



Independence Day: Reviving Freedom by Restoring Fair and Honest Elections

We are celebrating our nation's 247th birthday at a time of darkness and great divisiveness plaguing the country. The words written by Thomas Paine before our Republic was born ring equally true today: "These are the times that try men's souls."

On the verge of the 2024 election, we are in danger of losing the Republic that the Founders established through their tremendous sacrifice amidst the trying times Paine recorded.

Today the foundations of our nation and fundamental institutions are under attack. One of the most serious current threats to preserving the Republic is the effort to undermine the system of electing our leaders.

The right of the people to choose their leaders through honest elections has been viewed as sacred since the birth of the nation. Nowhere is that right in greater peril than in California today.

Desperate to recover that right, millions of former Californians have voted with their feet and have fled the Golden State. But thankfully there are still millions of brave and patriotic Californians who have not waved the white flag of defeat and are standing firm in the fight to restore fair and honest elections in the once Golden State.

To lead that fight, the Election Integrity Project® *California*, Inc. (EIPCa) was born. The nonpartisan, non-profit, public benefit corporation was organized to defend the civil rights of California citizens to participate fully in the electoral process, and to train and educate them to do so. As explained on EIPCa's website, the current election model in California is that citizens are given an "election experience," **but without the presence of genuine integrity.** [Overview Election Integrity Project®California, Inc. \(EIPCa\)](#)

EIPCa has documented since it was organized over 12 years ago that there are irregularities in the process and deviations from procedures that are continually repeated in one election after another. EIPCa has demonstrated, and will continue to demonstrate with evidence, that election officials not only ignore the state laws and legal restraints intended to safeguard election integrity but continue to erode those laws to remove what few protections remain.

EIPCa provided Findings Reports in 2011 - 2012 to multiple county Registrars with information about California voter roll database issues indicating list maintenance weaknesses. Officials ignored the reports. EIPCa created a Findings Report describing violations of state and federal law, as well as non-implementation of state law to several Registrars, to the Secretary of State and the public. It was ignored. This scenario has repeated election after election.

EIPCa has been training observers to painstakingly document the violations of policies and procedures in each election year since it was established. In 2013, EIPCa's Board met with the California Secretary of State team to present the 2012 Findings Report and discuss what could be done to address the bloated voter rolls and to correct the procedures various county election officials used to manage elections and process ballots. EIPCa was told that the "CA SOS has no direct 'line' authority over county election officials" and that the Secretary of State's authority was limited to "advisory" direction only. EIPCa sent a follow-up letter expressing concern. No answer was received.

On behalf of the people of California, EIPCa had been patiently pursuing a civil process of filing the Findings Reports, but with no suitable response to protect fair elections from state election officials. Thus in 2017, EIPCa decided that legal action would be the only way to deal with such an unresponsive state government, and to eventually ensure the future integrity of elections.

EIPCa has filed three lawsuits from 2017 to the present to defend the civil rights of Californians and to provide a lawful and peaceful return to the integrity of elections.

Our present-day concerns are now similar to those of our Founders prior to the birth of our nation, as we once again consider the words of the Declaration of Independence:

That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Only fair, honest and transparent elections can meet the governmental standard of "consent of the governed," where leaders are chosen by the people and held accountable for their actions by the people, all through the electoral process. If We the People cannot fairly elect the leaders of our choosing, and can do nothing through the ballot box to hold those representatives accountable, we have lost the Republic.

Active and dedicated citizens are needed in such a time as this to be strong and of good courage to keep our Constitutional Republic. On this Independence Day,

EIPCa not only calls on Californians but also all American citizens to celebrate Freedom by determining to take full ownership of the election process in their respective states. “We the People” can restore fair and honest elections, and we can revive Freedom in America. United we stand!

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