



PollWorker Post

City and County of San Francisco

Department of Elections

Fall 2016

Mark your calendar...

Thank you for your continued service to San Francisco voters. Your dedication makes Election Day possible! We hope you had a terrific summer and are gearing up for another election!

November 8, 2016 Election

The November 8, 2016 Consolidated General Election will be an exciting one, with an expected turnout of approximately 80% in San Francisco!

The November 8 election activities will likely track those of the November 2008 election—the largest in the City’s history, with a 50,000 voter registration increase between early September and mid-October, 20,000 voters casting their ballots at the City Hall Voting Center, hundreds of election observers visiting polling places, and an 80% voter turnout, with 46% of those voters voting by mail.

What does that mean for you on Election Day? You will likely have a busy and eventful day, you’ll get to meet many different voters, and be an integral part of a historic election. You are part of whole team of people that will support you in making Election Day possible for San Francisco, so never hesitate to call the Election Center with any questions.

Potential lines at your polling place

You may experience lines of voters at your polling place, especially during peak times, such as the morning or evening.

Keeping a calm and courteous attitude will set the tone for the polling place. Acknowledging voters waiting in line will help them understand that you are busy and doing you best to serve them quickly, accurately, and efficiently.

If you notice a line, it’s a good idea for your precinct team to periodically make the following announcement “Thank you for waiting. We appreciate your patience and will assist you as soon as we can”. This will remind voters that you will assist them soon, and while you are assisting voters, remember, the Election Center and Filed Staff are eager to assist you!



What’s on the Ballot?

This will be a big election for San Francisco, the State of California, and the United States! The multiscard ballot will have the contest for the President of United States, as well as numerous other contests:

- U.S. Senator
- U.S. Representative in Congress
- California State Senator
- Member of the State Assembly
- Board of Supervisors Districts 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11. This means that these Districts will have an additional card as part of the ballot.
- Board of Education
- Community College Board
- BART Board of Directors
- Judge of the Superior Court
- State and Local Measures

Poll Worker Spotlight

San Francisco poll workers are diverse, enthusiastic, and dedicated to helping voters. In this feature, get to know your fellow poll workers and share your own story.



Meet **ZEEL DESAI**

Why and when did you become a poll worker?

I became a poll worker when I was a junior in high school. My brother was a poll worker and told me about it.

What's your favorite thing about being a poll worker?

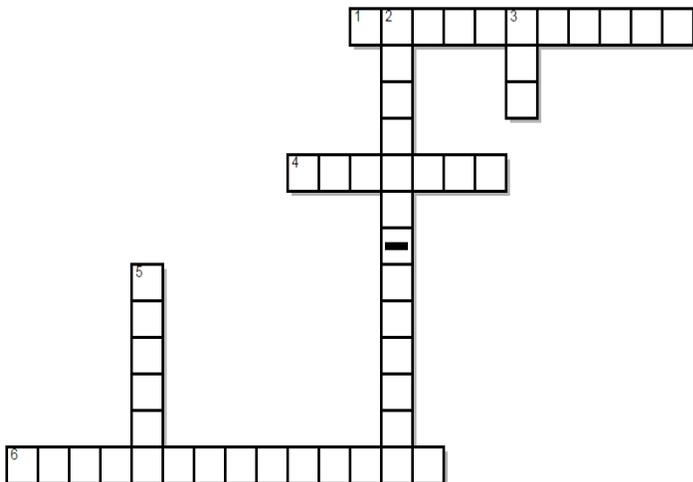
I found it a great way to do community service and to learn about the election process. After taking US History and Government classes, it was great to see it in action. Rather than reading a text book or watching a video, it was nice to help others vote.

What's something most people don't know about you?

I actually hated my history class but now I'm more interested in it and hope to tell more friends about becoming a poll worker.

Want to be featured in the next poll worker spotlight? Email pollworker.communication@sfgov.org or call (415) 554-4395.

Crossword



Across

1. Provisional voters sign the__ envelope
4. Provisional voters use the__ from the envelope to check the status of the ballot
6. Call here on Election Day!

Down

2. In a__contest, voters can rank up to three candidates
3. Arrive at your polling place at this hour
5. Vote-by-mail voters can drop off their__ at any San Francisco polling place

Poll Workers Needed

Due to the expected high turnout, we are planning to staff many polling places with an additional Clerk, to help the team during the busiest times.

This is an exciting time to be a poll worker, and if you have friends or family who would make a great poll worker, please encourage them to apply!

Prospective applicants can visit sfelections.org/pollworker to learn more, or apply at Department of Elections Recruitment Office at City Hall, Room 48.

We are open Thursdays from 11:00am - 3:00pm now through September. Starting September 12, the hours are expanded to Tues, Thurs, and Fri from 8:30am to 4pm.

Your Thoughts

Thank you to everyone who completed our post election survey! Here are some of the highlights:

I'm glad I was able to contribute and witness the inner processes of part of our democracy. It indeed worked as I had expected: a mix of people following well-designed processes with a little improvisation when necessary. - Inspector

I loved every moment of this experience and I cannot wait to do it again.

This was my first Primary to vote in after I got my citizenship last year and surely my very first as Inspector. I was very excited and I am happy I had a chance to be of help in our election process and also to learn new things.

It was a wonderful experience. I'd like to recommend being an Inspector to anyone who wants to see a difference being made! The people at the Civic Center were gracious and very helpful in making me feel prepared to take on the "Standby Inspector" role.

It was great. A long day, but nice to see Democracy in action.

I love working this job being part of the political process and being thanked by so many people for providing a place and means to vote freely and fairly. No-one gets disenfranchised in SF elections and I love it.

I was very honored to serve my fellow San Franciscans who were fulfilling their civic duty and strengthening our democracy.

