

# VOTING RIGHTS

Persons with a Criminal History



## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You can register to vote and vote if you are:

- A United States citizen and a resident of California,
- 18 years old or older on Election Day,
- Not currently in state or federal prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court (for more information, please see [Voting Rights: Persons Subject to Conservatorship](#)).

### PERSONS WITH A CRIMINAL HISTORY WHO CAN REGISTER AND VOTE:

- In county jail:
  - Serving a misdemeanor sentence (a misdemeanor never affects your right to vote)
  - Because jail time is a condition of probation (misdemeanor or felony)
  - Serving a felony jail sentence
  - Awaiting trial
- On probation
- On mandatory supervision
- On post-release community supervision
- On federal supervised release
- A person with a juvenile wardship adjudication

### PERSONS WITH A CRIMINAL HISTORY WHO CANNOT REGISTER AND VOTE:

- Currently imprisoned in:
  - State prison
  - Federal prison
- Currently serving a state prison felony sentence in a county jail or other correctional facility\*
- Currently on parole with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
  - Once you are done with parole your right to vote is restored, but you must re-register online at [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](#) or by filling out a paper voter registration card.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Under the 2011 Criminal Justice Realignment Act (Realignment) and specifically California Penal Code section 1170(h), low-level felons are sentenced to county jail and/or supervision by the county probation department instead of state prison. Realignment has caused some confusion about voting rights among people who have criminal convictions. The chart above provides an explanation of who can and who cannot register to vote in California.

\*California Penal Code section 2910 allows the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to make agreements with local governments to house felons in a county jail or other correctional facility. A person serving a state prison sentence who is housed in a local jail or other facility under these circumstances is not allowed to register and vote.

## QUESTIONS

If you are unsure of what type of sentence you are serving, ask your probation officer, parole officer, or staff at your correctional facility.



California Secretary of State Alex Padilla

Tel 916.657.2166 | Fax 916.653.3214 | [www.sos.ca.gov](#)

## HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE

You may request a voter registration card from the Secretary of State or your county elections office. If you are in jail, you are entitled to receive a voter registration card if you are eligible to vote.

You may also apply to register to vote on the Secretary of State's website [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](http://RegisterToVote.ca.gov). Your voter registration application must be received or postmarked at least fifteen (15) days before Election Day to be eligible to vote in that election. In elections conducted by your county elections official, you can "conditionally" register and vote provisionally at your county elections office after the 15-day voter registration deadline. For more information please go to the Secretary of State's webpage on conditional registration and voting ([www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/conditional-voter-reg/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/conditional-voter-reg/)) or contact your county elections official.

Voter registration cards and voting materials are available in English, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese. Voter registration cards are available at most public libraries and government offices. See the attached list for state and local elections office contact information.

## VOTE BY MAIL

If you are already registered to vote at your current home address, you may request a vote-by-mail ballot application by contacting your county elections office. Once you receive your vote-by-mail ballot application, you must complete and return it to your county elections office at least seven (7) days before Election Day.

If you are not registered to vote at your current home address, you may register or re-register to vote and request a vote-by-mail ballot on the Secretary of State's website [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](http://RegisterToVote.ca.gov).

## RELEASE FROM CUSTODY

If you requested a vote-by-mail ballot but are released from custody before you receive your ballot, you can still vote. Just go to the polling place for your home address or any polling place in the county where you are registered and vote a provisional ballot.

If you change your name, home address, mailing address, or party preference you must complete a new voter registration card.

## RESOURCES

For more information contact your county elections office or the California Secretary of State:

## VOTER HOTLINES

English	(800) 345-VOTE (8683)
Español / Spanish	(800) 232-VOTA (8682)
Chinese / 中文	(800) 339-2857
Hindi / हिन्दी	(888) 345-2692
Japanese / 日本語	(800) 339-2865
Khmer / ខ្មែរ	(888) 345-4917
Korean / 한국어	(866) 575-1558
Tagalog	(800) 339-2957
Thai / ภาษาไทย	(855) 345-3933
Vietnamese / Việt ngữ	(800) 339-8163
TTY/TDD	(800) 833-8683

# CALIFORNIA COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICES

**ALAMEDA**

1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 272-6933

**ALPINE**

P.O. Box 158  
Markleeville, CA 96120  
(530) 694-2281

**AMADOR**

810 Court Street  
Jackson, CA 95642  
(209) 223-6465

**BUTTE**

155 Nelson Ave  
Oroville, CA 95965-3411  
(530) 538-7761

**CALAVERAS**

891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249  
(209) 754-6376

**COLUSA**

546 Jay Street, Suite 200  
Colusa, CA 95932  
(530) 458-0500

**CONTRA COSTA**

P.O. Box 271  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925) 335-7800

**DEL NORTE**

981 H Street, Room 160  
Crescent City, CA 95531  
(707) 465-0383

**EL DORADO**

P.O. Box 678001  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(530) 621-7480

**FRESNO**

2221 Kern Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
(559) 600-8683

**GLENN**

516 W. Sycamore Street  
Willows, CA 95988  
(530) 934-6414

**HUMBOLDT**

2426 6th Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
(707) 445-7481

**IMPERIAL**

940 W. Main Street, Suite 206  
El Centro, CA 92243  
(442) 265-1060

**INYO**

P.O. Drawer F  
Independence, CA 93526  
(760) 878-0224

**KERN**

1115 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
(661) 868-3590

**KINGS**

1400 W. Lacey Blvd.  
Hanford, CA 93230  
(559) 852-4401

**LAKE**

255 N. Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453  
(707) 263-2372

**LASSEN**

220 S. Lassen Street, Suite 5  
Susanville, CA 96130  
(530) 251-8217

**LOS ANGELES**

P.O. Box 1024  
Norwalk, CA 90651-1024  
(562) 466-1310

**MADERA**

200 W. 4th Street  
Madera, CA 93637  
(559) 675-7720

**MARIN**

P.O. Box E  
San Rafael, CA 94913-3904  
(415) 473-6456

**MARIPOSA**

P.O. Box 247  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
(209) 966-2007

**MENDOCINO**

501 Low Gap Road, Rm 1020  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
(707) 234-6819

**MERCED**

2222 M Street, Room 14  
Merced, CA 95340  
(209) 385-7541

**MODOC**

108 E. Modoc Street  
Alturas, CA 96101  
(530) 233-6205

**MONO**

P.O. Box 237  
Bridgeport, CA 93517  
(760) 932-5537

**MONTEREY**

P.O. Box 4400  
Salinas, CA 93912  
(831) 796-1499

**NAPA**

900 Coombs St Ste 256  
Napa, CA 94559  
(707) 253-4321

**NEVADA**

950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 250  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
(530) 265-1298

**ORANGE**

P.O. Box 11298  
Santa Ana, CA 92711  
(714) 567-7600

**PLACER**

P.O. Box 5278  
Auburn, CA 95604  
(530) 886-5650

**PLUMAS**

520 Main Street, Room 102  
Quincy, CA 95971  
(530) 283-6256

**RIVERSIDE**

2724 Gateway Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507-0918  
(951) 486-7200

**SACRAMENTO**

7000 65th Street, Suite A  
Sacramento, CA 95823-2315  
(916) 875-6451

**SAN BENITO**

440 Fifth Street, Room 206  
Hollister, CA 95023-3843  
(831) 636-4016

**SAN BERNARDINO**

777 E. Rialto Avenue  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0770  
(909) 387-8300

**SAN DIEGO**

P.O. Box 85656  
San Diego, CA 92186-5656  
(858) 565-5800

**SAN FRANCISCO**

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,  
Room 48  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4635  
(415) 554-4375

**SAN JOAQUIN**

P.O. Box 810  
Stockton, CA 95201  
(209) 468-2885

**SAN LUIS OBISPO**

1055 Monterey Street,  
Room D-120  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
(805) 781-5228

**SAN MATEO**

40 Tower Road  
San Mateo, CA 94402  
(650) 312-5222

**SANTA BARBARA**

P.O. Box 61510  
Santa Barbara, CA 93160-1510  
(805) 568-2200

**SANTA CLARA**

P.O. Box 611360  
San Jose, CA 95161-1360  
(408) 299-8683

**SANTA CRUZ**

701 Ocean Street,  
Room 210  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4076  
(831) 454-2060

**SHASTA**

P.O. Box 990880  
Redding, CA 96099-0880  
(530) 225-5730

**SIERRA**

P.O. Drawer D  
Downieville, CA 95936-0398  
(530) 289-3295

**SISKIYOU**

510 N. Main Street  
Yreka, CA 96097-9910  
(530) 842-8084

**SOLANO**

675 Texas Street,  
Suite 2600  
Fairfield, CA 94533  
(707) 784-6675

**SONOMA**

P.O. Box 11485  
Santa Rosa, CA 95406-1485  
(707) 565-6800

**STANISLAUS**

1021 I Street, Suite 101  
Modesto, CA 95354-2331  
(209) 525-5200

**SUTTER**

1435 Veterans Memorial Circle  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
(530) 822-7122

**TEHAMA**

P.O. Box 250  
Red Bluff, CA 96080-0250  
(530) 527-8190

**TRINITY**

P.O. Box 1215  
Weaverville, CA 96093-1258  
(530) 623-1220

**TULARE**

5951 S. Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93277  
(559) 624-7300

**TUOLUMNE**

2 S. Green Street  
Sonora, CA 95370-4696  
(209) 533-5570

**VENTURA**

800 S. Victoria Avenue,  
L-1200  
Ventura, CA 93009-1200  
(805) 654-2664

**YOLO**

P.O. Box 1820  
Woodland, CA 95776-1820  
(530) 666-8133

**YUBA**

915 8th Street, Suite 107  
Marysville, CA 95901-5273  
(530) 749-7855