

ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties

Nonpartisan Voter Guide

Important Election Dates

October 20, 2008 - Last day to register to vote

October 28, 2008 - Last day to request absentee ballot

November 4, 2008 - Voting Day at the polls! Absentee ballots due before 8 p.m. at any polling place or at the Registrar of Voters

If you do not know where to vote:

***In San Diego:* call 1-800-345-VOTE (8683) or www.sdvote.com**

***In Imperial:* call 760-482-4226 or www.imperialcounty.net/Election**

Eligibility

You can vote in the Nov. 4, 2008 California General Election if you registered by October 20 and you are:

- ♦ A U.S. citizen
- ♦ Currently residing in California
- ♦ At least 18 years of age on or before November 4
- ♦ Not declared mentally incompetent by court action
- ♦ Not in state or federal prison or on parole. If you are in county jail awaiting court or are awaiting transition to state or federal prison, **you can vote!**

Complaints

For information about problems voting or other complaints, visit our website at www.aclusandiego.org and click on the "Your Voting Rights" icon.



- ♦ You have the **right to cast a ballot** if you are a valid registered voter.
- ♦ You have the **right to cast a provisional ballot** if your name is not listed on the voting rolls.
- ♦ You have the **right to cast a ballot** if you are present and in line at the **polling place** prior to the close of the polls.
- ♦ You have the **right to cast a secret ballot** free from intimidation
- ♦ You have the **right to receive a new ballot** if, prior to casting your ballot, you believe you made a mistake.
- ♦ You have the **right to return a completed vote by mail ballot** to any precinct in the county.
- ♦ You have the **right to election materials in another language**, if there are sufficient residents in your precinct to warrant production.
- ♦ You have the **right to report any illegal or fraudulent activity** to a local elections official or to the Secretary of State's office.

Voter Bill of Rights

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Recommendations for California Ballot Initiatives



No on Prop 4

Limits access to safe, quality medical care for minors by requiring parental notification for teen seeking an abortion.



Yes on Prop 5

Would reduce the number of nonviolent people unnecessarily incarcerated by providing a comprehensive model for approaching substance abuse as a public health issue.



No on Prop 6

Would sentence youth as young as 14 as adults; would erode civil liberties and target communities of color, immigrants, and low-income families while redirecting vital state resources away from schools, hospitals, and emergency services.



No on Prop 8

Eliminates the right of same-sex couples to marry, amending California's Constitution to single out one group of people for different treatment.



No on Prop 9

Erodes due process protections and limits inmate rights to legal representation and parole while hiding behind the guise of expanding victims' rights.

Learn More about Civil Liberties at Stake: Free Forum October 30!

CityBeat has joined forces with us to present a pre-election discussion of central election issues, with a superstar cast from the left, right and center. Confirmed speakers are:



John Dean
Former White House
counsel to Richard Nixon



Robert Scheer
Truthdig.com founder
and editor; syndicated
columnist



Ruben Navarette
CNN.com commentator
and nationally syndicated
columnist

KPBS's investigative reporter, Amita Sharma will moderate. Time and location to be announced. For up-to-the-minute details, visit the ACLU website at www.aclusandiego.org.

ACLU Candidate Survey

The ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties is a non-partisan organization dedicated to bringing the informed and active participation of our members to the political process. After all, electing officials who understand the importance of our civil liberties and promise to uphold them is perhaps more crucial now than ever before. With that in mind, we reached out to candidates for public office in San Diego and Imperial counties and asked them to fill out a survey on issues of critical importance to our organization and membership. The results are available on our website. Go to www.aclusandiego.org. Under the "Issues" column, click on "Elections and Voting."

Please check to see how candidates in your district scored on our Civil Liberties meter.



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