

Winter 2016



Thank you for serving San Francisco voters on November 8, 2016. We could not have made it through this election without each and everyone of you. Thank you for your dedication and hard work! In this election 414, 528 voters cast a ballot, the highest number in San Francisco's history.



City and County of San Francisco

Canvass

It may seem like the election is over when you go home on election night. For many election processes, it's just beginning! The day after Election Day, we begin the Official Canvass, which lasts for several weeks. All the closing bags that you worked hard to prepare are brought to the Department's warehouse by the Deputy Sheriffs, and the process of sorting materials commences. The Rosters and about 55,000 vote-by-mail and 23,000 provisional ballots are transfered from the Warehouse and arrive at City Hall at about 1 a.m., where the Rosters are scanned and ballot review takes place. In the days and weeks following, we review the contents of each closing bag, and compare the counts of voted ballot cards to the Posted Ballot Statement and the electronic results from your polling place. That is just a sliver of the reconciliation process that takes place during the Official Canvass, which must be completed before the election is certified. Your service on Election Day and completion of your closing procedures, including the Posted Ballot Statement, are vital to ensuring the completion of the Canvass and Certification of the Election!





Practice Labs

This Election, the poll worker practice lab was created as a "carnival-style" attraction. Attendees were able to drop in at any time and practice Election Day activities at any of the seven available booths, and even spin the "wheel of knowledge" and earn special prizes. This was a great way to get hands on experience and ask any question that may come to mind. Over 200 poll workers participated. Look out for the practice lab next election; it's fun for every-one regardless of the number of elections you have worked.

High School Ambassadors

The California Education Code recently designated the last two weeks in April and September as High School Voter Education Weeks. Inspired by this designation, we established the High School Ambassador Program to promote civic engagement at local high schools and foster an environment that cultivates lifelong voters and active citizens. Sixteen students were accepted into the program in September; the Ambassdors attended training to learn voter registration procedures and get ideas on how to promote civic engagement, and then spent the two weeks leading voter education at their schools. This impressive group helped to register dozens of voters, recruited over 150 poll workers, and came up with creative ways to spread election awareness, including setting up information tables, making school wide announcements, and posting flyers on campus. At the culmination of the program, the Ambassadors received a certificate from the Mayor for their efforts!

Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the online post-election survey. Approximately 700 of you shared your experience, and provided feedback inform procedures for future elections. If you didn't have the opportunity to complete the online survey, you can email pollworker.communication@sfgov.org or call (415) 554-4395 to request a paper copy.



