



*Election Integrity Project*<sup>®</sup>*California*  
EVERY LAWFULLY CAST VOTE ACCURATELY COUNTED

## On Your Honor Part 4 of 7



We would love to believe that all people are honest and trustworthy, but few people are naïve enough to live life as if that were true.

Nevertheless, while California legislators continue to strangle the state's citizens with over-the-top rules and regulations in every other arena of civic life, they continue to loosen the regulations surrounding elections and operate strictly on the principle of **On Your Honor**.

Parts 1-3 in this article series discussed California's "on your honor" policies of

- [lack of citizenship verification](#)
- [using faulty voter rolls as the basis for mass mailing](#)
- [furnishing everyone on the voter rolls with ballots through the mail, making it possible for ballots not to reach the intended voters and/or end up in the wrong hands.](#)

If you missed any of them, we urge you to take a look by clicking the links in this article.

Now we turn our attention to the state's decision to steer voters to return their ballots through ways that continue to operate outside of public view.

### **California:**

- **encourages** voters to place their completed ballots into U.S. mail or drop boxes. Yet there are **no safeguards** against loss or theft, or ways to remedy such occurrences, should they be discovered.
- **allows** unrestricted and uncontrolled ballot harvesting, enabling people to collect and return ballots for others with no chain of custody protections.
  - There is nothing in place to prevent ballot harvesters from turning in ballots for dead, apathetic, or ineligible voters.

- State law prohibits disqualifying a ballot solely because the person returning it does not provide name, relationship to the voter, or signature.
- Though technically against the law, there is no real way to prevent ballot harvesters from coercing voters or paying them to vote a particular way.
- There is nothing to prevent ballot harvesters from sifting, sorting or culling ballots, turning in only those they believe will benefit their point of view.
- There is no way to prevent ballot harvesters from opening and altering ballots before turning them in.

If the only way to vote were in person (with limited exceptions), our elections would be far more observable and secure. That is because traditional in-person voting does not suffer from the drawbacks of voting with ballots in envelopes that require extensive transportation and processing.

- In-person voting restricts ballots to physical locations, preventing ballots from ending up in the wrong hands.
- In-person voting occurs privately, in secrecy and under the protection of elections officials, removing opportunities for coercion.
- In-person voting requires voters to physically enter polling locations and present themselves.
  - Especially if photo ID were required, only live and legitimate voters could cast a vote.
  - People who have departed the state and are voting elsewhere are highly unlikely to travel back in order to cast an illegal second vote.

**By encouraging the widespread use of ballots in envelopes,  
California knowingly creates numerous opportunities  
for election manipulation.**

Sadly, because these state-enabled methods are “easier” and more “convenient,” the lion’s share of voters now embrace them, unaware of or choosing to ignore the potential threat to the integrity of their own vote, and to the integrity of election results.

The constant pressure to vote by mail as early as possible, coming from virtually all elected officials, political parties and media pundits, is difficult to counter with the Truth. The automatic delivery of ballots to every voter also leads many voters to believe there is no other way to vote.

There IS another, safer way for Californians to cast their ballots.

All California voters can still go to the polls and vote in person. In most counties, the voters can carry in the ballot mailed to them, mark it and insert into the ballot box or scanner **without the envelope**, ensuring it will be tabulated the same day and avoiding voting machines or marking devices and invasive processing .

Please stay tuned for the rest of this **On Your Honor** article series