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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REVISED NONPARTISAN CROSSOVER BALLOT TO BE USED FOR JUNE 3, 2008 STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION

Acting Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) Dean Logan highlighted today a new ballot format and instructions to facilitate nonpartisan crossover voting in the June 3rd Statewide Primary Election. The revised crossover ballot eliminates the need for voters to mark an additional bubble to secure their votes for partisan candidates. “I am pleased that our office was able to bring together community groups and election stakeholders to redesign a ballot that offers Los Angeles County voters a simpler and more understandable way to vote”, said Logan.

In previous primaries, Nonpartisan voters choosing to crossover to another party were required to mark their ballot twice – once for the party they intended to crossover to and again for their candidate choice. The new nonpartisan crossover ballot was revised as a result of a partnership between the RR/CC and a Crossover Voting Working Group that consisted of members of organizations representing a diverse cross section of Los Angeles County voters. These groups also have extensive experience in voter education and outreach efforts.

Participants in the working group included: the California Secretary of State, representatives of the Los Angeles County Democratic, Republican and American Independent Parties, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), Civic Engagement, California Common Cause, the Courage Campaign, the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), the League of Women Voters and the African American Voter Registration and Education Project (AAVREP).

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“We are extremely grateful to these organizations for their insights and participation,” Logan stated. “The members of the Working Group offered invaluable input that assisted us in redesigning a ballot that makes sense and that will reduce voter confusion. In addition to reviewing the ballot design, the Working Group collaborated with the RR/CC on effective voter outreach, voter education and pollworker training efforts”.

Past crossover procedures for nonpartisan voters had been in place since 2002 and were developed to fully comply with the complexities of California’s *Modified-Closed Primaries*. The Modified Closed Primary system allows established political parties to decide on an election-to-election basis if Decline-to-State/Nonpartisan (DTS/NP) voters may cast votes in their party’s primary election. In the upcoming June 3rd , Statewide Primary Election, the Democratic, Republican and American Independent Parties are allowing DTS/NP crossover voters.

Key objectives established by the Working Group included:

1. Redesigned ballot cards no longer require nonpartisan voters choosing to crossover and vote in partisan contests, to physically mark a “Party Selection” box, as required in past primary elections;
2. Revised *InkaVote Plus* vote recorder page layout and instructions;
3. Modified poll worker training and instructional materials that address crossover voting; and
4. Amended language for voter instructions that clearly state crossover voting procedures

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Logan further explained, “Our primary objective in presenting the new crossover ballot and instructions is to ensure that all qualified and eligible voters understand their voting options and know their ballots will be accurately cast and counted.”

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Attachments: Revised nonpartisan ballots; Sample ballot crossover instructions

Persons requiring multilingual assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese regarding information in the press release, may call (800) 481-8683.

JUNE 3, 2008 STATEWIDE PRIMARY AND REVISED NONPARTISAN CROSSOVER BALLOTS



NONPARTISAN SAMPLE BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS FOR NONPARTISAN VOTERS WHO WISH TO VOTE IN PARTISAN PRIMARY CONTESTS

WHO IS A NONPARTISAN VOTER?

Voters who registered as “Decline to State” or who did not register with a qualified political party are considered “NONPARTISAN” voters. Our records show you are a nonpartisan voter, not registered with any of these parties:

American Independent, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, Peace & Freedom, or Republican. For information on your party status, call **(866) 481-2666**.

WHAT ARE MY VOTING OPTIONS?

1. You may vote a nonpartisan ballot for statewide and local measures, and nonpartisan contests (e.g. County Supervisor, Judicial, City Council).

2. You may vote a nonpartisan “**crossover**” ballot, which includes party primary contests for federal and state legislative contests, as well as nonpartisan contests.

Exception: Nonpartisan crossover voters may not vote on party County Central Committee contests.

WHAT IS CROSSOVER VOTING?

Nonpartisan voters may vote in partisan primaries, if the political party allows it. This is referred to as “**CROSSOVER**” voting. In this election, nonpartisan voters may choose to crossover and cast a vote in one of the following party primaries: (Casting a “crossover” ballot will not alter your registration status)

DEMOCRATIC

REPUBLICAN

NOTE: Although the **American Independent Party** has authorized crossover voting, there are no qualified American Independent Candidates on the ballot in Los Angeles County.

HOW DO I REQUEST A CROSSOVER BALLOT?

At the Polls – Ask the poll worker for a nonpartisan crossover ballot card for the **Democratic or Republican Party**. The poll worker will issue you the ballot and direct you to the correct voting booth for the selected party.

Voting By Mail – Complete **and return** the application on the back cover of the Official Sample Ballot or you may access application on-line at www.lavote.net.

Important: Write your party of choice in the space provided. If you have already requested a crossover ballot **by mail**, you need not reapply.

You may not request more than one party’s ballot. If you do not wish to request a crossover ballot for this election, you will be provided a ballot for nonpartisan contests only.