



## **Vote Safe and a Little More in 2024**

### **Part 1 - Citizen Rights and Responsibilities**

Participating with a vote in **every election** is the most basic duty of every citizen if we are to Keep this Republic. **Every eligible voice must be heard.**

It is devastating to see that in special and primary elections it is common for only a **small** percentage, often 20% or less, of eligible voters show up to make decisions for the rest - who may not realize the impact that such a small turn out will have on everyone's lives.

**EIPCa encourages and urges ALL eligible voters to VOTE in the upcoming CA primary on March 5.**

**DO NOT let others limit your choices for you.**

This state and country are in an existential crisis. The divisiveness has never been worse since the Civil War.

**The first step to changing this situation is to hear loudly the voice of ALL of the often-silent citizens.**

- **Vote knowledgeably**
  - take the time to do the research necessary to make wise choices - the very continuance of the Republic could very well be hanging in the balance.
- **Vote Safe**
  - Vote in person with a hand-marked paper ballot, on or close to Election Day. (Future articles will address how to make that happen!)
  - Learn from EIPCa articles why voting early, voting with an envelope and ballot harvesting actually contribute to election manipulation and vote fraud - then spread the word!!
- **Be a cheerleader** for everyone you know - Friends don't let friends sit it out on Election Day!

**The second step** is to become aware of, **and act on**, some very precious legal rights all California citizens have but may not know about or not know the importance of.

**You have the right to participate in meaningful Citizen Oversight.**

**As a California citizen you have the right to:**

1. make notes and observe election procedures **[EC § 2300]**
2. view election-related activities at the central counting site on Election Day **[EC § 15204]**
3. view the canvass [processing and counting] of the vote activities following the election **[EC §§ 335.5, 353.5, 15109, 15201, 15204, 15272]**
4. observe vote by mail and provisional ballot processing **[EC §§ 15104, 15350]**
5. **ask questions** of election officials - as long as you do not interfere with the conduct of any part of the voting process - **and receive answers** or be redirected to the appropriate official for answers **[EC § 2300(a) (9)(A)(B), (10)]**
6. **ask questions** of supervisors at the central counting site as long as you do not interfere with the conduct of the election procedures **[EC § 15104]**

**Item #9 on the “Voter Bill of Rights” delineates this right.**

- To stay within your legal rights, **speak only with the Lead Official** unless that option is unavailable and the situation is urgent. You may not interact with any election official while that person is engaged with a voter.  
**NEVER INTERRUPT OR INTERFERE.**

**Note that within those rights are restrictions and responsibilities.**

- You may never interrupt or interfere.
- You should always speak with the Supervisor or Lead Official.
- You do not have the right to argue, insist, “school” or demand. You may **ONLY** ask polite, respectful questions.

**Observers are NOT loiterers or lookie-loos.**

**Educated Citizen Observers** know what they are looking for, and know the right thing to do when concerns arise.

**Educated Citizen Observers** understand how important a role they play.

**This series of articles will prepare you to  
“do a little more” as a well-informed Citizen Observer.**

**Please stay tuned.**

[https://www.eip-ca.com/articles/vote\\_safe\\_2024\\_part1.pdf](https://www.eip-ca.com/articles/vote_safe_2024_part1.pdf)  
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