

# CALENDAR, FORMS AND INFORMATION FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, SCHOOL AND DISTRICT MEASURES MARCH 3, 2009

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*This guide was developed in an effort to provide code sections concerning measures. The contents and any legal interpretations contained herein are not to be relied upon as being correct either factually or as legal opinion. Reliance on the content without prior submission to and approval of your appropriate legal counsel is at the reader's risk. (June, 2003)*

**BASIC DEADLINES FOR MEASURES  
TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT  
MARCH 3, 2009**

<b><u>Number of days prior to Election</u></b>		<b><u>Deadline For</u></b>
E-88	12-05-08	LAST day to submit Resolutions of Consolidation and exact form of the ballot wording to the Board of Supervisors and Registrar of Voters. Must be in our office by 4:30 p.m. Measure letter assignment will be made on 12-08-08. Last day to submit tax rate statement by bond counsel.
E-87	12-06-08	Ten (10) day public examination period.
E-78	12-15-08	(El. Code §§13313-13314)
E-83	12-10-08	LAST day to withdraw a measure from the ballot. Written notification must reach this office by 4:30 p.m. on this date or the measure WILL remain on the ballot. (El. Code §§9604, 9605)
E-78	12-15-08	LAST day to submit ballot arguments. These must be in our office by 4:30 p.m. to appear in the sample ballot booklet.
E-77	12-16-08	Ten (10) day public examination period.
E-68	12-25-08*	(El. Code §§13313-13314)
	<b>(Holiday)</b>	
E-71	12-22-08	LAST day to submit rebuttal arguments. These must be in our office by 4:30 p.m. to appear in the sample ballot booklet.
E-70	12-23-08	Ten (10) day public examination period.
E-61	01-01-09*	(El. Code §§13313-13314)
	<b>(Holiday)</b>	

- NOTE:
- 1) The wording to appear on the ballot page shall not exceed 75 words. (El. Code §13247).
  - 2) Arguments and Rebuttals must be accompanied by a verification form.

\*Asterisked dates indicate that the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday; in most cases, the deadline will move forward to the next business day. (El. Code §15)

## **MARIN COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS GUIDELINES FOR ARGUMENTS AND REBUTTALS**

### **Word limits for arguments and rebuttals**

Arguments for and against measures are limited to 300 words. (El. Code §9162)

Rebuttals are limited to 250 words. (El. Code §9167)

### **Number of signers**

There can be up to five signers of arguments and/or rebuttals. (El. Code §9164)

### **Who can sign arguments and rebuttals?**

- The governing board of the jurisdiction or any member/s designated by the board
- Any individual voter eligible to vote on the measure
- Bona fide association of citizens
- Any combination of the above

### **Form of arguments and rebuttals/signature Verification Statement required**

- Type arguments and rebuttals on 8.5 x 11 white paper.
- Use upper and lower case letters. Bullets, indents, underlines, are permitted. Arguments and rebuttals will be printed exactly as they are submitted.
- Type title of argument or rebuttal in boldfaced caps on top of the page as applicable:  
ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_, or  
ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_, or  
REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_, or  
REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sign and print name on the Argument Verification Statement.
- Type the signer's names and titles at the bottom of the argument in the order that they should appear in the sample ballot.
- Staple the Signature Verification Statement with signatures and printed names to the argument/rebuttal.

### **Rebuttals with different signers who are different from the ones on the primary argument for or against**

- If rebuttals have different signers than the original argument for or against, the original authors must sign the Authorization Form to release their signature and provide information on the new author.
- The Authorization Form and the Verification Statement with signatures and names of the new signers must be submitted with the rebuttal.

### **Faxed signatures**

Faxed signatures are okay, but the original signatures must be submitted within 48 hours of the fax.

### **Argument submitted by organization – additional procedures**

- If argument is submitted on behalf of an organization, type the name of the organization in caps followed by the name and title of one of the principal officers of the organization in upper and lower case letters. For example: SIERRA CLUB, by s/Mary Smith, President. (El. Code §9164)

- If an individual signs with the title of his/her office in the organization, submit letter on organization's letterhead confirming that the organization has authorized the signer to sign the ballot argument on behalf of the organization.
- Provide the name and phone number of a contact person when submitting the argument.

### **Submitting arguments**

- Submit arguments to the Registrar of Voters Office, Marin Civic Center, Room 121, San Rafael, by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline dates. (El. Code §9163)

### **Order of precedence of arguments**

If two or more arguments for or against a measure are filed, the election official chooses one based on the order of precedence for choosing the arguments set forth in California Elections Code §9166.

### **If one or no arguments are filed**

If one or no arguments for or against a measure are filed, there can be no rebuttal arguments. A statement will be printed in the sample ballot that no argument(s) (for or against) the measure were filed.

### **Public examination of arguments/rebuttals**

A 10-day (calendar days) public review period of arguments and rebuttals will begin on the day after the filing deadline. Any legal challenges to arguments and rebuttals must be filed within the 10-day public review period. (El. Code §9190)

### **Withdrawal of arguments/rebuttals**

Proponents of arguments for or against a measure may withdraw those arguments any time prior to and including the deadline date fixed for filing arguments. (El. Code §9316)

Rev. 1/2/08

# HOW TO COUNT WORDS

Each word is counted as one word except in the following cases:

- 1) **Punctuation** -- Punctuation is not counted.
- 2) **Titles** -- Words used in the title of the argument are not counted. In the text of the argument, if Measure X is referred to, it is counted as one word.
- 3) **Cities/Counties** -- All geographical names shall be considered as one word.
- 4) **Abbreviations** -- Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression shall be counted as one word.
- 5) **Hyphenations** -- Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available dictionary shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.
- 6) **Dates** -- Dates consisting of a combination of words and digits shall be counted as two words. Dates consisting only of a combination of digits shall be counted as one word.
- 7) **Numbers** -- Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, each word shall be considered as a separate word.
- 8) **E-mail** -- E-mail addresses are considered as one word.

## VERIFICATION STATEMENT FOR ARGUMENTS/REBUTTALS

The undersigned author(s) of the following arguments/rebuttals on Measure \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Check one of categories below)**

\_\_\_\_ Argument in favor of Measure (\_\_\_\_)      \_\_\_\_ Rebuttal to argument in favor of Measure (\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_ Argument against Measure (\_\_\_\_)      \_\_\_\_ Rebuttal to argument against Measure (\_\_\_\_)

on the ballot at the Special Election, March 3, 2009, for the Jurisdiction of:

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby state that such argument/rebuttal is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief. **SIGNED BY:**

1)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Print Name)****(Signature)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence Address)(Mailing Address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title is Optional)(Date Signed)

2)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Print Name)****(Signature)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence Address)(Mailing Address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title is Optional)(Date Signed)

3)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Print Name)****(Signature)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence Address)(Mailing Address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title is Optional)(Date Signed)

4)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Print Name)****(Signature)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence Address)(Mailing Address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title is Optional)(Date Signed)

5)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Print Name)****(Signature)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence Address)(Mailing Address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title is Optional)(Date Signed)

Please provide the name and phone number of a person to contact and/or to receive correspondence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# AUTHORIZATION FORM

(For Rebuttal Arguments Only)

I \_\_\_\_\_, as the author on the primary argument in favor \_\_\_\_\_ or argument against \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby authorize the following person to sign in my place or as an additional signer (maximum 5 signers) on the rebuttal to the argument in favor of \_\_\_\_\_ or rebuttal to the argument against \_\_\_\_\_.

The following must be completed with the information on the new author:

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

The following must be completed with the information on the original author:

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Original Author)