

# Office of the County Clerk-Recorder

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO ♦ 1055 MONTEREY ST. RM. D120 ♦ SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93408 ♦ (805) 781-5080/5088



**JULIE L. RODEWALD**  
COUNTY CLERK RECORDER

**THERESA STEPHENSON**  
Administrative Service Officer

**TOMMY GONG**  
ASSISTANT COUNTY CLERK RECORDER

To the Voters of San Luis Obispo County:

The Secretary of State's decision to impose conditions on the continued use of voting systems will have minimal impact on the voters of San Luis Obispo County. The county's voting system consists of the Gems operating system to program the ballot layout and vote tally, the AccuVote optical scan precinct count machine, which tallies the voted paper ballots at the polling place and the Automark ballot marking device, which provides accessibility to voters with disabilities.

The greatest impact to the public, the media and candidates will be that the results from Election day voting can no longer be electronically sent to the central tally computer. All of the accuvote machines must be returned to the County Clerk-Recorder's office where the memory cards containing the precinct results can be manually uploaded to the central tally computer. Final election night results have typically been available by 10:00 p.m. and will now be delayed possibly as late as 11:30 p.m. Most of the other security procedures included in the conditions have already been implemented in San Luis Obispo. The conditions also include plans and procedures that will be developed over the next 30- 60 days. Once these are in place, they can be evaluated for impact to the voters, poll workers and the preparation for an election.

The review teams, who were given unfettered access to the machines, found issues with the software and hardware, however, they did not take into account the real world procedures that elections officials have in place for the conduct of our elections. These "layers of security" are essential to the integrity of any election. I can assure the voters of San Luis Obispo that security is of the highest concern to my staff and that no election conducted in this county has been compromised by the use of the optical scan voting system. California has some of the most stringent testing and post election audit procedures in the country and the additional protocols will serve to further strengthen and tighten the controls already in place.

If you have any questions regarding our voting system, please feel free to contact our office at 781-5080.

Sincerely,

Julie L. Rodewald  
County Clerk-Recorder