the Secretary of State's Office. (*California Administrative Code §20001(g)(2)*)

Citizens or organizations distributing voter registration cards shall give a voter registration card to any person requesting it.

Completed cards must be returned to the Elections Department within three business days or by the close of registration, whichever is earlier. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor. (*Elections Code §18103, 2138*).

California Secretary of State Guide to Voter Registration Drives:

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/guide-vr-drives/>

CAMPAIGNING RESTRICTIONS

POLITICAL SIGNS

Candidates are provided information on Political Sign Ordinance / Rules during the candidate filing process. This packet includes county, city, and California Department of Transportation rules and regulations on sign placement. **Any questions, concerns, or complaints regarding campaign signs should be directed to the appropriate jurisdiction.**

ELECTIONEERING ON ELECTION DAY

The following is prohibited within 100 feet of the entrance to a building that contains a polling place, an elections official's office, a satellite location, or an outdoor site, including a curbside voting area, at which a voter may cast or drop off a ballot.

- Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, or nomination petition or any other petition.
- Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking the voter's ballot.
- Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of the voter's qualifications except as provided in Section 14240.
- Visibly display or audibly disseminate information that advocates for or against any candidate or measure on the ballot. Prohibited electioneering information or activity includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:
 - A display of a candidate's name, likeness, or logo.
 - A display of a ballot measure's number, title, subject, or logo.
 - Buttons, hats, pencils, pens, shirts, signs, or stickers containing electioneering information.
 - Dissemination of audible electioneering information.
 - Obstructing access to, loitering near, or disseminating visible or audible electioneering information at vote by mail ballot drop boxes.

Elections Code Section 18541 provides that any person who violates the above provisions is punishable by imprisonment in county jail for not more than 12 months or state prison. Any person who conspires to violate this section is guilty of a felony.

POLL WATCHERS

Poll watchers are allowed at the polling place as long as they obey the law and election procedures. Persons observing the polls may:

- Inspect the Roster of Voters. Any such inspection, however, must be done without impeding, interfering, or interrupting the normal process of voting and counting.
- Inspect the Public's Alpha Index (Street Index) updated regularly by the precinct workers. The index may not be removed from the polling place.
- Observe all activities at the polling place, including activities after the polls close, providing they do not interfere with the normal processing of voters.

PRESS & MEDIA EXIT POLLING

The Secretary of State and Attorney General have reviewed the Electioneering provisions and have determined that these provisions do not apply to the Press and Media conducting "Exit Polls." However, no one may interfere with the conduct of the election. Therefore, news media have been advised to remain at least 25 feet from the entrance to the polls. They may not speak to voters regarding how they are voting within 25 feet of the entrance to the polling place.

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION (FPPC) REPORTING

FPPC filing information and requirements can be extensive. It is the candidate's responsibility to understand and comply with Fair Political Practices Commission filing requirements.

The following documents will be provided during the candidate filing process:

- Fast Facts – Campaign Basics
- Local Candidate / Committee Checklist
- Fast Facts – Terminating Your Committee

The FPPC Candidate Toolkit can be found online at:

www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/campaign-rules/candidate-toolkit-getting-started.html

IMPORTANT: The fine imposed for not filing campaign statements by the mandated deadline is \$10 per day, up to a maximum fine of \$100, payable to Yuba County Elections. Late filings may be subject to additional fines by the FPPC.

NETFILE

Yuba County Ordinance **2.66.040. *Electronic Filing of Campaign Statements*** requires candidates or committees to electronically file semi-annual campaign statements, pre-election campaign statements, amended campaign statements, supplemental pre-election campaign statements, reports disclosing contributions received by or made to a candidate, local ballot measure, or intended expenditure made for or against a candidate or local ballot measure of \$2,000 or more.

To submit electronic campaign filings, as required by Yuba County Ordinance, committees must create a NetFile User Account. Candidates will be provided additional information regarding NetFile during their candidate filing appointment.

ELECTION RESULTS

SEMI-FINAL OFFICIAL CANVASS OF THE VOTE – ELECTION NIGHT

The day after an election, candidates are often surprised to learn there are ballots still uncounted. These uncounted ballots may leave some close races undecided for days or even weeks. The below information is being provided to explain and help answer any questions about the logistics of election night ballot counting and follow-up tabulations which occur during the official audit of an election known as Canvass. The official results of an election will be certified following the completion of Canvass.

The vote tallying process begins before election night with the vote by mail ballots. Counties may begin processing vote by mail ballots 29 days before the election. Having verified the signatures on the return envelopes, election officials remove the voted ballots and process them through their vote tallying system. Under no circumstances may they tabulate the results until after the close of polls on Election Day.

Immediately upon the close of polls on Election Day, elections staff begin the "semi-final official canvass of the vote" - the tallying of early-returned vote by mail ballots and the ballots cast in voting precincts within the county. The semi-final official canvass begins at 8:00 pm on election night and continues until the last precinct is counted and reported to the Secretary of State.

There are three categories of ballots that **cannot** be processed on Election Night:

1. **Vote by Mail Ballots.** Vote by mail ballots turned in at a polling place on Election Day. These ballots are received on election night and there is not sufficient time to perform the necessary processing steps for the ballots to be included in the election night tally results. Before the ballots can be tallied, the signature of the voter must be verified against the signature on file and the ballot must be inspected to verify it can be counted by the tabulating equipment.

Vote by Mail Ballots received in the mail:

- on the Saturday or Monday before the election
- on Election Day
- ballots postmarked on or before Election Day and received no later than three days after the election
- ballots originally missing signatures now signed
- ballots with signatures that originally did not match their voter registration that were verified; and
- ballots received timely by other counties.

Like the ballots turned in at a polling site on Election Day, these ballots are not included in the election night tally. These ballots will be processed during Canvass and will then be included in the final tally.

2. **Provisional and Conditional Voter ballots.** A Provisional ballot is cast when an individual's eligibility to vote cannot be verified at the polls. Provisional ballots are sealed in special envelopes at the polls and must be individually researched and verified at the Elections Office

before the ballot can be rejected or approved for counting. Conditional Voters may conditionally register to vote during the 14-day period through Election Day and vote a conditional ballot at the Yuba County Elections Office.

- 3. Damaged Ballots.** Ballots that are received damaged or contain stray marks must be further inspected and reviewed by elections staff. Ballots determined to require remediation will be duplicated.

We understand it is difficult for candidates/campaigns in close races to wait for results that confirm whether they won or not. We hope this information will provide a better understanding of the activities and complexities of an election and the reasons results take so long. The canvass process is open to the public and all people are welcome and encouraged to view the process.

ELECTION NIGHT TALLY REPORTING

Vote by mail results will be released after 8:00pm with additional updates released as precincts complete their closing activities and report in.

Election Results

In Person - The public is welcome to view the ballot counting process on election night.	Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chambers 915 8th Street Marysville, California 95901
Online - For the viewing public, election tally/results are posted online as they are released.	Yuba County Elections Department Webpage www.yubaelections.org Yuba County Webpage http://www.yuba.org

OFFICIAL CANVASS ACTIVITIES

The California Elections Code requires that the official canvass begin no later than the Thursday following the election, that it be open to the public, and that it continues daily (Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excluded) for not less than six hours each day until completed. The county elections officials must complete the official canvass no later than the 30th day after the election and submit a certified statement of the results of the election to the Secretary of State by the 31st day.

The activities undertaken during the official canvass include:

- Process and count any valid vote by mail, provisional, and conditional registration ballots not included in the semifinal official canvass.
- Inspect all materials and supplies returned by poll workers.
- Reconcile the number of signatures on the roster of voters with the number of ballots recorded.
- Verify the number of ballots counted, spoiled, or duplicated due to identifying marks or over votes against the number of votes counted, including vote by mail and provisional ballots.
- Count any valid write-in votes.
- Reproduce any damaged ballots.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

YUBA COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

General Information (530) 749-7855
Fax (530) 749-7854
Website www.yubaelections.org
Office hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays

POLITICAL SIGNS

County of Yuba (530) 749-5430
Website www.co.yuba.ca.us

City of Marysville (530) 749-3901
Website www.marysville.ca.us

City of Wheatland (530) 633-2761
Website www.wheatland.ca.gov

CA Department of Transportation (916) 654-6473
Website www.dot.ca.gov

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Election Division (916) 657-2166
Fax (916) 653-3214
Website www.sos.ca.gov
Political Reform Division (916) 653-6224

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

General Information (866) 275-3772 *2
Fax (916) 322-0886
Website www.fppc.ca.gov
Enforcement Division (866) 275-3772

STATE FRANCHISE TAX BOARD (800) 852-5711

Automated Information (800) 338-0505
Website www.ftb.ca.gov
CA Relay Service -- TDD (800) 822-6268

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION (800) 424-9530

Website www.fec.gov

ATTORNEY GENERAL (800) 952-5225

Website <http://oag.ca.gov>

REGISTRAR-RECORDER OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Campaign Finance Information (562) 462-2339
Fax (562) 462-2354
Website www.lavote.net

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTION-CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Campaign Statements (415) 554-4375
Fax (415) 554-7344
Website www.sfgov.org/elections

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - *Subject to Change*

All code sections are Elections Code unless otherwise noted. Dates marked with an "*" fall on a weekend or holiday and have been moved to the next business day.

"E-" dates represent the number of days before Election Day.

"E+" dates represent the number of days after Election Day.

NOTE: Refer to the FPPC Filing Schedule for all campaign finance reporting deadlines.

Date	Activity
E-173 thru E-118 09/14/2023 – 11/08/2023	<p>Petition In-Lieu of Filing Fees</p> <p>Between these dates, candidates may obtain Petition In-Lieu of Filing Fee petitions from the county elections official or the Secretary of State for circulating to secure signatures in-lieu of paying all or part of the filing fee. Signatures may also be applied to the nomination signature requirements for office.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§8061, 8106</p>
Nov 10 th	<p>County Holiday – Office Closed</p>
E-118 11/08/2023	<p>Petition In-Lieu of Filing Fee - All Candidates</p> <p>Last day for candidates to turn in their petitions to the county elections official of the county in which the petition signers reside and are registered to vote.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§8106(b)(3)</p>
E-113 to E-88 11/13/2023 – 12/08/2023	<p>Nomination Papers & Declaration of Candidacy</p> <p>Between these dates, candidates must file their Nomination Papers and Declaration of Candidacy. The non-refundable filing fee is due when nomination papers are issued. The fee may be paid by money, valid signatures submitted on Signature In-Lieu of Filing Fee petitions, or a combination of both.</p> <p>No Candidate May Withdraw</p> <p>No candidate whose Declaration of Candidacy has been filed for any primary election may withdraw as a candidate at that primary election.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§8061, 8020, 8041, 8100, 8105, 8106, 8800</p>
10/30/2023 – 11/08/2023	<p>Declaration of Intention (Judicial Offices)</p> <p>Between these dates, candidates for judicial offices must file a Declaration of Intention to become a candidate. The filing fee must be paid at this time. Signatures in Lieu of filing fee will not be accepted after the Declaration of Intention is filed. The filing fee is nonrefundable.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EC §§ 8023, 8105(b)</p>
11/09/2023 – 11/13/2023*	<p>Declaration of Intention Extension Period (Judicial Offices)</p> <p>Between these dates, if an incumbent fails to file a Declaration of Intention paper by November 8, 2023, there will be not more than 14 nor less than five-calendar day extension period during which any qualified person, other than the incumbent, may file a Declaration of Intention no later than the first day for filing nomination paper.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§ 8023(b)</p>
E-113 to E-88 11/13/2023 – 12/08/2023	<p>Candidates Statement of Qualifications – County & State legislative Candidates</p> <p>Between these dates, candidates for county offices and state legislative, may prepare a statement of qualifications to be included in the Voter's Information Guide. The statement shall be filed and paid for at the time the Declaration of Candidacy is filed. The statement may not be changed but may be withdrawn up until 5:00 p.m. on the day after the close of candidate filing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§13307</p>

Date	Activity
E-113 to E-88 11/13/2023 – 12/08/2023	<p>Statement of Economic Interests - All Candidates EXCEPT U.S. Senate & US Representative</p> <p>Between these dates, candidates filing their Declaration of Candidacy for the March primary must also file statements of economic interests disclosing their investments, interests in real property, and any income received during the preceding 12 months. The statement is not required if the candidate has filed such a statement within the past 60 days for the same jurisdiction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Gov Code §§87200, 87201, 87500</i></p>
11/23/2023 - 11/24/2023	County Holiday – Office Closed
E-88 12/08/2023	<p>Last Day to Submit Resolutions of Consolidation</p> <p>Final deadline for the governing body of a district, city, school, or other political subdivision which requests consolidation of a local election for candidates or measures to file the request with the county Board Of Supervisors and a copy with the Elections Department. Earlier filing dates are encouraged to meet printing schedules and to allow adequate time to mitigate any possible issues.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>§§10401, 10402</i></p> <p>Last Day to Submit Tax Rate Statement for Bond Measures</p> <p>Final deadline to file a tax rate statement for a bond measure with the County Elections Department.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>§9401</i></p>
E-87 to E-83 12/09/2023 – 12/13/2023	<p>Extension of Nomination Period</p> <p>Extension period for anyone other than the incumbent to file a Nomination Petition and Declaration of Candidacy if the incumbent did not file by December 8th. This extension does not apply when there is no incumbent eligible to be re-elected.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>§§8022, 8024</i></p>
E-82 12/14/2023 11:00 a.m.	<p>Randomized Alphabet Drawing</p> <p>The Secretary of State and the County Elections Department shall conduct at 11:00 a.m. the randomized alphabet drawing to determine the order in which the candidates will appear on the Primary Election Ballot.</p> <p>For candidates for multi-county state legislative offices, the county elections official shall conduct a randomized alphabet drawing. The result of each county’s drawing shall be used only to determine the order of the names of candidates for multi-county state legislative offices within such county.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>§13112</i></p>
E-81 12/15/2023	<p>Last Day to Submit Direct Arguments</p> <p>Final deadline to submit direct arguments for and against a county, school, or district measure. Statements shall not exceed 300 words.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>§§9162, 9163, 9502</i></p>
E-71 12/23/2023	<p>Last Day to Submit Rebuttal Arguments</p> <p>Final deadline for authors of the direct arguments to submit rebuttal arguments. Statements shall not exceed 250 words. Rebuttal arguments will only be accepted if both an argument for and an argument against are filed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>§9167</i></p>
12/25/2023 – 12/26/2023	County Holiday – Office Closed
01/01/2024	County Holiday – Office Closed

Date	Activity
E-57 to E-14 01/08/2024 – 02/20/2024	<p>Statement of Write-in Candidacy and Nomination Papers During this period, write-in candidates must file their Statement of Write-in Candidacy and Nomination Papers with the County elections official.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§8601</p>
E-40 to E-21 01/25/2024 – 02/13/2024	<p>State Voter Information Guide Mailing Between these dates, the Secretary of State shall mail state voter information guides to all households in which voters were registered by Friday, Jan 5th (E-60).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§9094</p>
E-40 to E-10 01/25/2024 – 02/24/2024	<p>County Voter Information Guide Mailing Between these dates, the County elections official shall mail a county voter information guide and polling place notice to each registered voter.</p> <p>Voters who register after Jan 5th may request a state voter information guide with their Elections Department.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§9094, 13303, 13304</p>
02/05/2024	<p>County Election officials shall begin mailing each registered voter a vote-by-mail ballot.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§3001, 3003</p>
E-15* 02/19/2024 *	<p>15-day Voter Registration The county elections official shall accept an affidavit of registration executed as part of a voter registration card in the forthcoming election if the affidavit is executed on or before the 15th day prior to the election, and if any of the following apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The affidavit is postmarked on or before the 15th day prior to the election and received by mail by the County elections official. 2) The affidavit is submitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles or accepted by any other public agency designated as a voter registration agency pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. §1973gg) on or before the 15th day prior to the election. 3) The affidavit is delivered to the County elections official by means other than those prescribed in paragraphs (1) and (2) on or before the 15th day prior to the election. 4) The affidavit is submitted electronically on the Internet Web Site of the Secretary of State pursuant to EC § 2196 on or before the 15th day prior to the election. <p style="text-align: right;">§2119(d)</p>
E13 to E 02/21/2024 – 03/05/2024	<p>Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) Period in which an individual can go to their local county election official's office to conditionally register to vote and vote a conditional provisional ballot. The voter must complete an affidavit of registration before a conditional provisional ballot can be issued. County election officials will process the registration, determine the individual's eligibility and validate their information. If the individual is verified and eligible, the registration becomes permanent and the ballot will be counted.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§2170-2173</p>
E-14 to E 02/20/2024 – 03/05/2024	<p>New Citizens Registration Period Registration for new citizens shall begin the 14th day prior to an election and end at the close of polls on election day. A new citizen registering to vote after the close of registration shall provide the county elections official with proof of citizenship prior to voting, and shall declare that he or she has established residency in California. New citizens vote a regular ballot.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§331, 3500, 3501</p>
E 03/05/2024	<p>Primary Election Day Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§1000, 14212</p>

Date	Activity
E+30 04/04/2024	Canvass Deadline for completion of the Official Canvass by the Elections Office. §15372