



Dear *POLLcats*,

I have always believed that the San Mateo County poll workers are the finest poll workers that there are in the country. You do outstanding work each and every election.

I am very proud of the work you do, the training you receive, and I know that you are true patriots committed to providing your friends and neighbors with quality service on Election Day.

You probably have heard that I challenge the staff to improve what they do and how they deliver service to voters, candidates, and election officers every single election. Some of you have offered ideas that we've adopted. I ask for feedback – and I get an earful of advice every election. I'm grateful for it. I love hearing good ideas. I love making things better.

I don't believe we've recently asked voters to give us their feedback about the service they get at the polls on Election Day! So we're going to ask them.

We are creating a simple postcard survey that people can take with them and mail back or drop off at the polls. We'll report the results right here in *POLLcat*.

I predict you'll be proud of what people have to say and I also think you may be surprised by some of their suggestions.

I look forward to hearing from our voters about what they like and don't like about Election Day at the polls.

Thank you for signing up to work in the June Primary, for being the dedicated patriots that you are, and for serving the community in this very important upcoming Primary election.

Best,

Warren Slocum

So many choices...

It was 6:56 a.m. The election officers at Precinct #4501 had been doing a mad dash to get everything set up for the first arrivals. As Marge settled into her chair at the Roster Table, she wished she had a hot cup of coffee. But she was proud of the team. They were ready for voters. The coffee would wait.

Jim, the Inspector, had just gathered them together, administered the oath and high-fived everyone. He headed over to the entrance of the gym to unlock the doors at the stroke of 7 a.m.

He turned to the team and said, "Don't forget – the Decline to State/Nonpartisan voters get to pick the ballot of their choice!"

Marge scanned the roster looking to see how many Decline to State (DTS) voters they had in their precinct. "Hey Jim, I'm looking at this roster. Did you know that 3 out of 10 voters in this precinct are DTS voters?"

"Some of them won't remember that they get to choose whether they want to vote a DTS/Democratic, DTS/Republican or nonpartisan ballot," Jim reminded them. "Just be patient with them. They may ask you if they can look at our Sample Ballots to help them decide."

Illuminada, the Election Officer handling the JBC piped up, "I've been wondering what to say to partisan voters who want to vote a different ballot but can't."

Jim replied, "Don't worry. We probably won't get many, if any, of those voters. People who affiliate with a party are usually party loyalists. But if you do, you can tell them that if they want these options they can register as a Decline to State voter for the next primary election. And if they insist, we can have them vote a provisional ballot."

Jim opened the doors at 7 a.m. He barely got his, "Hear ye! Hear ye! The polls are now open when the first six voters converged on the roster table. They were clearly in a bit of a rush.

"Good morning, may I have your name?" Marge said as she greeted a young voter that approached the table.

"Hi. Yes, thanks. My name is Sharlene Davies, " the younger voter announced.

"Ah, here you are. Could you print your residence address and sign your name right here? I see that you are a Decline to State voter. Would you like a DTS/Democratic, DTS/Republican or nonpartisan ballot?" Marge continued.

"Oh, that's right. I get to choose. I'd like to vote a Democratic ballot," she replied.

"And, did you want to vote on the eSlate or vote a paper ballot?" Marge asked.

"The eSlate is fine," she replied.

"Great!" Illuminada began entering the codes into the JBC to issue this young woman in her high heels a Decline to State/Democratic ballot.

"Here you go. Go to any booth to vote," she said.

When the voter finished voting, Jim offered her a customer survey card. "We hope that you will take a moment to fill this out and let us know how we're doing!" he said.

"Sure, I will. You're doing great!" Sharlene said as she flashed him a smile.

Center Stage

Meet Emily. She's been an Inspector in Half Moon Bay, Moss Beach and Montara since 2003. Deciding to serve when she was temporarily unemployed, Emily admits, "I love helping people vote—whatever their affiliation. It's really important to me that when we vote we are helping to form society."



Emily Gladstone Cole

She recollects with fondness a dad who always comes to the polls with his daughter and the variety of people who come in with a minute to smile and chat. She said that when the county converted to the iPod-like eSlates, "Our voters were smarter and more capable that they feared they were. Many voters who came in set against the machines left saying, 'This isn't so bad!'"

Emily is a System Administrator, for a company that does "good stuff." She said, "We provide email and web filtering appliances" to block viruses from infecting customer email boxes and corporate websites. She manages a team who keep 1500 servers running for her company, now a division of Cisco. She's a UC Berkeley grad, fluent in French, German and tech, and she's passionate about this country.

New Faces – New Assignments

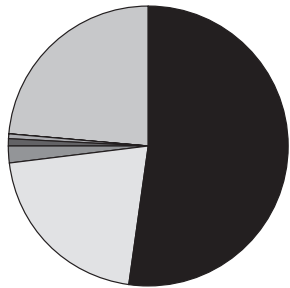
In April, two new Election Specialists joined the Elections Office. We are proud to introduce **Aaron Smith** who will be handling Voter Registration and **Megan Asmus** who will handle Candidate Filing. Both have extensive private industry and/or military experience and will bring their special talents to our team. With the new people on board, we now have the chance to spread and reassign the workload. Lupe Sanchez will be taking charge of Precinct Operations, Greta McElroy will manage Field Operations, Melinda Dubroff will continue to manage the Vote by Mail operations, Hillary O'Connor is assisting Precinct Operations and Jennifer Tagg handled the Logic & Accuracy testing of the voting equipment. They are arriving just in time to help out in the June 8 Gubernatorial Primary Election.

Election Officer Training

Election Officer training started on May 15. By now, you should have received your appointment letter and a schedule of classes in the mail. We are conducting 52 classes during the months of May and June. Sign up online at electionofficertesting@smcare.org. The entire training team, Cynthia, Hillary, Peter, Jensine, Erin, and Sterling, are looking forward to seeing all of you again! See you in class!

The June 8 Gubernatorial Primary Election by the Numbers

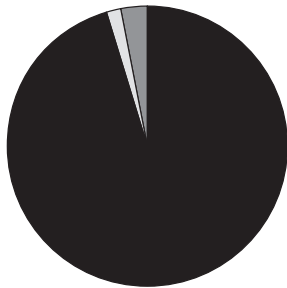
The Voters



By Party:

Democrat 176,494 (52.25%)	Green 2,530 (<1%)
DTS 78,836 (23.3%)	Libertarian 1,453 (<1%)
Republican 70,159 (21%)	Peace & Freedom 626 (<1%)
	American Ind. 6,660 (1.97%)

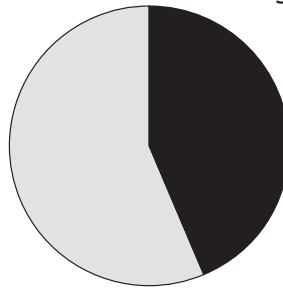
The Ballot



567 Ballot Styles

5 Propositions	3 Measures
169 Candidates	

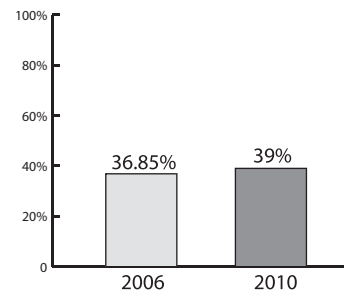
Method of Voting



**Total Registration:
338,554**

190,886 Vote at the polls	147,668 Vote by Mail
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Election Day



Turnout in 2006: 36.85	Expected Turnout in 2010: 39%
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Number of Polling Locations: 349
Number of Election Officers: 1,523
Number of Precincts: 456

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