

Fwd: e-mail for tomorrow's agenda item #6 (June election)

Jerdonek, Chris (REG)

Tue 9/20/2016 2:35 PM

To: Jerdonek, Chris (REG) <chris.jerdonek@sfgov.org>;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chris Jerdonek** <chris.jerdonek@sfgov.org>

Date: Tue, Sep 20, 2016 at 2:30 PM

Subject: e-mail for tomorrow's agenda item #6 (June election)

To: "Charles H. Jung" <charles.jung@sfgov.org>, Dominic Paris <dominic.paris@sfgov.org>, Roger Donaldson <roger.donaldson@sfgov.org>, Rosabella Safont <rsafont@medasf.org>, "Rowe, Jill (REG)" <jill.rowe@sfgov.org>, Winnie Yu <winnie.yu@gmail.com>

Hello Commissioners,

I'm resending the e-mail below that I forwarded to you on July 11 for inclusion as part of tomorrow's discussion of the June election (agenda item #6). This is the second of two items.

I will add this to the public binder (after redacting the name and contact info of the person).

Thank you, and remember not to reply to all,

--Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chris Jerdonek** <chris.jerdonek@sfgov.org>

Date: Mon, Jul 11, 2016 at 3:36 PM

Subject: Fwd: Other - Please Explain Below/Elections Response

To: "Charles H. Jung" <charles.jung@sfgov.org>, Dominic Paris <dominic.paris@sfgov.org>, Roger Donaldson <roger.donaldson@sfgov.org>, Rosabella Safont <rsafont@medasf.org>, "Rowe, Jill (REG)" <jill.rowe@sfgov.org>, Winnie Yu <winnie.yu@gmail.com>

Cc: "Hewitt, Nadya (REG)" <nadya.hewitt@sfgov.org>

Hi Commissioners,

I'm sharing the e-mail below from Kim Alexander of the California Voter Foundation and a San Francisco voter. I received permission from both of them to forward to you.

Please do not reply to all. And Nadya, please include a copy in the public binder.

Thanks,

--Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kim Alexander** <kimalex@calvoter.org>

Date: Fri, Jun 24, 2016 at 7:51 PM

Subject: Re: Other - Please Explain Below/Elections Response

To: <redacted>

Cc: Chris Jerdonek <chris.jerdonek@gmail.com>

Hi <redacted>,

Thanks so much for bringing this to our attention.

This is a serious issue - both that your registration status was changed in a way that forced you to vote a provisional ballot, and that your ballot was not counted even though the county determined you were eligible to vote and the problem was on their side.

They have 28 days to certify the election so there is no good reason why they have already certified. This issue happened in at least one other county that I know of and they waited to hear back from the VoteCal vendor before closing out their ballots and deciding which provisionals to count (they ended up counting the ballots of voters who were affected as you were).

I think you should contact the registrar directly and ask him to reconsider. You should not be disenfranchised because of a technical glitch.

I'm happy to talk about this with you further if you like. Thanks again for writing and for clearly working very hard to get to the bottom of your ballot status. Voters should not be expected to have to jump through this many hoops to make sure that their ballots are counted. And it is especially disheartening to find out that so far, yours has not been.

Do you mind if I post your story on my blog?

Kim

On Jun 24, 2016, at 6:05 PM, <redacted> wrote:

Hi. I contacted @calvoterfdn on Twitter about my experience trying to vote in the June 7 primary and proposition ballot in San Francisco.

I went to the polling place for my address, but found that I was not on the voter roll. I completed a provisional ballot. When I returned home, I checked my voter registration status online. I was surprised that the website said I was not registered to vote in San Francisco, where I have lived and voted since 2007. My husband, who lives at the same address as me, was on the roll and was able to vote.

I immediately wrote to the SF Department of Elections.

Someone on twitter advised me to call SF elections. I called them that morning. The person I spoke to confirmed that I was registered to vote, and my absence from the roll was due to a "data merge" error. She personally guaranteed that the provisional ballot I cast would be valid.

This week, I checked online using the provisional ballot lookup tool, and found that my vote was not counted. And I still do not appear as a registered voter in California.

The SF Department of Elections just responded to the message I sent them on June 7 -- see attached.

I will file a complaint with the Department of Elections, but thought I would share this story. Perhaps it is worthy of further investigation to see if others were similarly disenfranchised, and whether any results were affected.

Sincerely,

<redacted>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: SFVote, (REG) <sfvote@sfgov.org>

Date: Fri, Jun 24, 2016 at 4:59 PM

Subject: RE: Other - Please Explain Below/Elections Response

To: <redacted>

<redacted>,

Thank you for contacting the Department of Elections. Due to the high volume of correspondence the Department of Elections received on Election Day, we regret not being able to respond to your inquiry sooner.

The Department tracked your removal from the voter roll in San Francisco to an error in the new California statewide voter database, VoteCal. The error has been corrected and you are now back on the voter roll in San Francisco County. Your registration is now active and in good standing. We sincerely regret the error.

The June 7, 2016, Primary Election has been certified and the tabulation of ballots has ceased. Your provisional ballot cannot be counted this late; however, your voter record will reflect your participation in the June 7 election.

If you suspect a problem with your voter registration in the future (e.g. you did not receive election-related materials or a voter information pamphlet), please make us aware of the problem immediately. Calling the Department of Elections is the quickest way to notify us of your experience and the Department will take appropriate action to research and correct the problem in a timely manner.

The next election is the November 8, 2016, General Election. Please contact the office if you do not receive your election information materials by mid-October.

Regards,

SFVote

San Francisco Department of Elections

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

City Hall, Room 48

San Francisco, CA 94102

[\(415\) 554-4375](tel:(415)554-4375)

sfelections.org

Continue the conversation with the Department of Elections on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)

Your feedback is important to us! Please take our [customer service survey](#).

From: <redacted>
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2016 8:38 AM
To: SFVote, (REG)
Subject: Other - Please Explain Below

Subject: Other - Please Explain Below

Other: Why Was I Removed from Voter List

Comments: I have been a registered voter in San Francisco since 2007 and have voted in many elections here. This morning, I used the online tool to find my polling location by address. The tool said that my polling place was the Diego Rivera Theater on the City College of San Francisco campus. There, poll workers informed me that I was not on the list of registered voters. (My husband was on the list, and was able to vote.) I completed a provisional ballot. When I returned home, I checked my voter registration status online. I was shocked to discover that I am no longer registered to vote in San Francisco. I have no other residence and have not registered to vote in any other location. I am extremely disappointed that my vote will not count in this historic primary nor towards ballot initiatives so important to San Francisco and the entire Bay Area. Please explain how this occurred.

Name: <redacted>

<image002.jpg>

Kim Alexander
President & Founder,
California Voter Foundation
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www.calvoter.org
[916-441-2494](tel:916-441-2494)

[Follow me on twitter at kimalex3](#)