



Election Integrity Project California
EVERY LAWFULLY CAST VOTE ACCURATELY COUNTED

October 8, 2018

MAIL BALLOT VOTERS AT THE POLLS

[\(CLICK HERE\)](#) for audio-visual presentation of this information)

Since well over 50% of California's voters receive a mail ballot, it behooves us to spend one more publication discussing the topic.

Many mail-ballot recipients have wisely decided not to vote early, not to trust the USPS with something as precious as their vote, and not to use a community drop box that was not appropriately secure. Therefore, they select the option of dropping their ballot off at a polling place on Election Day.

For the protection of all mail ballot voters, watch for the following:

- Poll Workers should be inspecting each envelope before submitting it to the appropriate container. Ballots turned in with missing information or signatures may not be counted, and it is the Poll Workers' responsibility to protect the voters from what could be fatal errors.
- Mail ballot voters who are at their own polling place (where their name is on the roster) have the right to surrender their mail ballot and receive a poll ballot. Poll Workers should honor the request, being careful to mark the surrendered ballot, or tear it. It is common for Poll Workers to attempt to convince voters to just turn in their mail ballot rather than surrendering it. **This is inappropriate behavior, and should be questioned.**
- Mail ballot voters who are not on the roster (they have no assigned polling place or have gone to the wrong polling place) may vote anywhere within their own county, but only with a **provisional ballot.**

A growing number of mail ballot voters are arriving at the polls on Election Day, wanting to vote

because they had not received their ballot in the mail. Sadly, they had not thought to report the ballot missing when they should have. But they still have the right to a ballot. To avoid the possibility of double voting, those voters must be issued a **provisional ballot ONLY**.

If you are in the polls as an **EIPCa** Observer or as a voter, pay attention to the mail ballot surrender process, and the handling of voters with no ballot to surrender. If you see something wrong, **say something**. Protect yourself and others by **politely questioning** the Precinct Inspector, and contact **EIPCa** if the situation remains unchanged. (www.eip-ca.com)

Also keep an ear out for voters who report not receiving an expected ballot, or having their voter status changed without their knowledge or permission. If you can approach those people outside the polling place, encourage them to contact **EIPCa** through our website and report their experience.

Only when citizens step up and speak up can we expose these issues and get them resolved for the future.

One person who speaks up can protect votes and voters for the rest of the voting day. Be sure to use your knowledge to help others who may not know how their rights are being violated. Fair and honest elections **KEEP THE REPUBLIC**. Thanks for doing your part.

Linda and the EIPCa Team

Linda Paine

President and Co-founder

Election Integrity Project California

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