

# DRAFT

## BALLOT ARGUMENT GUIDE

### GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

November 2, 2004



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## ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This Guide for Submitting Arguments for/against San Francisco Ballot Measures has been prepared to assist individuals and organizations who wish to submit arguments in favor of or arguments against local measures which will appear on the ballot for the **November 2, 2004** Primary Election in San Francisco. Ballot Arguments are printed in the San Francisco Voter Information Pamphlet.

This guide is not all encompassing and is not intended as a substitute for obtaining advice from your own legal counsel. Candidates, political committees and anyone interested in submitting arguments should not, therefore, rely solely on this guide. In case of conflict, the law, regulation or rule will apply.

All section numbers ( SEC. §530, §535, §540, etc...) and *italicized words* are taken from the San Francisco Elections Code.

## IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- ☑ Paid ballot arguments will appear in the Voter Information Pamphlet in the order which they are received, to the extent possible, given space considerations.
- ☑ The Declaration by Authors of Arguments and/or Rebuttals form is now found on the reverse side of the Preferred Format form.
- ☑ Please read the boxed item on page 4 concerning the assignment of opponent argument rights.
- ☑ To facilitate submitting your ballot argument, be sure to fill out a control sheet **before** you arrive.
- ☑ Each argument must have its own disk. *Do not submit multiple arguments on one diskette.*
- ☑ Refer to the Calendar for deadlines on submitting Proponent/Opponent Argument, Rebuttals and Paid Arguments.
- ☑ Please plan on attending the "Brown Bag" Ballot Argument Information Meeting, Wednesday, **August 11, 2004 at 12 Noon** in our offices at City Hall, Room 48. You may contact our office at 415-554-4375 for further information or to RSVP.

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### Attachments to guide:

1. Calendar For Submitting Ballot Arguments (deadlines)
2. Ballot Argument Control Sheet (*blank form*)\*
3. Preferred Format for Ballot Argument (*blank form*) \*
4. Declarations by Authors of Arguments and/or Rebuttals (*on reverse of Preferred Format form*)\*
5. Petition in Lieu of Publication Fee for Local Ballot Argument (*blank form*)

\* Make copies as needed for each argument submitted

<b>I. WHO MAY SUBMIT ARGUMENTS FOR LOCAL MEASURES SEC. §530.</b>
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- (a) These procedures shall govern the submission and publication of ballot arguments for or against any measure submitted to the voters.
- (b) The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members of the Board of Supervisors authorized by that body; the Mayor; any proponent of an initiative measure or a referendum; any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure, or group of such voters; or association or organization; or any combination thereof, may submit a written argument for or against any measure for publication in the Voter Information Pamphlet. No argument shall exceed 300 words in length.
- (c) A ballot argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by the signature or signatures of the person or persons submitting it, or, if submitted on behalf of an association or organization, the name of the association or organization and the signature of at least one of its principal officers who is a registered San Francisco voter. The association or organization submitting the argument must clearly indicate whether it wishes the name of the officer submitting the argument to be printed as part of the argument. The names of additional associations, organizations, or individuals who are registered San Francisco voters may be submitted as co-authors of the argument. The names and titles of all co-authors, and the name and title of any other person to be included in the text of the argument as printed in the Voter Information Pamphlet, shall be counted against the 300-word limit.
- (d) A ballot argument which includes in its text the name of a individual or entity, other than a co-author of the argument, which is represented as being for a measure, or which is represented as supporting or endorsing the views expressed in the argument, shall not be accepted unless the argument is accompanied by a statement of consent signed by such individual or entity. An officer or other duly authorized representative shall sign the consent of an entity.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

<p><i>As stated in section (c) above, all signers of an argument(s), (including officers of a company or an organization), must be registered San Francisco voters. They must complete the "Declaration by Authors of Arguments and/or Rebuttals" (see attachment) located on the reverse side of the "Preferred Format for Submitting Local Ballot Arguments" sheet. Any signer who is not registered to vote in San Francisco (yes, we are going to check) will be removed from the argument. If that person is the only signer of the argument, the argument will not be published.</i></p> <p><i>More information on signature authorizations can be found on page 7.</i></p>
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**II. BALLOT ARGUMENTS; DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION, CORRECTION AND WITHDRAWAL SEC. §535.**

- (a) Ballot arguments submitted for selection as the “proponent's” argument for or “opponent's” argument against a measure as provided in Section 545 must be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than **noon, August 13, 2004** (the 81st day prior to the election).
- (b) Rebuttal arguments as provided for in Section 550 would be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than **noon, August 17, 2004** (the 77th day prior to the election).
- (c) Ballot arguments submitted for publication as paid arguments for or against a measure as provided for in Section 560 would be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than **noon, August 18, 2004**(the 76<sup>th</sup> day prior to the election).
- (d) Arguments may be changed or withdrawn by the persons submitting them at any time up to and including the last day for submission.
- (e) Grammatical and spelling errors contained in an argument may be corrected by the person submitting the argument at any time up until **the following deadlines:**

<b>Proponent &amp; Opponent Ballot Arguments</b>	<b>Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> - noon</b>
<b>Rebuttal Ballot Arguments</b>	<b>Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> - noon</b>
<b>Paid Ballot Arguments</b>	<b>Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> - noon</b>

For purposes of this subsection, the Director of Elections shall make the determination of what constitutes a grammatical or spelling error.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*Paid Ballot Arguments will appear in the Voter Information Pamphlet in the order in which they are received, to the extent possible given space considerations.*

**A. PROPONENT AND OPPONENT ARGUMENTS, SEC. § 540.**

For each measure, one argument in favor of the measure and one argument against may be printed in the Voter Information Pamphlet free of charge. These arguments are called the "Proponent's Argument" and the "Opponent's Argument." Arguments cannot exceed 300 words; this includes the signer(s)' name(s), title(s) and organization(s) if included.

The designation "Proponent's Argument" and "Opponent's Argument" indicates only that the arguments were selected in accordance with the statutory priorities (described below) and are printed free of charge. **The Department of Elections does not edit**

**arguments for correct spelling or grammar; they are printed exactly as submitted.** The Department of Elections makes no claims as to the accuracy of the arguments.

The "Proponent's Argument" and the "Opponent's Argument" are selected by statutory priorities.

**B. PROPONENT AND OPPONENT ARGUMENTS; SELECTION IF MORE THAN ONE SUBMITTED SEC. §545.**

(a) In the event more than one argument is submitted for selection as the "proponent's" argument for or "opponent's" argument against any measure, the Director of Elections shall no later than **noon August 18, 2004** on the 76th day prior to the election select the argument to be published according to the order of priority shown herein.

(1) Arguments supporting a measure:

- (A) The proponent of an initiative petition; or the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors or four members of the Board of Supervisors if the measure is submitted by the same.
- (B) The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members designated by the Board.
- (C) The Mayor.
- (D) Any individual registered San Francisco voter, group of registered San Francisco voters, association or organization, or combination thereof.

(2) Arguments opposing a measure:

- the
- (A) In the case of a referendum, the person who files a referendum petition with the Board of Supervisors.
  - (B) The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members designated by the Board.
  - (C) The Mayor.
  - (D) Any individual registered San Francisco voter, group of registered San Francisco voters, association or organization, or combination thereof.

(b) In the event that more than one argument is submitted for or against a measure at any given level of priority and no argument entitled to higher priority is submitted, the Director of Elections shall select the "proponent's" or "opponent's" argument by lot from among all arguments at the highest level of priority.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*The law does not allow "(D)" (in Sec. §545. (a)(2) above) to assign the right to the opponent argument; however, "(D)" may assign the rebuttal right.*

**C. REBUTTAL TO PROPONENT'S AND OPPONENT'S ARGUMENTS SEC. §550.**

Sec. 550 Proponent and Opponent Arguments; Rebuttals; Assignment of Arguments.

- (a) Upon selection of the “proponent’s” argument for and “opponent’s” argument against a measure, the Director of Elections shall immediately send copies of both to the persons whose arguments have been selected. The authors of the direct arguments may each prepare and submit a rebuttal argument not to exceed 250 words. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the direct arguments and in a location immediately following the appropriate direct arguments. If no direct argument is submitted in support or in opposition to a measure, the Director of Elections shall not accept or publish any rebuttal argument.
- (b) A person who is entitled, pursuant to Section 545 (a)(1)(A), (B) or (C), to submit the proponent argument for a particular measure may assign the right to submit the argument to another person, provided that the assignee is eligible to submit an argument pursuant to Section 530(b) of this Code.
- (c) A person who is entitled, pursuant to Section 545 (a)(2)(A), (B) or (C), to submit the opponent argument for a particular measure may assign the right to submit the argument to another person, provided that the assignee is eligible to submit an argument pursuant to Section 530(b) of this Code.
- (d) The author of a direct proponent or opponent argument may assign to another person the right to submit a rebuttal argument, provided that the assignee is eligible to submit an argument pursuant to Section 530(b) of this Code.

After the "Proponent's Arguments" and "Opponent's Arguments" have been selected, the Director of Elections will send the author of the "Proponent's Argument" a copy of the "Opponent's Argument," and the Director of Elections will send the author of the "Opponent's Argument" a copy of the "Proponent's Argument." The authors of those arguments may then submit rebuttal arguments of **no more than 250 words**; this includes the names of the signer(s), title(s) and organization if included.

The deadline to submit a "Rebuttal to Proponent's Argument" or "Rebuttal to Opponent's Argument" for consideration is **noon on Tuesday, August 17, 2004**.

If no "Opponent's Argument" is submitted opposing a measure, then no rebuttal argument will be accepted from the proponents. Similarly, if there is no "Proponent's Argument" then no rebuttal argument will be accepted from the opponents.

Authors of "Proponent's Arguments" or "Opponent's Arguments" may assign their **rebuttal** rights to others, provided that the assignee is eligible to submit an argument

pursuant to Section 530(b) and (c) of this Code. The author of a "Proponent's Argument" or "Opponent's Argument" who wishes to assign his/her rebuttal right to another person must submit the rebuttal along with a statement signed by the original author, stating to whom the right was assigned. The author may accomplish this by signing the rebuttal argument and indicating on it clearly his/her intention to assign the rebuttal right.

#### **D. FORMAT FOR PROPONENT AND OPPONENT ARGUMENTS**

See Section III. A. **Paid Ballot Argument Format**

#### **E. PROPONENT AND OPPONENT ARGUMENTS; SUBMISSION AS PAID ARGUMENTS SEC. §555.**

Any individual or entity submitting an argument for selection as a "proponent's" or "opponent's" argument may separately submit the same as a paid argument, subject to the deadline and fee or signature requirements elsewhere provided in this Article. If an argument is selected as a "proponent's" or "opponent's" argument, the Director of Elections shall return any publication fee already paid to the individual or entity submitting the argument.

### **III. SUBMITTING PAID BALLOT ARGUMENTS**

#### **A. PAID BALLOT ARGUMENTS: PREFERRED FORMAT**

You must submit one master original copy of the preferred format sheet. This master copy must include the text of the argument and the names and identifications of all the signers. Original signatures may be on additional copies of the form, but all names and identifications must be included on the master form word count.

*Formatting points:*

- ◆ Argument is neatly typed on a Department of Elections form. (If typed or printed with a ribbon printer, make sure that the impression is dark enough to be legible and easily copied.)
- ◆ A one-inch margin appears on the right and left side of the page.
- ◆ One or two blank lines are left between each typed line (double space or triple space).
- ◆ The number of words in each line of text has been counted and written in the right hand margin (these numbers may be neatly printed by hand).



Make sure you have included, on a master form, the name and identification of every signer. This is part of the word count.

- ◆ The total number of words in the argument (total of all lines) has been written at the bottom of the page.
- ◆ The text of the argument will appear in the Voter Information Pamphlet in Roman type, with the names of the signers printed in Roman italic type. Submitters may designate certain portions of the text to be set in **bold**, *italic*, or **bold italic** type. To designate a style: underline the appropriate portion of the text, and indicate in the left hand margin "B" for bold, "I" for italic, or "BI" for bold italic. If more than one style change is needed in any one line of text, write them in order in the left margin, clearly separated by commas. These style markings may be made by hand. No text printed for arguments in the Voter Information Pamphlet will be underlined.

A completed "Ballot Argument Control Sheet" must be submitted with *each* argument.

## **B. SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATIONS**

Any person who submits an argument for publication must sign that argument. If more than one person submits the argument, each person must sign the argument.

**If the argument is submitted on behalf of an organization, the argument must indicate the name of the organization and the name and signature of at least one of the principal officers of that organization who is a registered San Francisco voter.**

If the submitter wishes to have only the name of the organization typeset, he/she is responsible for indicating his/her wishes on the form. All signature authorizations must be made on the form with the text of the argument. A general signature authorization that does not reference the full text of a specific ballot argument will not be accepted. We ask that original signatures be in bold blue ink.

It is the submitter's responsibility to clearly indicate on the form (as part of the text and word count) the signer's names and titles by which they wish to be identified in the Voter Information Pamphlet.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*You must type all the signers' names and identifications on a master copy of the preferred format sheet. We recommend that you do so before the argument is distributed for signatures. In the past, some signers have been surprised and upset to learn their name would appear on the same argument with certain other individuals. Names that cannot be*

*deciphered will not be printed. A signer's name cannot be withdrawn after the submission deadline.*

All authors/signers who submits an argument must sign the preferred format sheet, agreeing that the argument is true and correct to the best of the their knowledge and belief.

If the text of the argument includes the name of another person or organization, represented as favoring or opposing the measure, or represented as favoring or endorsing the argument, who is not the author, you may be asked to submit substantiation of such claims.

Signatures on a Petition In Lieu of Publication Fee will not be included as signers of the actual ballot argument. Voters may separately sign either or both a ballot argument and its Petition In Lieu of Publication Fee.

Arguments may have faxed or copied signatures in order to meet the filing deadline (fax to the author, not to the Department of Elections.) However, the original signature, on the form must be in the Department of Elections within 48 hours after the fax is submitted (or the following Monday at noon if submitted on a Friday).

**C. PAID ARGUMENTS; FEES; DISCLOSURE OF TRUE SOURCE OF FUNDS SEC. §560.**

In addition to the "Proponent's Arguments" and "Opponent's Arguments" any eligible San Francisco voter and/or association of citizens may submit paid arguments for publication in the Voter Information Pamphlet. The publication fee (or signatures on a Petition In Lieu of Publication Fee) must be submitted at the same time the arguments are submitted. Each paid argument may not exceed 300 words; this includes the names of the signer(s), title(s) and organization(s) if included.

The fee for publishing an argument in the Voter Information Pamphlet is **\$200 plus \$2 per word**; this includes the names of the signer(s), title(s) and organization(s) if included. Check, money order or cash must be submitted for payment at the time the argument is filed. Because submitters sometimes under-count the number of words in their argument, they may wish to deposit more money than they believe is necessary to pay for their argument.

**Each argument must include the true source of the funds used for payment of the fee on both the Control Sheet and the Preferred Format Sheet. We ask that you include the true source of funds on the Preferred Format Sheet in two locations; first, within and as part of the text of your argument, and second, include the information in the space provided at the bottom of the Preferred Format Sheet. This disclosure statement does not apply toward the argument word count.**

**(Please see the example below.)**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*When the true source of the funds used for payment of a publication fee qualifies as a recipient political committee pursuant to California Government Code Section 82013(a), the person submitting the ballot argument shall also disclose the names of the three contributors whose cumulative contributions are the largest contributions received by the committee during the six months immediately preceding submission of the ballot argument. **This must be included at the bottom of the Preferred Format Sheet.***

The true source of funds for the printing fee will appear at the bottom of each paid ballot argument in the V.I.P. We request that you include this information on the printout of your argument on the Preferred Format Sheet and on the computer disks submitted. The word count of this disclosure statement will not be counted toward your total word count. Please format the statement as follows:

**"The true source of funds for the printing fee of this argument is (insert name)."**

If the true source of funds is a recipient political committee, also include the following:

**"The three largest contributors to the true source recipient committee are:**

1. (name) 2. (name) 3. (name)”

#### **IV. ARGUMENT WORD LIMIT SEC. §575.**

Arguments are limited to 300 words, and rebuttals to 250 words. In general, each word will be counted toward the 300-word limit (250-word limit for rebuttals). Punctuation is not counted. All of the following count as one word: each part of a name, each initial, each abbreviation and each contraction. Proper geographic names (e.g., San Francisco) are counted as one word. However, " San Franciscans " is counted as two words. Numbers or dates written in numerals (e.g., 100, 11/7/00) are counted as one word. Numbers or dates written as words are counted by the actual number of words (e.g., one hundred = 2 words, November 2, 2004 = 3 words).

, The names of the signers of the argument, and the names of any organizations included as part of the signatures are counted toward the maximum word limit. Word combinations normally hyphenated (which appear hyphenated in American Heritage Collegiate Dictionary, Third Edition) are counted as one word. Building names and areas will not be considered geographic names. For example, "City Hall" will be counted as 2 words and "Bay Area" will be counted as 2 words.

#### **V. PAID ARGUMENTS; SIGNATURES IN LIEU OF PUBLICATION FEE SEC. §565.**

- a) The author of any ballot argument otherwise complying with the provisions of this Article may submit a petition containing signatures in lieu of the publication fee. Any registered voter of the City and County may sign an in-lieu petition for an argument for or against a measure. Each signature shall reduce the amount of the publication fee by 0.50. A voter may sign both an initiative or referendum petition and an in-lieu publication fee petition; the petitions, however, must be separate documents.
- b) Signatures on a Petition In Lieu of Publication Fee must be original.
- c) Any registered voter of the City and County may sign in-lieu of publication fee petition for more than one argument concerning the same measure. However, a registered voter may not sign an in-lieu publication fee petition for one particular argument more than once.
- d) Each in-lieu petition shall include a complete and accurate copy of the text of the proposed argument and shall be submitted in a format prescribed by the Director of Elections. Each petition shall also include spaces for the voter's signature, printed name and residence address. The residence address shall include street and number within the City and County, or other adequate designation of residence so that the location may be readily ascertained. Across the top of each printed page there shall be

printed in 12-point boldface type the following: "Petition in Lieu of Ballot Argument Publication Fee."

- e) Each in-lieu petition shall include an affidavit signed by the circulator in substantially the same form as set forth in California Elections Code section 9022, except that the affidavit shall declare that the circulator is a voter of the City and County and shall state the address at which the circulator is registered to vote at the time of the execution of the affidavit.

<p><b>VI. SIGNATURES SUBMITTED IN LIEU OF BALLOT ARGUMENT FEE; PROCEDURE SEC. §570.</b></p>
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- (a) Upon receipt of the minimum number of signatures required, or a sufficient combination of such signatures and pro rata publication fee, the Director of Elections shall provisionally accept the argument for inclusion in the ballot pamphlet. Within seven days after the receipt of the petition, the Director of Elections shall notify the submitter of the petition of any deficiency in the in-lieu signatures submitted. The submitter may then, prior to the close of the period for the submission of arguments, submit additional signatures in compliance with the provisions of this Article governing in-lieu petitions, or pay a pro rata portion of the publication fee to cover the deficiency.
- (b) If determination of the deficiency occurs after the close of the period for submission of arguments, the submitter, within 24 hours of being notified of the deficiency, shall pay an amount sufficient to cure the deficiency or the Director of Elections shall not publish the argument. In the event the Director of Elections does not publish the argument, the Director of Elections shall reimburse the submitter for any payment previously made.
- (c) The submitter of an in-lieu petition may submit a greater number of signatures than required to allow for subsequent losses due to the invalidity of some signatures. The Director of Elections shall not be required to determine the validity of a greater number of signatures than that required to qualify the argument for publication.
- (d) The author of an argument may submit both an in-lieu petition and deposit a fee that combined exceed the number of signatures and/or amount of money required to qualify the argument for publication, up to and including submittal of the full number of signatures and payment of the full fee. The Director of Elections shall thereafter refund any remaining portion of the fee not needed to cure any deficiency in the in-lieu petition caused by invalid signatures.
- (e) If the number of signatures affixed to an in-lieu petition is 100 or more, the Director of Elections may use a random sampling technique for verification of the signatures. The random sampling shall include an examination of 100 signatures, or 3% of the total number of signatures submitted, whichever is greater. Upon completion of the

verification of signatures in the sample, the percentage of signatures that are valid shall be applied and projected to the total number of signatures submitted.

## VII. ARGUMENTS SUBMITTED ON COMPUTER DISKS.

To expedite the text publication process, submit each argument on a separate 3½" diskette, formatted for use on an IBM-PC compatible computer. (Sorry, no Apple or Macintosh.) The file must be in one of the following formats: WordPerfect 5.0 or 5.1, or WordPerfect for Windows 6.0, MS-Word, MS-Word for Windows. Many copy shops rent computers for self-service use, and many will prepare a disk for a fee. The format must be written on the "Ballot Argument Control Sheet" with each argument. Please note that formatting information may be lost when converting from one word-processor to another. If there is any question about the content of the argument, the Department of Elections will refer to the typed "hard" copy.

If more than one argument is submitted, please put them on separate computer disks. **Make sure that each file is given a clear and unique name.** Also, make sure that each disk is labeled with the submitter's or contact person's name and telephone number. The file name must be written on the "Ballot Argument Control Sheet" with each argument.

Arguments submitted on a computer disk must be accompanied by a typed "hard copy" using the preferred format.

We received several bad disks and disks which contained a virus for the November 1999 Voter Information Pamphlet. Please review your disk before submitting it.

## VIII. ARGUMENTS SUBMITTED BEFORE THE FINAL DAY FOR FILING

Arguments will be accepted at the Office of the Department of Elections Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Submitters should count the words in their arguments and write the word count on the copy of the argument they submit. The Elections Department will verify the word count and signatures on a Petition In Lieu Publication Fee within 48 hours (the following Monday at noon if submitted on a Friday), and will notify the submitter of any discrepancy. The submitter will have 24 hours after being notified to come to the office to correct the problem by shortening the text, by submitting more signatures, or by paying the amount due. If the submitter has deposited more than the total required fee including In-lieu signatures, the Elections Department will refund the excess except for differences of seven words or less. **To avoid any unfair disadvantage to early submissions, paid arguments submitted in advance of the deadline will not be available for public inspection until August 20, 2004.**

## IX. PAID ARGUMENTS SUBMITTED ON THE FINAL DAY FOR FILING

**Paid arguments, are accepted until noon on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.** Arguments will be provisionally accepted by the Department of Elections, which will then verify the word count and all signatures on a "Petition In Lieu of Publication Fee" within 7 days as well at the signature and registration of the signers. If the word count determined by the Department of Elections is the same as the word count given by the submitter, within seven words (over or under), and the argument does not exceed 300 words, the argument will be accepted and no additional fee or refund will be made.

If there is a discrepancy of more than seven words, and the submitter has paid more than the required fee, the Department of Elections will refund the excess. If there is a Discrepancy of more than seven words, and the submitter has not paid a sufficient fee; the submitter will be contacted and allowed 24 hours to come in to the Department of Elections to pay the difference.

If the argument is more than 300 words, the submitter will be contacted and allowed 24 hours to come in to the Department of Elections and delete enough words to eliminate the discrepancy. No editorial changes may be made other than deleting words, even if the deletions make for improper or awkward grammar.

If arguments are submitted and a discrepancy is found in the number of words counted, number of valid signatures on a Petition In Lieu of Publication Fee, or amount of fee paid, and the submitter does not respond within the allowed time to make up the deficiency, or if the Department of Elections is unable to contact the submitter after making a reasonable effort, then the Department of Elections will not publish the argument. The Department of Elections will refund any amount paid as a publication fee for the argument, but the Department of Elections will not be responsible for any other remedy.

When printed in the Voter Information Pamphlet, proponents' arguments will be titled "PROPONENT'S ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_, " opponents' arguments will be titled "OPPONENT'S ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_." Rebuttals will be titled "REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_ " or "REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_." Paid arguments will be titled "PAID ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_" or "PAID ARGUMENTS AGAINST PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_." The title will be printed in the Voter Information Pamphlet in bold, sans serif, and all caps type.

## X. REFUNDS

Refunds are not given for arguments withdrawn after they are accepted.

**If an argument has only one signer and that signer is not a registered voter in San Francisco, the argument will not be printed and no refund will be made.**

Overpayments as noted above will be refunded unless the difference is seven or fewer words. Claims for refunds because of minor errors will not be considered. The only remedy that will be considered in any circumstance is the refund of a monetary amount paid.

## **XI. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF ARGUMENTS**

Copies of all material to be printed in the Voter Information Pamphlet will be available for public inspection. The Department of Elections is not open on weekends and will not have arguments available Saturdays and Sundays. The inspection periods are;

**August 17<sup>th</sup>, noon through August 27<sup>th</sup>, noon** Proponent and Opponent Arguments

**August 19<sup>th</sup>, noon through August 31<sup>st</sup>, noon:** Rebuttal Arguments

**August 20<sup>th</sup>, noon through August 31<sup>st</sup>, noon:** Paid Arguments

## **XII. TYPESET COPIES OF ARGUMENTS**

Copies of typeset pages as they will appear in the Voter Information Pamphlet are open to public inspection as soon as they are available. Submitters of arguments are encouraged to inspect the typeset copies, in the public files, as soon as possible and to notify the Department of Elections of any discrepancy between what was submitted and what is typeset. Submitters are responsible for notifying the Department of Elections of any typesetting errors. Submitters should call the office in early to mid **September** to confirm when the typeset copies will be available.

Every effort is made to ensure that arguments appearing in the Voter Information Pamphlet are free of typesetting and printing errors. A public notice will be published in three local newspapers, (on three consecutive days, one week prior to the election) with corrections to any errors printed in the Voter Information Pamphlet.

## **XIII. QUESTIONS?**

A Brown Bag Lunch meeting to discuss Ballot Argument procedures will be held **Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon in Room 48 at City Hall**. The meeting is open to the public. Please bring your questions, ideas and other interested people, along with your lunch.

## **MORE QUESTIONS?**

If you have other questions about the procedures for submitting ballot arguments, please call (415) 554-4375