



Decision 2024

Presidential Primary Election Resources

EFCC Biblical Citizenship Committee

Yes! Your Vote Matters

And as the March 5 Presidential Primary Election approaches, we'd like to offer a checklist and resources to help you make the important decisions for local, county, state, and federal government.

Register/Verify Your Registration – First and foremost, please be sure you are registered to vote at your CURRENT address. Simply go to sdvote.com and click the “Register to Vote” link to check your status. You may also register online there. The deadline to register is **February 20**. Remember, this is a Primary Election and, while most offices are subject to the “Top Two” primary where the top two vote-getters move to the General Election, the offices of President and County Central Committee are closed to only those registered in that party in most cases (see details in your sample ballot). If you are registered as “No Party Preference” and you want to vote the primary for a party, you may need to re-register for the party by the deadline. After the election, you may change your registration again, if you desire.

Watch for Your Ballot – For this election, all registered voters will again receive a vote-by-mail ballot. You may return your ballot by mail or use an official *attended* drop box, but Election Integrity Project suggests voting in person, if possible. You may complete the ballot you were mailed and take it with you. You must go through the check-in process, then the poll worker will give you a secrecy sleeve for your ballot. If you brought your envelope with you, they can destroy it for you. They will then place your ballot through the secrecy sleeve into the ballot box at the check-out station. You may also check in and surrender your ballot. You'll then use the ballot marking device to print your ballot with your choices, placing it in a secrecy sleeve and giving it to the poll worker to place in the ballot box.

Cast Your Vote at a Vote Center – They are open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm beginning March 2, with some open beginning February 24. On Election Day, March 5, Vote Centers will be open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Find a list of locations [here](#). There are several in every community. See in-person voting procedures above.

However you decide to cast your vote, help ensure your completed ballot gets where it's supposed to go by signing up for the BallotTrax tracking system at California.ballottrax.net.

Do Your Research – Don't be an uninformed voter. Please see the attached materials to help you find out more about your choices.

PRAY – In this land, we have the privilege to participate in our government by voting. Ask that all would seek wisdom as they make their decisions and cast their ballots. Our nation needs prayer now more than ever.

...indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.
(Prov 2:3-6)

www.efcc.org/biblical-citizens



DECISION 2024 – March 2024 Presidential Primary Election Researching Your Ballot

General Preparation Principles

- ✓ Pray.
- ✓ Review what the Bible says about a Christian worldview and the role of government: biblical and moral principles.
- ✓ Review your personal values when it comes to practical and ethical principles.
- ✓ Apply these principles to the specific issues and candidates.
- ✓ Give yourself time to prepare by not waiting until the last minute.

Take Your Time and Don't Rush the Process

As the election nears there will be many voices vying for your attention. Read the fine print in ads and mailers. Who is sponsoring the ad? Who produced the mailer? While some may reflect the endorsements of political parties or authentic interest groups, be aware that the candidates have most likely paid to have their names appear on many of the slate mailers. Don't take chances. Do your own research and verify the information that is important to you. Resist the temptation to "get it over with" and be sure you have all the data you need before you make your choices. More information becomes available nearer Election Day. The resources listed below will continue to update their online listings as additional information is available.

Key Resources to Aid Your Decisions

(NOTE: Referrals to web sites not created by EFCC are for informational purposes, and do not imply an endorsement of the contents of those sites.)

Family Voter Info Guide – familyvoterinfo.org

Candidates' endorsements can be helpful in determining their philosophy. This nonpartisan election resource lists many state and local candidates who have received organizational endorsements. The site also links to other voter resources as well as candidate websites when available.

Biblical Voter – biblicalvoter.com/california-voter-guides

This site is a clearinghouse of voter guides, some of which are highlighted below. These include sites with information about judicial races and propositions (when applicable).

Vote Smart – votesmart.org

Want to dig deeper? This nonpartisan site provides a candidate search by name in the "The Facts" feature (top of the page). You can check their biographical information, voting record (if they have held office), issue positions, ratings by interest groups, speeches and funding. There is much more information available for incumbents than challengers.

Vote 411 – vote411.org/california

Formerly Voters' Edge, this site offers self-reported information from candidates, and includes more information for local races, so it's particularly helpful for those contests and others that are less visible. Use the "Find Your Ballot" option to enter your zip code and address – or you may look up ballots by county to see all the San Diego contests. The data continues to build as the election nears and candidates provide more information, so check back frequently.

iVoterGuide – ivoterguide.com

Candidates are rated on a scale of liberal to conservative, with links to scorecards, endorsements, contributions and more.

Judge Voter Guide – judgevoterguide.com

Many voters find it very difficult to determine how to vote on judicial seats. Craig Huey provides a website dedicated solely to judicial races. The guide “ranks a candidate’s record according to cases, judicial philosophy, experience, integrity and commitment to community.”

Propositions

- ✓ CAUTION - many proposition titles are intentionally misleading. Read the proposals in their entirety.
- ✓ Read the summary, analysis, actual text, and then the arguments for and against.
- ✓ Ask yourself if this is the right thing to do. Who benefits? What are the consequences?
- ✓ Consider what biblical, moral, ethical or practical principles may apply.
- ✓ View a comparison of many organizations’ positions at familyvoterinfo.org.
- ✓ Frank Kacer’s analysis of the initiatives may be helpful. Click [here](#).

Party Platforms (The platforms clarify where the two major parties stand on various issues.)

Democrat Party Platform: democrats.org/where-we-stand/party-platform/

Republican Party Platform: gop.com/platform/ (unchanged since 2016)

Platform comparisons: [Real Impact](#), [Family Research Council](#)

Candidate campaign websites

If other resources do not provide information for a particular race or candidate, you may also search the candidate’s name online to find his or her official site. There is generally a biography, positions on key issues and a listing of endorsements. Do you recognize the elected officials, organizations or individuals supporting the candidate? Would you consider your values aligned with theirs?

Miscellaneous Voter Information

San Diego County Registrar of Voters – sdvote.com

To verify that your registration information is current, click the “Register to Vote” link and then click “Check Your Registration Status Here.” You may also register for ballot tracking at california.ballottrax.net/voter.

Please be aware that you must re-register if you move or change your name. It is also advisable to re-register if you feel your signature has changed significantly since you last registered (online registration will use the signature from your driver’s license). **The registration deadline for the March 5 Presidential Primary Election is February 20.**

California Secretary of State – sos.ca.gov/elections

If you have additional questions, you are welcome to email the Biblical Citizenship Committee.

Penny Harrington: penny.harrington@cox.net

Pastor Scott Smith: ssmith@efcc.org