



# INMATE VOTING PROGRAM

**Eligible** inmates shall be allowed to register to vote and to submit vote by mail (absentee) ballots for local, state and federal elections pursuant to the California Elections Code.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

To be eligible to register and vote, **YOU MUST:**

- ✓ Be a citizen of the United States of America;
- ✓ Be a resident of California;
- ✓ Be at least 18 years of age or older on or before the next election.

To be eligible to register and vote, **YOU MUST NOT:**

- ✓ Not be in prison, on parole or under post-release community supervision as a result of a felony conviction;
- ✓ Not be serving a sentence in county jail for the conviction of low-level felony as defined by the Criminal Justice Realignment Act of 2011 (CJRA);
- ✓ Not be on probation as an alternative to serving the concluding portion of a sentence in county jail for the conviction of a CJRA-defined low-level felony;
- ✓ Not been declared mentally incompetent by an appropriate court of law; and
- ✓ Not be serving a state prison term in a county jail under contract between state and local officials.

You can still register and vote if you:

- ✓ Are in a local jail as a result of a misdemeanor conviction;
- ✓ Are in county jail as a condition of probation when entry of judgment and sentencing have been suspended following a felony conviction;
- ✓ Are awaiting trial or are currently on trial and have not yet been convicted of a crime;
- ✓ Have completed parole or post-release community supervision for a felony conviction; or
- ✓ Are on probation, unless the probation is an alternative to serving the concluding portion of a sentence in county jail for the conviction of a CJRA-defined low-level felony.

## PROCEDURES:

It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to fill out the required forms and to meet the requirements of standard inmate voting procedures in the timeframes established by the California Elections Code.

### STEP 1

Register to Vote – If you meet the above qualifications and wish to register to vote, or are already registered to vote, and would like to request a vote by mail ballot be delivered to you, you may do so by requesting the appropriate forms from the Correctional Officer. The last day to register to vote is always 15 days prior to the election.

On the voter registration card, use your last known residence address, or if homeless, please describe the location where you typically stayed. Do not use the jail address for your residence or mailing address. Be sure to give all other required information when completing the forms and sign the form.

Do not mail the registration form. Complete the form and return it to the Correctional Officer. The Officer will hand-deliver the form to the Butte County Elections Office.

### STEP 2

Request an Inmate Vote by Mail Application – You may request a vote by mail ballot application from the Correctional Officer. You must currently be registered to vote (STEP 1). Complete the inmate vote by mail application and return it to the Officer. The Officer will then deliver the voter registration card and the vote by mail application to the Butte County Elections Office where your registration and application will be processed.

Upon completion of processing your registration and application, the Butte County Elections Office will contact the Officer, who will then pick up and deliver the vote by mail ballot to you. Follow the instructions included in your ballot packet carefully to assure that your vote can be counted.

### STEP 3

Returning Your Voted Ballot – Follow the instructions included with your ballot packet for correctly completing the return ballot envelope. The ballot cannot be counted unless you have signed the ballot envelope in your own handwriting. Check with your Correctional Officer for the last day to return the voted ballot to him/her so that it may be delivered to the Butte County Elections Office. The Officer will then deliver the voted ballot to the Butte County Elections Office for counting election night.

## RELEASED 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 residence address or any polling place in your county of residence and vote by provisional ballot. You may also come into the Butte County Elections office and a replacement ballot may be issued to you.

If you change your name, residence address, mailing address, or party preference you must complete and submit a new voter registration card to your county elections official. Voter Registration Cards may be found at:

- Local County Elections Office
- Local libraries
- Department of Motor Vehicles Office
- US Post Offices
- Most local city or town halls
- On the Secretary of State's office at: [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov) or 1-888-345 VOTE

Butte County Elections Office Contact Information:

25 County Center Drive, Suite 110, Oroville, CA 95965-3361  
Phone: (530) 538-7761 or toll free within Butte County 1-800-894-7761  
Fax: (530) 538-6853  
Website: <http://clerk-recorder.buttecounty.net>