

SHASTA ELECTION TIMES

SHASTA COUNTY CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS NOVEMBER 2014

GENERAL ELECTION CERTIFIED

The Election Integrity Project focused a great deal of attention on Shasta County. They came into our office prior to the election to observe processes (even poll worker training), on Election Day, and several visited poll sites. One Poll Observer sent a very nice post election letter. In part, "If the performance in Precinct 210 is indicative of the performance throughout Shasta County, then our county is in good hands for our election process". We heartily share this sentiment for all of our poll workers!

Thanks to the diligent work of our poll workers on Election Day, and the hard labor of all the Elections Department staff, (including working the Veteran's Day Holiday) the 2014 General Election was certified on November 21st!

Prior to Election Day the office processed 29,823 Vote-By-Mail ballots. Another 10,787 were collected on November 4th we must process these along with Provisional ballots from the polls. This is often the most time consuming part of the certifying process. The sooner the Elections Office receives Vote-By-Mail ballots the faster their votes are counted. Please spread the word! Be the first votes counted send in your VBM ballot before Election Day!

GENERAL ELECTION 2014 STATISTICS

General Stats

Registered voters	97,933
Voted at the polls	18,692
Vote-by-mail at Election Office	1,670
Vote-by-mail returned via mail	22,551
Vote-by-mail returned drop boxes	9,774
Vote-by-mail voters who dropped ballots off at polls on Election Day	6,598



Provisional Stats

Total Provisional Ballots	1,378
Counted	1,110
Not Counted	155
Partially Counted	113
Vote-by-mail voters who did not surrender ballot, instead voted a provisional ballot	892

TURNOUT ACROSS STATE

The estimated number of Californians eligible to vote is 24,288,145. On November 4th only 17,803,823 of those were registered to vote.

Prior to this General Election the lowest turnout in a non-presidential year was in 2002 with only 50.75% participation. The highest turnout for the same contest type was way back

in 1958 with a whopping 79.47% of voters exercising their right.

Interest in the 2014 General Election seemed to grow rapidly with each passing day. The last day for someone to register to vote was October 20th, (15 calendar days prior to the election) However even on Election Day new voters came out to vote and became registered,

creating a large number of provisional ballots. Our office phones rang off the hook Election Night as citizens desperately sought their polling places, or a way to register to vote.

Statewide voter turnout was just over 40% while Shasta County brought out almost 60%! Apparently Shasta County voters were not "bored" like the rest of the state.

**SHASTA COUNTY
ELECTIONS
DEPARTMENT**

1643 Market Street
Redding, CA 96001



P.O. Box 990880
Redding, CA 96099-0880



Main phone:

(530) 225-5730

Dee Dee's phone:

(530) 225-5162



**Drop box
numbers:**

Number of ballots
(from 10/6-11/4/2014)

Redding City Hall
5,513

Anderson City Hall
1,045

Shasta Lake Senior Center
516

Elections Office
2,700



We are on the web!
www.elections.co.shasta.ca.us

Dear Poll Workers,

Many of you know me well, as you have served with us for many years. While the numbers of new poll workers continue to grow, all of you are so valuable to the democratic process. I greatly appreciate your service staffing the poll sites. Since the Election we have received a great deal of positive feedback, and all of that is thanks to your commitment and dedication. No words are ever enough to express our gratitude to all of you. Thank you for a job well done!

Cathy Darling Allen

Wondering how your **Board did?**

Using feedback from staff, and other data from items returned on Election Day, each poll site was evaluated on their performance. Call for your results: Dee Dee at 225-5162, or Email: dtompkins@co.shasta.ca.us



NEW TRAINING APPROACH WORKS!

The feedback for training praised the addition of scenarios. First time poll workers stated they felt "very prepared". Most left with confident faces instead of glazed eyes.

Since the General Election staff has been working hard to record all areas of success as well as those which still need improvement.

Highlights:

- ⇒ Overall there was a significant reduction in the number of errors on the security sheets for the Edge machine.
- ⇒ 100% of all ballot receipts returned to the office, with only 5 Inspector signatures.
- ⇒ 88 of the 89 Precinct returned the red seal from the red ballot bag.
- ⇒ 68 Precincts tackled Sheet E with PERFECTION and another 16 only had a single error on this sheet!
- ⇒ 100% of all Precincts returned all rosters! No white rosters disappeared this election!

During site visits on Election Day poll workers often remarked, "the exact thing happened today that we practiced in training!" Unfortunately, some inspectors chose to provide provisional voters with secrecy sleeves instead of utilizing the pink envelopes only. This resulted in ballots deposited directly into the ballot box. Fortunately, in all instances these ballots were full count Provisionals. The next two elections will be busier than the 2014 General Election, as it is a Presidential Primary, then a Presidential Election. Utilizing pink Provisional envelopes exclusively will result in less confusion for voters, and eliminate empty provisional ballots.

The other area in need of improvement is "Signature then ballot". If this is strictly adhered to we will never have a missing signature ever again. Which would result in EVERY Precinct balancing the first time, we dare to dream!