



Thank you for your commitment to serve as a pollworker on Tuesday, February 5, 2008!
All of us in the Department of Elections are looking forward to working with you!

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION – February 5th, 2008

Meet the people behind the friendly voices in the Pollworker Division!



Meet your Coordinators from top-left to bottom-right: Betty Luu, Elissa Stebbins, Christina Wu, David Dinh, and Gerry Ashley.

How can someone you have never met in person become a friend? Just ask us in the Pollworker Division because that's how all of us feel about you – our pollworkers!

“My colleagues and I have been working with some of our pollworkers for many years,” said Gerry Ashley, who has been working as a Pollworker Coordinator since 2000. “We really know them and all their special talents. We know about their election experience, about the languages they speak ... and we try to assign them to the polling places that are both convenient for them and where they can best serve our voters.”

We know how hard all of you work and how dedicated you are! And that is why we do everything possible to show our appreciation.

For example, we as your Coordinators, worked non-stop (including all weekends!) the month before the November Election. Then we worked over 17 hours on Election Day, yet still came right back to the office bright and early on post-Election Wednesday to ensure that payroll for our 2,900 pollworkers was processed as quickly as possible. Our extra effort and commitment meant most of you received your check before Thanksgiving Day!

OPEN HOUSE

You are invited!

In case you haven't heard, San Francisco's new voting machines, manufactured by Sequoia Voting Systems of Oakland, will be utilized for the first time in the upcoming February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary Election.

Join us on Tuesday, January 8th or Wednesday, January 9th at CCSF Alemany Campus located at 750 Eddy Street (between Van Ness and Polk) for an Open House to familiarize yourself with the new voting machines. This is a drop-in event from 1PM – 5PM, and you can stay for as little or as long as you like.

Be the first one to become familiar with the new voting equipment! Make your own job easier on Election Day! Meet your fellow pollworkers and trainers!

To RSVP for the Open House, please contact the Pollworker Division at (415) 554-4395.

We hope to see you there!

Passing the torch!

We need you to help us help you! Please encourage your family members and friends to work the elections. Sign up your colleagues, classmates, friends, neighbors, and adult children/grandchildren/nieces/nephews. Please join our “Torch Club” and “pass the torch” to as many people as you can. Help keep the tradition alive and keep the torch lit!

You are special, unique, and irreplaceable!

Our team spends extensive amounts of time on assigning 2,900 pollworkers to every election. Along with trying to meet your requests for precinct assignments, we must also follow numerous guidelines and laws in order to properly staff San Francisco’s 561 polling places.

When we finally achieve our goal, our job is not over because inevitably that is when cancellations start coming in! Every election we regularly experience an average of 500+ pollworkers who for whatever reason are unable to fulfill their commitment and cancel.

It is often difficult to find substitutes for these pollworkers, but we certainly understand that sometimes people have emergencies that prevent them from fulfilling their prior commitments. That being said, if you are no longer able to work, please call the Pollworker Division at (415) 554-4395 immediately. We appreciate you giving us as much notice as possible!

The great majority of our pollworkers are committed people. But unfortunately, despite our best efforts, every Election Day, 3% of our pollworkers are “no-shows”— which means they do not report to their assigned precincts and they do so without notifying us.

Needless to say, no-show Clerks leave polling places understaffed and overworked. And when an Inspector is a no-show, it truly jeopardizes the election process because vital election materials (ballots, Roster of Voters, etc.) are missing, putting the precinct at risk of not opening on time.

Please be thoughtful of your fellow pollworkers and Department staff who are working so hard to make the election happen! Please be respectful to voters who are counting on you on Election Day! Please honor your commitment to work on Election Day!

Test your election knowledge with a “Words to Live By” crossword puzzle!

Across:

- 2. Election in which parties select their candidates for an upcoming general election.
- 4. Step-by-step instructions for opening & closing the polling place, and voting procedure duties of pollworkers.
- 6. Telephone hotline for pollworkers to call with questions or requests on Election Day.
- 8. Must be signed by voters on Election Day.
- 10. Any activity or materials expressing political information or opinions conducted within 100 feet of entrance to room where polling place is located.

Down:

- 1. Voting conducted by mail or in person during early voting in City Hall.
- 3. In-field support supervisor providing support to polling places on Election Day.
- 5. To ensure voter _____, the voting booths must be set up so that nobody is able to see into the booths.
- 7. Polls open at this time, AM.
- 9. Voting conducted when voter's name is not found in the Roster or when voter is listed as an Absentee voter and is unable to surrender their Absentee Ballot.
- 11. Legally required identification. Must be worn by all pollworkers at all times.

