

COUNTY OF LAKE
Registrar of Voters Office
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

FROM: Diane C. Fridley, Registrar of Voters *Diane*

SUBJECT: Response to the 2010-2011 Lake County Grand Jury Final Report

DATE: August 12, 2011

Pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933(c) and 933.05, I hereby submit my responses on the findings and recommendations of the 2010-2011 Lake County Grand Jury Final Report as it relates to the Registrar of Voters office.

FINDINGS:

F.1. Additional office space is still unavailable due to the current fiscal condition.

Response: I agree with the finding.

F.2. Due to the recommendation of the 2008-2009 Grand Jury, the election worker name tag has been upgraded in design with the County Seal appearing on each one, making the tag more professional in appearance.

Response: I agree with the finding.

- F 3. The "status" of the posted results is obscurely displayed in the lower right corner of the results screen.

Response: *I disagree with this finding. I am not aware of any status of the results displayed in the lower right corner of the results screen. However, in response to the local media incorrectly reporting the semi-official results from June 8, 2010 Primary Election night as final votes cast, a request was submitted by the Registrar of Voters to the Lake County Information Technology Department requesting that "PRELIMINARY RESULTS" be displayed across the top of the screen in bold print in all capitals. When the election results were certified as being complete following both the 2010 Primary and General Elections, the elections results screen was updated to indicate the results were "FINAL". Another addition to the election results screen displayed on the County's website for the November 2, 2010 General Election was that "PRELIMINARY RESULTS" was printed in a bright bold color next to each contest.*

- F 4. One eSlate worker per precinct is a mandate of the State. When precincts are combined, an over-abundance of eSlate workers may be present.

Response: *I disagree with this finding. In compliance with State and Federal law, the minimum requirement is only one (1) Hart eSlate electronic voting unit and one (1) worker responsible for the Hart eSlate per polling place site. In several polling place sites, the Precinct Board Inspector is in charge of the Hart eSlate and an eSlate Technician is not appointed. It is a very difficult task to find voters who are willing to be responsible for the eSlate electronic voting unit and there has never been more than one (1) eSlate Technician at any polling place site in Lake County.*

- F 5. The Registrar of Voters stated that, even though not required, a light meter will be used by Roving Inspectors at polling sites in the future to evaluate lighting levels.

Response: I disagree with the finding. Upon further research, staff has determined that there is no minimum lighting level requirement at polling place sites. The Secretary of State's staff has confirmed that there are no laws, regulations or requirements setting a lighting standard in a polling place. However, prior to reserving a polling place site for use on Election Day, staff will ascertain if supplemental lighting is necessary and if so, temporary lighting will be provided.

- F 6. Signs may be placed further from polling sites and more signs may be purchased for future use in order to properly direct voters to polling sites according to the Registrar of Voters.

Response: I agree with the finding. Additional large A-frame 4 feet high by 2 feet wide two-sided directional "VOTE" signs have been purchased for use at selected polling place sites.

- F 7. The manuals used for training contain unclear references, use proper names rather than position titles, do not properly reference acronyms, have no glossary explaining or defining the terms and phrases used.

Response: I disagree with the finding. The "Inspectors Handbook and Instructions" was completely revised after many volunteer hours collaborating with an experienced Precinct Board Inspector prior to the November 2, 2010 General Election.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R 1. Registrar requests an upgrade the County website so that the status of the posted results is clearly and boldly displayed across the screen. (F3)

Response: The status of the election results posted on the County's website have been upgraded and were clearly displayed commencing with the 2010 June Primary Election.

- R 2. Registrar to require evaluation of the lighting level at all polling sites on election day and has necessary adjustments made. (F5)

Response: *The Secretary of State's staff has confirmed that there are no laws, regulations or requirements setting a lighting standard in a polling place. Although no complaints have been voiced by voters, prior to reserving a polling place site for use on Election Day, staff will ascertain if supplemental lighting is necessary and if so, temporary lighting will be provided.*

- R 3. Registrar to purchase additional signs or re-locate existing signs to better advertise polling sites. (F6)

Response: *Additional large A-frame 4 feet high by 2 feet wide two-sided directional "VOTE" signs have been purchased for use at selected polling place sites commencing with the November 8, 2011 General District Election.*

- R 4. Update and edit training manuals. (F7)

Response: *The "Inspectors Handbook and Instructions" was completely revised after many volunteer hours collaborating with an experienced Precinct Board Inspector prior to the November 2, 2010 General Election. Nevertheless, as recommended by the 2010-2011 Lake County Grand Jury, a glossary explaining or defining the terms and phrases used will be added to the training instructions.*