

IMPORTANT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

All persons and/or organizations that registration cards are issued to must comply with the following requirements. **Non-compliance may result in referral to the appropriate law enforcement agency.**

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an affiant's driver's license number, identification card number, and social security number, contained on a affidavit of registration or voter registration card, are confidential and shall not be disclosed by an individual or organization that distributes voter registration cards or by any person entrusted with an affidavit of registration from an elector. However, this section shall not be construed to prohibit a person entrusted with an affidavit of registration from an elector from returning that affidavit to the person or organization that distributed the voter registration card, as specified by law. (§ 2138.5 of Election Code)

FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO RETURN AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION – Any deputy registrar of voters having charge of affidavits of registration is guilty of a misdemeanor who knowingly neglects or refuses to return affidavits of registration to the county elections official. The county elections official shall report to the district attorney of the county, under oath, the names of any deputies who have failed to return the affidavits. The district attorney shall take appropriate civil or criminal action. (§18104 of the Elections Code)

FALSE REGISTRATION – Any deputy elections official or registration elections official who knowingly registers a nonexistent person, knowingly registers a person under a false name or address, or knowingly registers a person who is ineligible to register is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison or county jail. (§18102 of the Elections Code)

MISREPRESENTATION – Any person who receives money or non-monetary compensation for assisting another to register to vote, is guilty of a misdemeanor if they knowingly misrepresent himself or herself when helping register another to vote on a registration form and receive the completed affidavit of registration from the voter. (§18108.1 of the Elections Code)

RECEIPT – A person who assumes responsibility for returning another person's completed registration card to the elections official, must complete the receipt affixed to the bottom of the Voter Information portion of all registration cards issued subsequent to January 1, 1978, sign it and give it to the elector. The completed receipt is not proof of registration, but may be used to ensure compliance with requirements on return of completed cards. (§2158 of the Elections Code)

RETURN OF CARDS – Persons distributing voter registration cards must return all completed cards in their possession within 3 working days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays. Retaining completed cards for more then 3 days, or denying the voter's right to return his or her completed card is a misdemeanor. All blank cards must be returned to the elections official immediately after the 15th day preceding a statewide primary or general election, and whenever instructed to do so by the elections official. (§2138, §2139, and §18103 of the Elections Code)

UNSOLICITED MAILING – Any mailing of a registration card to a person who did not request one must be accompanied by a cover letter or other notice with each card, instructing the recipient to disregard the card if he or she is currently registered to vote and does not wish to change name, address, political affiliation or other registration information. This notice may be stamped on the card. (§2158 of the Elections Code)

NOTE: Organizations receiving completed cards for delivery to the elections official must ensure that all cards completed in whole or in part by prospective registrants are promptly forwarded to the elections official. This includes cards containing irregularities or minimal information, i.e. name and address. The elections officials will determine the validity of the registration and not the organization distributing or receiving cards.