



# NOVEMBER 2020

## **VOTE CENTER SAFETY REFERENCE GUIDE**

This guide contains key penal provisions found within the California Elections Code, Penal Provisions Division 18 § 18000- 18700.

- Campaigning within 100 feet of a Vote Center is a misdemeanor.
- Intimidating voters is a felony.
- Interfering with an election official and their process is a felony.
- Bribing in exchange for a ballot cast is a felony.

## **Campaigning within 100 feet of a vote center is a misdemeanor.**

### **Electioneering at or Near Polls Prohibited (CA Elections Code § 18370)**

No person, on Election Day, shall, within 100 feet of a Vote Center, solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his or her ballot, place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his or her qualifications. Any person who violates any of these prohibitions is guilty of a misdemeanor.

## **Interfering with an election official or the election process is a felony.**

### **Vandalism at Vote Centers (CA Elections Code § 18380)**

No person, during any election, shall remove or destroy any of the supplies in the voting booths, or remove, or deface the voter instructions or voter index, or remove, tear down, or deface the signs identifying the location of a Vote Center or identifying areas within 100 feet of a Vote Center. Any person who violates any of these prohibitions is guilty of a misdemeanor.

### **Corruption of the Voting Process (CA Elections Code § 18502)**

No person, during any election, shall remove or destroy any of the supplies in the voting booths, or remove, or deface the voter instructions or voter index, or remove, tear down, or deface the signs identifying the location of a Vote Center or identifying areas within 100 feet of a Vote Center. Any person who violates any of these prohibitions is guilty of a misdemeanor.

### **Tampering with Voting System (CA Elections Code § 18564)**

A person shall not interfere with, or attempt to interfere with, the correct operation of any voting system (or component), or knowingly, and without authorization possess a key to a voting machine, or willfully substitute or attempts to substitute forged or counterfeit ballot tally software program source codes. Any person violating this prohibition is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for two, three, or four years.

### **Falsely Acting as Elections Official (CA Elections Code § 18575)**

A person shall not, at any election, without first having been appointed and qualified, act as an election officer and perform or discharge any of the duties of an election officer in regard to the handling, counting, or canvassing of any ballots. Any person violating this prohibition is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for two, three or four years.

## **Intimidating voters is a felony.**

### **Intimidation of Voters (CA Elections Code § 18540)**

A person shall not threaten to make use of any force, violence, or tactic of coercion or intimidation, to induce or compel any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election. Any person violating this prohibition is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

### **Unauthorized Uniformed Personnel (CA Elections Code § 18544)**

Any person in possession of a firearm or any uniformed peace officer, private guard, or security personnel who is stationed in the immediate vicinity of a Vote Center without written authorization of the county elections official is prohibited. This section does not apply to a peace officer conducting official business or who is at the Vote Center to cast his or her vote. Any person violating this prohibition is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

## **Bribing in exchange for a ballot cast is a felony.**

### **Payment for Voting (CA Elections Code § 18310)**

A person shall not pay or receive any money or other valuable consideration during an election in order to reward any person or as a reward for voting. Any person violating this prohibition is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

### **Bribery (CA ELECTIONS CODE § 18523)**

A person shall not advance or pay any money or other valuable thing with the intent that it shall be used in bribery at any election. Any person violating this prohibition is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.



## **Vote Center Info:**

October 24- November 2: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Election Day, November 3: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## **Report Suspicious Behavior to:**

Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk:  
800-815-2666 option 5 or [voterinfo@rrcc.lacounty.gov](mailto:voterinfo@rrcc.lacounty.gov)