



REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
ALAMEDA COUNTY • CALIFORNIA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**PRINTING ERROR PROMPTS ALAMEDA COUNTY TO REMIND VOTERS THAT
ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters is reminding all voters that the date of the upcoming General Election is **Tuesday, November 4**, in the wake of a printing error found on some vote-by-mail return envelopes that inaccurately states the date of Election Day.

Registrar of Voters Tim Dupuis said staff gearing up for the big election discovered the error printed on some return envelopes that accompanied vote-by-mail ballots sent to approximately 27,000 voters in Berkeley. A short message on the back of these envelopes incorrectly states that “Election Day is November 5, 2014.” All other election material sent to these voters contains the correct date.

“This is an unfortunate error on some vote-by-mail envelopes sent to voters in Berkeley and we deeply regret any confusion this may be causing,” Dupuis said. “We are glad that we discovered the error relatively early in the process. This will allow us to take a number of corrective measures in the coming weeks to remind our voters that Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.”

Letters are being mailed to all voters who received the envelopes carrying the erroneous election date and emails will be sent to all of these voters for whom the Registrar’s office has email addresses. Extra efforts will also be made to emphasize the correct election date in the Registrar’s messaging on Twitter, Facebook and other social media sites, as well as in all outreach and advertising materials.

Under California law, all vote-by-mail ballots must be received at the Registrar of Voters’ Office or at any polling place in Alameda County no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day – Tuesday, November 4. Postmarks are not acceptable. The required postage to vote by mail is 91 cents in Berkeley, Oakland and San Leandro, where voters will be asked to mark three ballot cards. Voters in all other Alameda County communities are being asked to fill out two ballot cards, and to pay 70 cents in postage to vote by mail.

A printing vendor used by Alameda County and several other large California counties has taken full responsibility for the misprints found on some vote-by-mail return envelopes. Dupuis said additional measures will be taken to bolster the already substantial safeguards his office has in place to avoid misprints on elections materials. Prior to printing, staff members meticulously proofread drafts of all elections materials to detect and correct any printing mistakes.

The task was especially challenging for this election, given that Alameda County is distributing 158 different ballot types, as well as sample ballots and voter guides as thick as 130 pages, in 5 languages – English, Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

In Alameda County, where more than half of all registered voters choose to vote by mail, there also is a growing need to complete the printing process as early as possible, because mail-in ballots must be distributed several weeks prior to Election Day. Voters in Alameda County will be weighing in on 30 different ballot measures on November 4, as well as deciding the fate of 278 candidates. In all, there are more than 422,000 voters in Alameda County who are registered to vote by mail.