



December 11, 2020

Courtney Bailey-Kanelos
Registrar of Voters
VIA EMAIL

Subject: SCERS Special Election Procedures

Dear Ms. Bailey-Kanelos,

As you are aware, Voter Registration and Elections (VRE) is helping SCERS organize a Special Election for the Alternate Safety Representative position on the SCERS Board of Retirement. Our thanks to you and your colleagues for your work in that regard. We understand that a question has arisen as to whether candidate nomination papers must be (1) picked up and filed in-person at the VRE office, or (2) made available for download and submission on the VRE Web site (<http://elections.saccounty.net>).

Currently, SCERS' Election Policy calls for candidate nomination papers to be picked up and filed in-person at the VRE office. However, that Policy was enacted during and for a pre-pandemic environment. Just this week, the California Department of Public Health announced that, due to the local surge of COVID-19, the Greater Sacramento Region is now subject to its December 3 "Regional Stay At Home Order." We believe that it is consistent with the spirit, if not the letter, of that Order to spare SCERS members and VRE personnel from the risk of in-person office visits. Separately, we believe that SCERS' Board President and Chief Executive Officer have inherent authority to authorize a slight departure from SCERS' Election Policy in response to an unprecedented public health emergency.

Accordingly, for the purpose of this Special Election, we ask VRE to (1) make candidate nomination papers available for download and submission online, and (2) cease any in-person pick-up or filing of nomination papers. For the avoidance of doubt, we anticipate that the Board will formally approve and ratify this action at its January 19, 2021 Board meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Stern with any questions at sterne@saccounty.net.

Sincerely,

/s/

Richard B. Fowler II
President, Board of Retirement

/s/

Eric Stern
Chief Executive Officer