



County of San Diego

MICHAEL VU
Registrar of Voters

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
County Operations Center Campus
5600 Overland Avenue, Suite 100, San Diego, California 92123-1278

CYNTHIA L. PAES
Assistant Registrar of Voters

Telephone: (858) 565-5800 Toll-free: 1 (800) 696-0136 TTY / TDD: (800) 735-2929
Facsimile: (858) 505-7294 Web Address: www.sdvote.com

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Dear Candidate:

When we set out preparing for the 2020 election cycle who would have ever imagined that the world would be simultaneously fighting against a virus that has grappled every corner of the planet. It has taken the spotlight away from many well-known and traditional events, including the Summer Olympics, the decennial census, school graduations, and even primary elections for a number of states. Yet, the November election will continue on as scheduled. No war or natural disaster has stopped our country from selecting its elected leaders, and a pandemic won't stop us either – the November 3, 2020 Presidential General Election will carry on.

In my introductory letter to the primary election filing guide, I stated that the election would be one for the record books, and so it will be, but in a manner that could have never been contemplated.

Like many households and businesses, the Registrar of Voters too has had to adapt for safe operations. By you viewing this Candidate Filing Guide and perusing it, it provides one of the first adaptations of our response to COVID-19. Changes in the candidate filing process are being instituted to keep everyone healthy and safe. For example, we will be requiring appointments for personalized candidate services. To limit the level of physical interaction, we are encouraging you to exercise a new option to have the proper candidate documents emailed to you. And, we will be limiting the number of individuals in the building for only those that require services - physical distancing will be required.

We recognize that some of these changes may hamper your opportunity to interact with us, so we are balancing this with extended hours during the last week of the filing period and adding weekend hours, as an option to file. Additionally, we will be working to post updated candidate listings on our website more often.

These changes will require your patience and careful attention before you proceed down the official path of being a candidate. So, read on and read thoroughly, and visit sdvote.com for additional information on how to file as a candidate for the November election.

Especially during the filing period, we have always prided ourselves in providing all candidates an excellent in-person experience. We have always strived to make the experience as straightforward as possible and our Candidate & Campaign Services Team has always been at the ready to assist when most needed. Although the way we will be assisting you has inevitably changed due to COVID-19, we remain as committed as ever to providing the same level of high-quality service. After you have filed, we hope you will agree that the augmentation proved to be a positive experience.

Let me end by saying that our country has always been resilient, and our San Diego voting community has continuously demonstrated a great level of engagement. No pandemic will halt that.

Stay Safe & Healthy,

L. Michael Vu
Registrar of Voters