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September 13, 2024

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum # 24195

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Nehal Radusinovic
Voting Accessibility Coordinator

RE: Polling Place Accessibility: Polling Place Accessibility
Guidelines

The Secretary of State's office contracted with BlueDAG to update the Polling Place Accessibility Guidelines (Guidelines) that were last updated in July 2024. The Secretary of State's office also worked with BlueDAG to update the Polling Place Accessibility Checklist (Checklist) to be used in conjunction with the Guidelines to evaluate polling places for accessibility.

The goal of updating the Guidelines is to help county elections officials and members of the public better understand the federal and state requirements for accessible polling places.

It's important to note that these Guidelines do not make new law or impose new polling place accessibility requirements on county elections offices. Rather, they are a compilation of laws and regulations that county elections officials are required to adhere to, regardless of the existence of the Guidelines

Throughout the document, specific code citations are provided where the Guidelines require county elections officials to take a specific action, so you and members of the public can easily find the underlying regulatory mandate. In some cases, the mandates identified are new to the Guidelines, but are not necessarily new regulatory standards.

The Guidelines can be found on the Secretary of State's website at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/polling-place-accessibility-guidelines>.

Many county elections officials and members of the Secretary of State's Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee provided feedback on the draft Guidelines and Checklist, which was greatly appreciated.

If you have questions, please contact (916) 695-1568 or via email at hava@sos.ca.gov.