

SOS-CACEO Conference Call  
Wednesday, August 26, 2009  
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

CACEO Secretary Neal Kelley took roll.

Alameda	Marin	San Joaquin
Amador	Merced	San Luis Obispo
Butte	Monterey	Santa Barbara
Contra Costa	Napa	Santa Clara
El Dorado	Nevada	Santa Cruz
Fresno	Orange	Shasta
Glenn	Placer	Solano
Humboldt	Riverside	Sonoma
Imperial	Sacramento	Stanislaus
Kern	San Benito	Tehama
Kings	San Bernardino	Tulare
Los Angeles	San Diego	Tuolumne
Madera	San Francisco	Ventura

Secretary of State Debra Bowen called the meeting to order.

**Item 1, Conditional Voter Registration Program** – Secretary of State Debra Bowen thanked all the people that have given their time so generously to help craft the Conditional Voter Registration proposal. She said the CVR name is not the best but she feels it is important to distinguish it from one more commonly known as Election Day Registration. Legislatively, she has been talking to her colleagues in the Capital and the feedback she is getting has nothing to do with the substance of the idea but more about the mood. Things are tense and very partisan due to the budget, prison issues and water. Secretary Bowen is reluctant to send a bill to the Governor that may be vetoed.

**Item 2, Post-Canvass Audit Bill** – Secretary Bowen stated this proposal will probably go into a bill early next week but feels it will not move until next year because of the same kind of dynamics. She does want to put it into print so the people in the auditing community and people that have particular thoughts or concerns regarding the cost saving pieces of the proposal can see it and provide feedback. She is not certain as to who the author will be but as soon as she has a bill number Jenny or Rhonda will let everybody know what it is.

**Item 3, Ballot Designation Regulations** – Secretary Bowen thanked everybody that provided feed back on the proposed ballot designation regulations. They will be going to the Office of Administrative Law on September 1. OAL plans on publishing them by September 11, 2009. This will trigger the formal forty-five day comment period which closes October 26, 2009 and the regulations will be adopted after that point.

Gail Pellerin from Santa Cruz asked what the changes are.

Pam from Secretary of State's office answered that there is mostly clarification. She said they are trying to add why certain ballot designations may not be used. She will send a copy to Gail after the conference call. Gail said she would post it on the CACEO website.

**Item 4, SB 1519 Recount Regulations** - Secretary Bowen stated the second public comment window on the proposed SB 1519 Recount Regulations closed on August 4. There is one set of comments from advocates in Monterey that Secretary of State's office needs to respond to, but believes there will be no additional changes made to the versions that were sent to Counties in late July. She anticipates that these regulations will also be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law and they will take effect 30 days after they are submitted. If the regulations are in by September 1, they will take effect on October 1.

**Item 5, Poll Worker Training Standards** - Secretary Bowen explained the first redraft of the revised Poll Worker Training Standards has been sent to the ten member CACEO working group and the comments are due back tomorrow. Secretary of State's office will work through comments and then put together a conference call with the working group. They will make changes before it goes to all the Registrars for review. The intent is to finalize the standard by the end of the year and release them in early January to insure they reflect any legislation that is enacted this year and will take effect on January 1.

**Item 6, Polling Place Accessibility Guidelines** – Secretary Bowen stated the draft Polling Place Accessibility Guidelines are back from the Department of Rehabilitation, which is who they had a contract with for drafting the guidelines, for one final adjustment. Secretary Bowen has asked them to insert Election Code citations into every place where the guidelines require Registrars to take a specific action so that both you and the public can easily find the underlying mandate in the regulations.

Secretary of State's office expects the guidelines back from the Department of Rehabilitation in the next week or two. She stated the Guidelines are not close to final. They need to have input from all Counties before they are submitted to the Office of Administrative Law.

There was concern raised by several Counties regarding the time frame in which these regulations will be implemented.

Debra Bowen suggested that when the guidelines come out in draft form start on the work that you know will be similar and then go back and complete the other.

**Item 7, HAVA Accessibility Grant Program** – Secretary Bowen acknowledged if you have submitted an application for the HAVA Accessibility Grant program,

the review of the applications will start on September 1, and the anticipated award date is November 2. Secretary Bowen said she is hoping to beat that date, depending on the amount of applications received. If there are any questions regarding the process you may contact the Contracts Unit. The number is on the CCROV or you may call or email Debbie O'Donahue.

**Item 8, Pending Voting System Applications** – Secretary Bowen said she anticipates two voting systems applications coming in the next several months. The first is likely to be from Premiere, which just had their Assure package approved by EAC. The second is likely to come from Unison, the EAC said they are likely to certify by the end of the year and the company has called to give Secretary of State a demonstration. She believes that means they will be coming forward to ask for approval after the EAC certification is granted.

Erin from Stanislaus asked if she knows what the status is on the ECO for the 650's engineer change order for the ES&S 650 scanners.

Lowell Finley from Secretary of State's office, says yes they have received several engineering change orders from ES&S, as part of the process to notify the Secretary of State of proposed changes to their voting system. They are reviewing those and given the number of them they are reviewing Secretary of State's policy on how best to handle those, either on a one by one basis or consolidate them together. They will be moving forward on those in the next several weeks.

Lee Lundigran from Stanislaus states the reason for the concern is they have HAVA funds to purchase these and the HAVA funds expire in December 2010.

Lowell thanks them for the information and assures them that they will complete their project well before the end of this year.

**Item 9, VoteCal** – Secretary Bowen stated the legislature has approved both the specific project report and the HAVA spending plans. The next step is formally signing the contract with Catalyst Consulting, which will happen next week. After the contract is signed they will post the proposal on the website in the next two weeks. She has been told the four regional meetings with the Registrars and staff has gone well. There have been thirty-two Counties that have received the briefings and fourteen Counties are expected to attend the briefing in Sacramento tomorrow. There is also a make-up session set for Friday in Sacramento. They may create a make-up session for Southern California if there is any interest. If you have any questions or need more information please contact Mary Winkle, Bruce MacDannold or Cathy Mitchell.

Steve Weir from Contra Costa said that his instinct tells him the bid came in lower than the estimate and will there be an opportunity at a future time to discuss different allocations of HAVA funds to the Counties.

Secretary Bowen answered the Legislature would need to approve that first. The Legislature Analyst has been clear in the conversations they have had that they expect the cost savings would be used to extend the period of time in which state general fund does not have to be used to support the project.

Secretary Bowen noted that CACEO President Becky Martinez had requested a HAVA accounting of the dollars spent/remaining, which would be forthcoming.

Secretary Bowen stated there is one more item that is not on the agenda- **NVRA compliance**. Many Counties have worked diligently checking into the numbers that you have been given by local public assistance agencies. The EAC will publish revised figures to show that the number of registrations was closer to 31,000 rather than the 16,000 that were originally reported to the EAC. She is hoping this will help the state and counties avoid potential law suits.

Jill from Sacramento wants to thank the Secretary of State's office for Lowell and Jason for coming out due to security issues they had.

Barbara from Riverside had a question on the call; she had it down for August 19 instead of August 26. Evan thought it had been noticed and apologizes. The schedule will stay at every third Wednesday.

Secretary Bowen wished every body luck with their Special Elections. She told everybody to enjoy the rest of their summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal Kelley  
CACEO Secretary