



Elections Office of the Registrar of Voters

Bilingual Advisory Group

October 19, 2015
10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.



- Introductions
- Elections Office Organization
- Organizational Improvements
- Upcoming Elections
- Voting Rights Act
- Section 203 Compliance
- Bilingual Advisory Group Goals
- Open Forum



What do we do?

- Maintain County's voter registration and election records
- Educate and assist the public in participating in the political process
- Conduct elections in a fair, accurate, accessible, secure, transparent and efficient manner

Who do we serve?

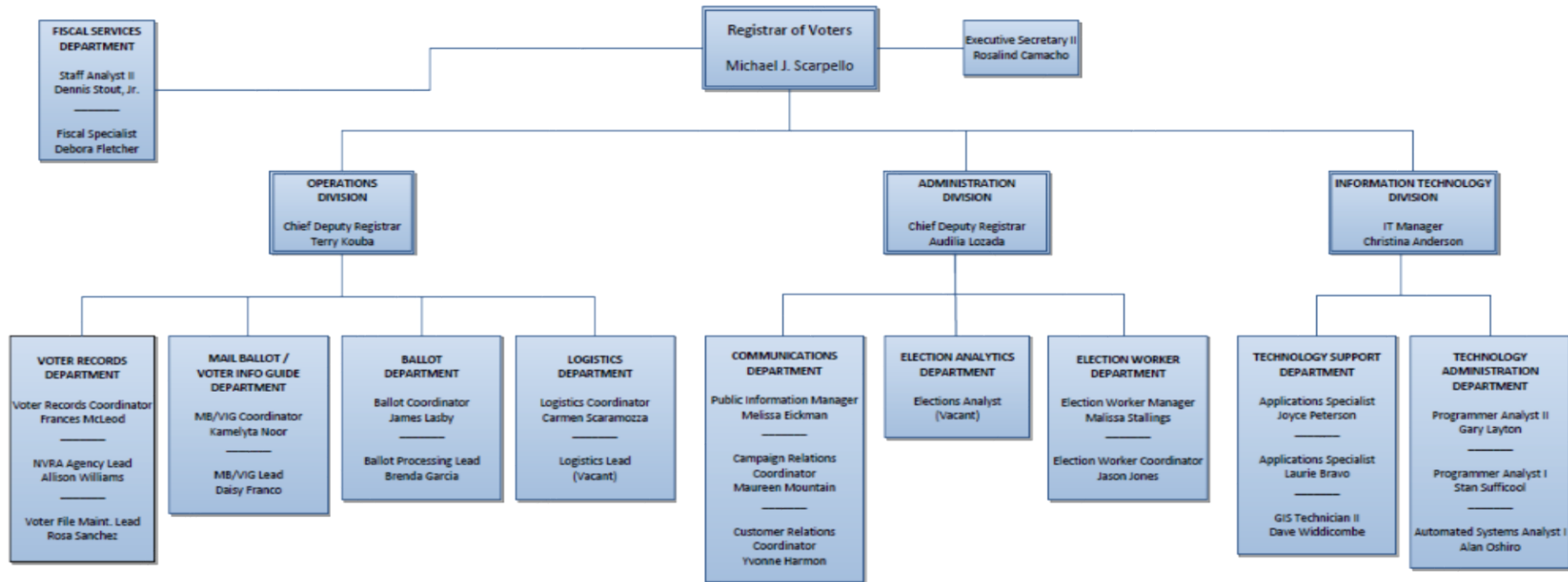
- 2 million residents, 730,000 registered voters residing in 20,000 square miles
 - 12th most populous in U.S.
 - More residents than 15 states
 - Largest county in U.S. in area
 - Larger than nine states
- Jurisdictions
 - 24 Cities
 - 52 School Districts
 - 69 Special Districts
 - 69 Judicial Offices
 - 56 Federal, State, and County Offices
 - 1,600 Precincts



Elections Office Organization



Elections Office of the Registrar of Voters



- Voter Records Department
 - Voter Registration
 - Voter Correspondence
 - NVRA Agency Coordination

- Mail Ballot / Voter Information Guide Department
 - Mail Ballot promotion & advertising
 - Mail Ballot coordination
 - Voter Information Guide
 - Applications (Mail Ballot, Poll Worker, Online Sample Ballot)
 - Voting Options
 - Sample Ballot
 - Candidate Statements
 - Information about Measures
 - Polling Place assignment



- Ballot Department
 - Ballot layout
 - Ballot translations

- Logistics Department
 - Polling place site selection
 - Polling place signage & supplies



- Communications Department
 - Community Relations
 - Customer Service / Phone Bank
 - Early Voting
 - Media Relations
 - Website Coordination



- Election Analytics Department
 - Election process analysis
 - Plain language conversion
 - Legislation coordination

- Election Worker Department
 - Recruitment, training, and placement:
 - 3,000 Poll Workers
 - 500 Temporary Workers



- Election Technology Division
 - Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
 - Registered voter analysis
 - Census Bureau data analysis
 - Poll worker placement
 - Touch Screen Voting Machines
 - Voters with disabilities
 - Non-English speaking voters



■ Challenges

- 50% Reduction in Staff
- Smaller Budgets
- Historically Slow Election Results
- Redistricting/Reprecincting/New Polling Places
- New Top Two Primary/General Election

- New Organizational Structure
 - Highly trained staff and reliance on temporary workers
- Rebuilt office infrastructure
 - New communications and project management tools
 - Documentation of tasks and processes
- Updated Hardware / Software
- Redistricting / reprecincting
- Better polling places
- Redesigned ballot

- Improved mail ballot program (2015 - 52%)
- New polling place procedures
 - Built for accuracy—less provisionals, mistakes
 - Built for speed—rosters, supervisors, ballot boxes, procedures
- New poll worker training
 - Hands on training, advanced training, evaluation
- New ballot processing procedures
 - 40% faster results

- Improved communications efforts
 - New branding
 - New website
 - New web tools (polling place lookup, district lookup)
 - My Elections Gateway
 - Online Ballot Delivery Program for Military Voters
 - More informative Voter Information Guide

- VoteCal – November 2015 / June 2016
- Automatic Registration
- New voting system
- Mail Ballot / Vote Center Election Model (SB450)

Upcoming Elections

	2015 Consolidated Election	2016 Presidential Primary Election	2016 Presidential General Election
Contests	18	55	125
Polling Places	72	414	414
Total Poll Worker	450	2500	3500
Spanish-speaking Poll Worker target	150	700	800
Registered Voters	435,000	750,000	760,000
Spanish Language Preference	8,105	11,700	12,000
Voter Turnout	11%	25%	70%



Voters Have Three Voting Options:

1. Vote by Mail
2. Vote Early
3. Vote on Election Day at their assigned Polling Place



■ Vote By Mail

- Applications can be found at:
 - Elections Office Website
 - Back of Voter Information Guide
- Mail ballots can be delivered:
 - By mail via the U.S.P.S.
 - To any drop-off location
 - To the Elections Office
 - To any county Polling Place on Election Day



■ Early Voting:

■ 2015 Consolidated Election

- Elections Office - 29 days before Election
- One offsite location - 8 days before Election

■ 2016 Presidential Primary and General Elections

- Elections office - 29 days before Election
- Four offsite locations - 8 days before Election



- Vote on Election Day
 - At assigned Polling Place
 - Polling Place assignments can be found:
 - On the back of the Voter Information Guide
 - On the Elections Office website
 - By calling 800-881-Vote (8683) or 909-387-8300
 - Hours - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

- August 6, 1965 - President Lyndon Johnson signs into law the Voting Rights Act, establishing landmark protective measures to prohibit discrimination
- August 6, 1975 - President Gerald Ford reauthorizes the Voting Rights Act; new provisions extends assistance to language minorities (Section 203)
- Section 203 was reauthorized in 1982, 1992 and 2006



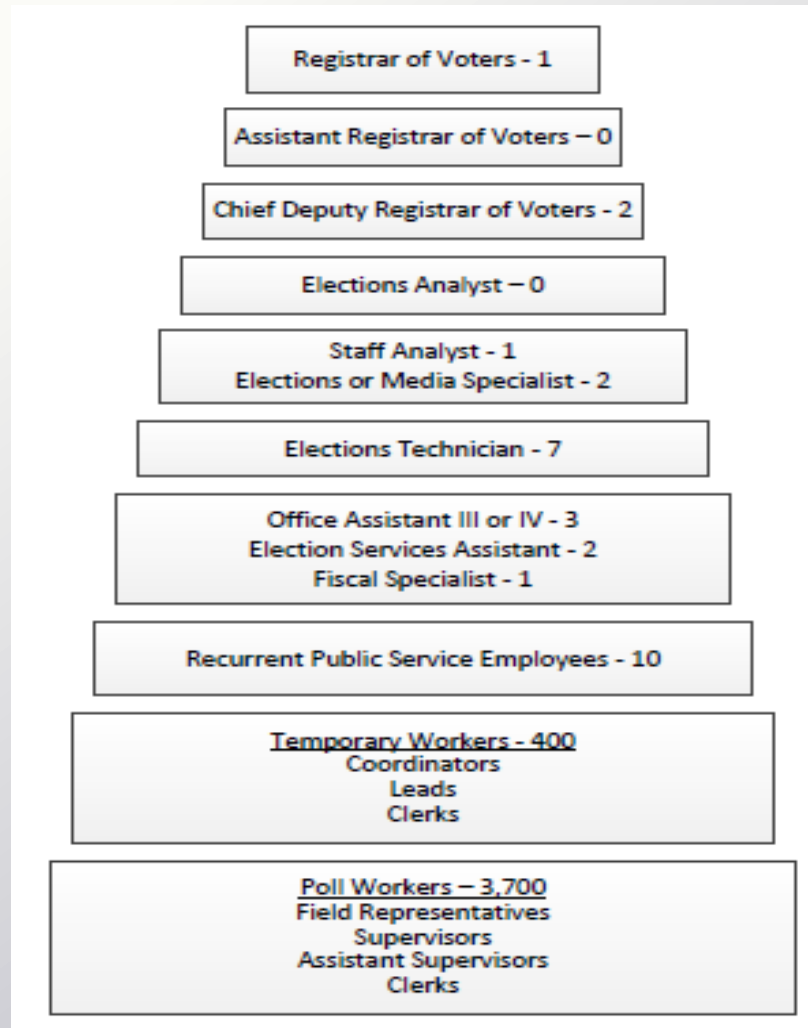
- Voting Rights Act Section 203 Spanish-language mandates apply to Counties:
 - Where there are over 10,000 or over 5 percent of the total voting age citizens have limited English proficiency

- Summary of Section 203 Federal Mandates
 - All election information - ballots, voter information guides, registration forms and voting machines, etc. must be provided in Spanish
 - Provide Bilingual poll workers
 - Provide Elections Office language assistance to voters

- Accurate translations
 - Certified translators – Merrill Brink
 - Website – Google translator
- Election materials
 - Vote-by-Mail ballots, paper ballots, Voter Information Guides
 - Voting machines
- Registration information forms
- Polling place materials and signage

- Bilingual Poll Workers
 - Bilingual poll workers are given an additional \$10 stipend
 - Elections Office trains and assigns bilingual poll workers to 100% of all polling places
 - 2014 General Election requirement – 315 polling places
 - 2014 General Election actual – 100% - 414 polling places
 - Determination of precincts – Secretary of State
 - San Bernardino County – exploring new analysis of Census Bureau information

- Phone bank support
 - Daily
 - Election Day



- Increase communication and build partnerships
 - Identify community based groups to increase partnerships
 - Distribute election information through media outlets
 - Disseminate informational written materials to the Spanish-speaking community
 - Provide feedback on Elections Office performance

- Improve translation of election materials
 - Readability of translated documents
 - Improved website information
 - My Elections Gateway accessibility to Spanish-speaking community

- Proactive recruitment of bilingual poll workers
 - Increase number of bilingual poll workers
 - Increase partnerships with community organizations
 - Distribute recruitment information

- Schedule future meetings
 - January – Tentative date January 12
 - Poll worker recruitment outreach
 - March - TBD
 - July - TBD

Discussion

Feedback, Questions, Comments

Thank You