PRESS, MEDIA AND EXIT POLLS

Election Day is a big news day. There is always the possibility that the press will visit your polling place to get some camera footage, an interview or to conduct an “Exit Poll”.

The California Secretary of State and the Attorney General have reviewed the Electioneering provisions (see “ELECTIONEERING”) and have determined that these provisions do not apply to the Press and Media conducting “Exit Polls.” However, no one may interfere with the conduct of the election. Therefore, news media conducting “Exit Polls” have been advised to remain at least 25 feet from the entrance to the polls.

As a rule, the person conducting the “Exit Poll” has been advised of the 25-foot restriction and is more than willing to comply. Occasionally we have had problems, particularly in stormy weather. If you have any problems regarding members of the press or “Exit Polling”, call the Butte County Elections Office as soon as possible and request to speak with a Supervisor.

The Press and Media may take pictures or run a television camera inside the polling place providing they respect the voter’s privacy and do not interfere with voting. They may speak to voters regarding how they are voting at a distance of 25 feet from the entrance to the polling place.

The Press and Media provide a valuable service to our community and we ask that you treat them courteously and with respect. If you have any questions regarding the activities of the Press and Media, please telephone the Butte County Elections Office and ask to speak with a Supervisor.

(Posted at polling place and printed in the precinct officer handbook)