

The U.S. Election Process

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GROUP

Overview

- Election Cycle and Governance
- Laws, Rules, Policies, and Procedures
- Registration
- Voting
- Ballots and Ballot Counting
- Recounts, Challenges, and Audits

Election Cycle and Governance







Election Management

- US has no national Election Management Body
- Instead....
 - Election Assistance Commission
 - Federal Election Commission
 - Federal Voting Assistance Program
 - Department of Justice



Election Governance

- State Election Office
 - Usually a partisan, elected Secretary of State
 - Appointed election director
- Local Election Office (~9,700)
 - County or municipality
 - Elected person or appointed person/board



GOVERNANCE FACT I:

- The median election jurisdiction has ~1,900 registered voters.
- More than 80% of jurisdictions have fewer than 15,000 registered voters.

GOVERNANCE FACT II:

- Two-thirds of all Americans live in just 10% of the counties (~310 counties) in the United States.

Laws, Rules, Policies, Procedures





Right to Vote: Gender and Age

- 19th Amendment
- 26th Amendment





Right to Vote: Race and Income

- 15th Amendment
- 24th Amendment

STERED.

one years of age, and have been a resident
der the Constitution and Laws of the State

LOCAL RESIDENCE	STREET	L
1922 PAID	1923 PAID	
1922 PAID	1923 PAID	
1922 PAID	1923 PAID	
1922 PAID	1923 PAID	
	1925 PAID	
	OVER AGE	1925 PAID

REGISTERED VOTERS, ELECTION DISTRICT No. _____

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY EACH PERSON

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am a citizen of the United States, and that I am qualified to vote.

	NAME	Age	Color	Poll Tax 19.....	Poll Tax 19.....	Poll Tax 19.....	Poll Tax 19.....	OCCUPATION
1	Davidson, Lewis	21	W					Laborer
2	Davidson, Maggie	52	"					Domestic
3	Davidson, Luther	26	"					Laborer
4	Davidson, M. A.	58	"					Farmer
5	Davis, J. D.	34	"					"
6	Davis, Mrs. J. D.	27	"					Wife
7	Dreden, Amos	72	B					Farmer



When We Vote

“The Tuesday next after the 1st Monday in November, in every even numbered year”

- 2 U.S. Code § 7 (1875)



Help America Vote Act (HAVA)

- Created the Election Assistance Commission (EAC)
- Funded improved election administration systems and new voting technologies
- Created minimum standards for states to follow



Right to Vote: Military and Overseas

- Uniformed and Overseas Civilians Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)
 - Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)
 - Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)
- Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE Act)
 - New deadline for sending ballots to voters
 - Electronic transmission requirements



Right to Vote: Individuals with Disabilities

- Voting Rights Act of 1965 (Section 208)
- The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- HAVA

LEGAL FACT:

The Elections Clause of the Constitution, Art. I, § 4, cl. 1, invests the States with responsibility for the mechanics of [federal] elections, but grants Congress "the power to override state regulations" by establishing uniform rules for federal elections...

Registration





National Voter Registration Act

- Intended to makes registration easier
 - Standard registration form
- Standard locations:
 - Motor vehicle offices
 - Public assistance offices
 - Offices serving people with disabilities



Registration Innovations

- Election Day registration
 - Fifteen states and Washington, DC have enacted legislation
 - Three states are still working to implement it
- Online voter registration
 - Thirty-four states plus Washington, DC
- Automatic voter registration
 - Oregon

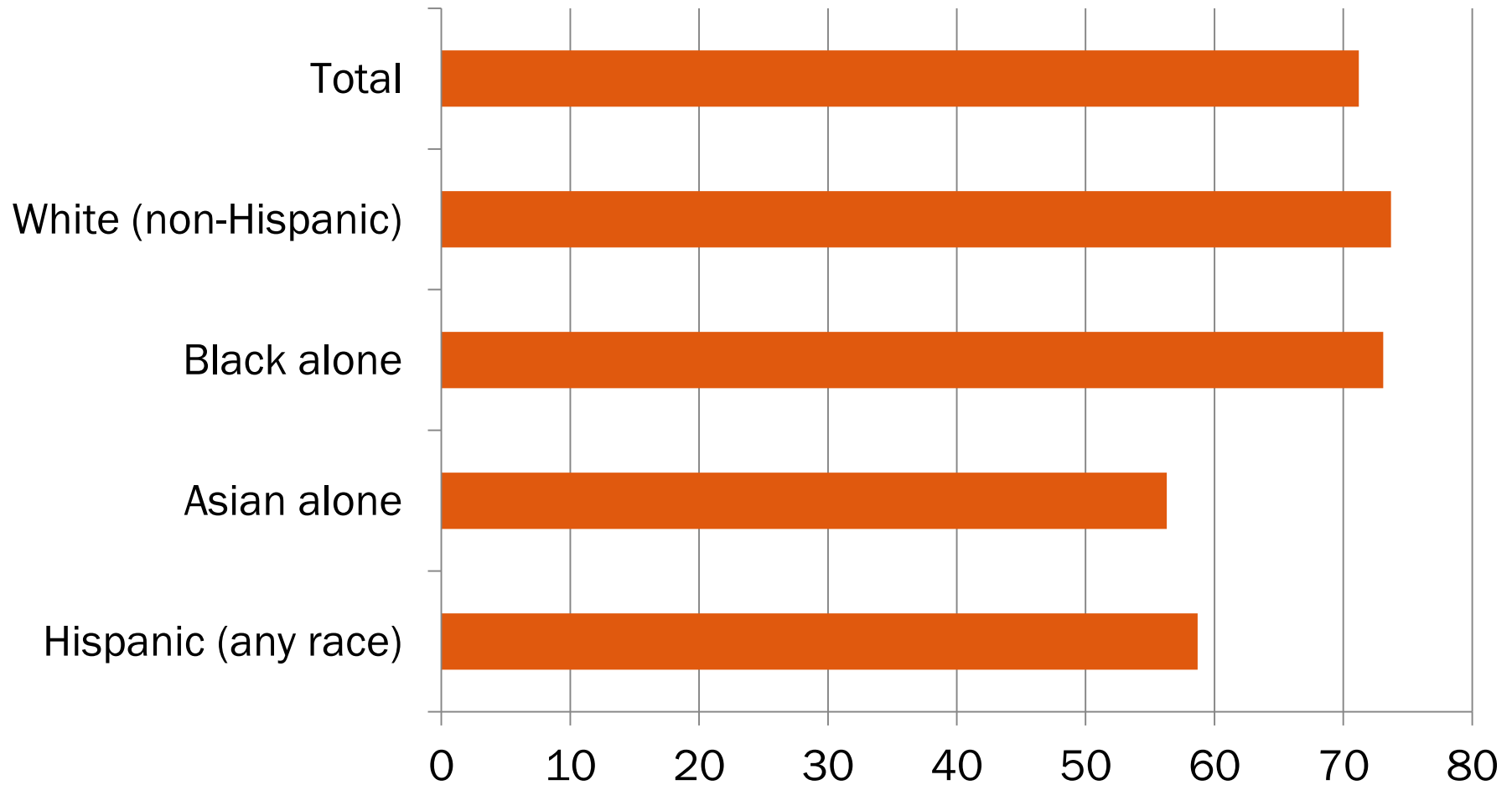
REGISTRATION FACT I:

In most states, in order to register to vote, a person must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- Not currently serving a felony conviction, and
- Of sound mental status.



Registration Rates 2012 (%)



REGISTRATION FACT II:

In order to vote in person:

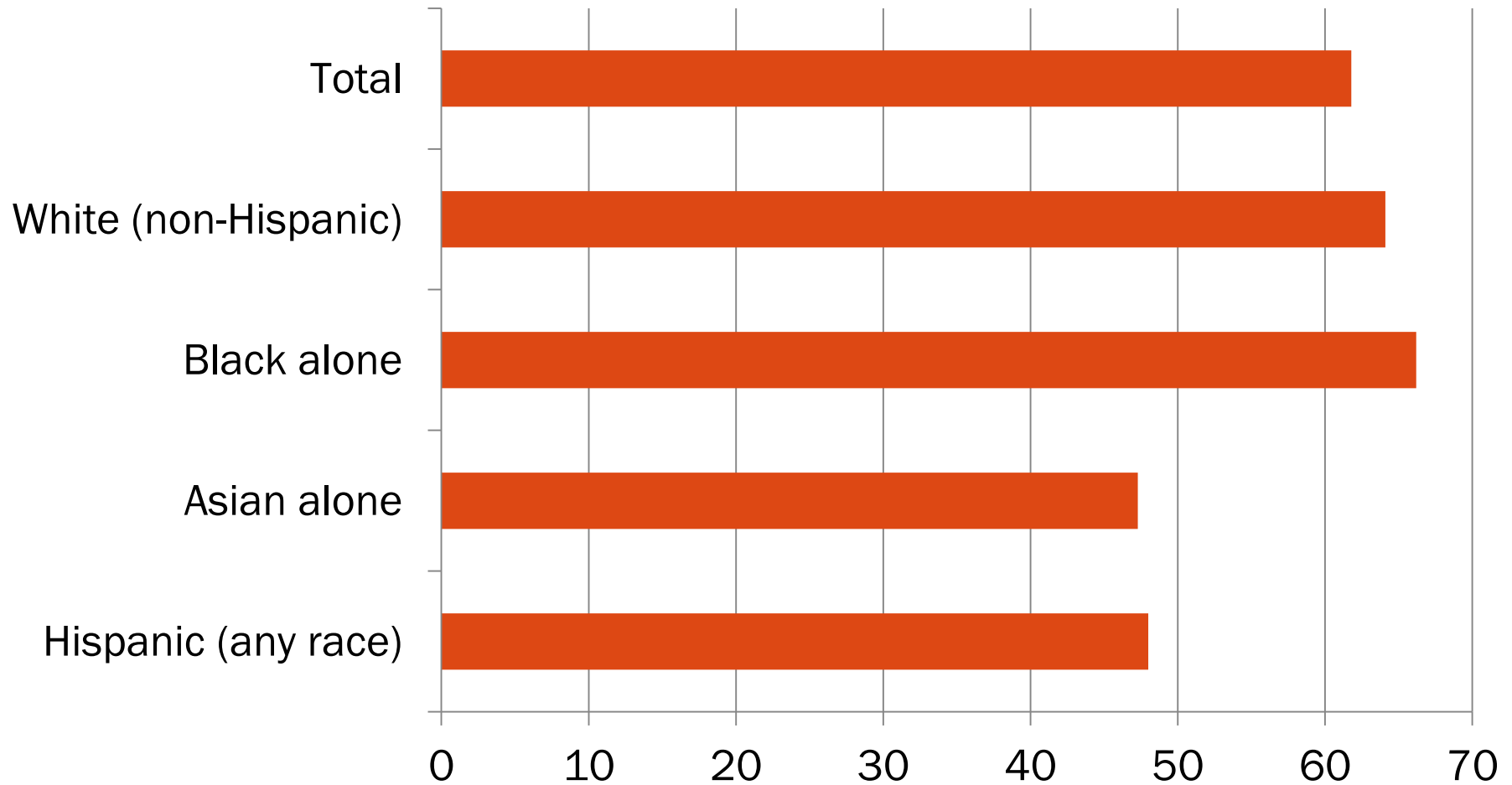
- Sixteen states require voters to have photo ID
- Seven of these states to have “strict” photo ID laws
- Sixteen additional states require voters to have either photo or non-photo ID

Voting





Voting Rates 2012 (%)





Convenience Voting

- All mail voting (three states)
- Early and no-excuse mail voting (16 states)
- No excuse mail voting, including “in-person” absentee voting (12 states)
- Early Voting (seven states)







Ballots and Ballot Counting



OFFICIAL BALLOT
SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Shirley Swenson
COUNTY CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Please use only ballpoint pen. To vote for a candidate or for or against a ballot proposition, fill in the oval to the left of your selection. If you make a mistake, mark the ballot so that your intent is clear, or you may request a replacement ballot. DO NOT initial or sign the correction.

CORRECT MARKING: 

Write-ins: If there is a write-in space provided, you may write the name of a valid write-in candidate and fill in the oval to the left of the name.

CON=Constitution LIB=Libertarian DEM=Democratic REP=Republican JUS=Justice GRN=Green UNA=Unaffiliated

Voting Straight Party means you are voting for all candidates of one political party without having to fill in the ovals for each candidate. It is optional and you can skip it and vote for individual candidates. If you choose to vote a Straight Party option, you may still vote for individual candidates of other parties by filling in the oval next to the candidate's name.

STRAIGHT PARTY (OPTIONAL)

☐ CONSTITUTION (CON)



☐ LIBERTARIAN (LIB)



☐ DEMOCRATIC (DEM)



☐ REPUBLICAN (REP)



☐ JUSTICE (JUS)



☐ GREEN (GRN)



FEDERAL

**PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES**
4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ JILL STEIN (GRN)
CHERI HONKALA

☐ GLORIA LA RIVA (UNA)
FILBERTO RAMIREZ, JR.

☐ MITT ROMNEY (REP)
PAUL RYAN

☐ BARACK OBAMA (DEM)
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

☐ GARY JOHNSON (LIB)
JAMES P. GRAY

☐ VIRGIL GOODE (CON)
JIM CLYMER

☐ ROSS C. "ROCKY" ANDERSON (JUS)
LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ

☐ WRITE-IN

U.S. SENATE

6 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ SHAUN LYNN MCCAUSLAND (CON)

☐ SCOTT HOWELL (DEM)

☐ ORRIN G. HATCH (REP)

☐ DANIEL GEERY (JUS)

☐ BILL BARRON (UNA)

☐ WRITE-IN

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT #3
2 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ JASON CHAFFETZ (REP)

☐ SOREN D. SIMONSEN (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

STATE

**GOVERNOR / LIEUTENANT
GOVERNOR**
4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ PETER S COOKE (DEM)

☐ VINCENT G. RAMPTON

☐ KEN LARSEN (LIB)

☐ J. ROBERT LATHAM

☐ KIRK D PEARSON (CON)

☐ TIM AALDERS

☐ GARY R. HERBERT (REP)

☐ GREG BELL

☐ WRITE-IN

STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ DEE W. SMITH (DEM)

☐ JOHN SWALLOW (REP)

☐ W. ANDREW MCCULLOUGH (LIB)

☐ WRITE-IN

STATE AUDITOR

4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ MARK SAGE (DEM)

☐ JOHN DOUGALL (REP)

☐ RICHARD PROCTOR (CON)

☐ WRITE-IN

STATE TREASURER

4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ CHRISTOPHER STOUT (DEM)

☐ VINCENT C. MARCUS III (LIB)

☐ RICHARD K. ELLIS (REP)

☐ WRITE-IN

STATE SENATOR DIST #8

4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ BRIAN E SHIOZAWA (REP)

☐ JOBBIE VALDEZ (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT #36
2 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ DANA DICKSON (REP)

☐ PATRICE ARENT (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

COUNTY

COUNTY MAYOR
4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ MARK CROCKETT (REP)

☐ BEN MCADAMS (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

COUNTY COUNCIL

AT LARGE "C"
6 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ JOSEPH M. DEMMA (REP)

☐ JIM BRADLEY (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

COUNTY COUNCIL DIST #4

4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ MISSY W. LARSEN (REP)

☐ SAM F. GRANATO (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

NON-PARTISAN

SCHOOL BOARD

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

DISTRICT #8
4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ CHRIS WILLIAMS (REP)

☐ JENNIFER A. JOHNSON (LIB)

☐ WRITE-IN

GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRECINCT #1
4 YEAR TERM (Vote for One)

☐ DAN LOFGREN (REP)

☐ R. WAGNER JONES (DEM)

☐ WRITE-IN

JUDICIAL

Shall CHARLES D. BEHRENS, JR. be retained in the office of JUDGE of the JUVENILE COURT of the THIRD JUVENILE COURT DISTRICT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

Shall ANIN BOYDEN be retained in the office of JUDGE of the DISTRICT COURT of the THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

Shall ROYAL I. HANSEN be retained in the office of JUDGE of the DISTRICT COURT of the THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

Shall ELIZABETH A. LINDSLEY be retained in the office of JUDGE of the JUVENILE COURT of the THIRD JUVENILE COURT DISTRICT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

Shall C. DANE NOLAN be retained in the office of JUDGE of the JUVENILE COURT of the THIRD JUVENILE COURT DISTRICT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

Shall ANTHONY B. QUINN be retained in the office of JUDGE of the DISTRICT COURT of the THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

STATE QUESTIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to require a portion of the revenue from all of the state's severance taxes, excluding severance tax revenue used for Indian tribes, to be deposited into the permanent state trust fund beginning July 1, 2016?

☐ FOR

☐ AGAINST

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT B

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to allow real property to be exempt from property tax if:

- the real property is owned by a person in the military, or the person's spouse, or both;
- the real property is the military person's primary residence; and
- the military person serves in federal active duty out of state for at least 200 days in a calendar year or 200 consecutive days?

☐ FOR

☐ AGAINST

LOCAL QUESTIONS

**OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR
SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH
SPECIAL BOND ELECTION**

PROPOSITION #1

**OPEN SPACE, NATURAL HABITAT,
PARKS AND COMMUNITY TRAILS**

Shall Salt Lake County, Utah, be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$47,000,000 and to mature in no more than 20 years from the date or dates of issuance of such bonds for the purpose of acquiring, improving or extending open space, natural habitat, parks and community trails and related facilities; and, to the extent necessary, for the refunding, at or prior to the maturity thereof, of bonds authorized hereby?

(Salt Lake County Ordinance No. 3.54.100(C)(2))

Property Tax Cost of Bonds. A general obligation bond is a debt owed by government. The government uses tax revenue to pay for the debt. If the bonds are issued as planned, an annual property tax to pay debt service on the bonds will be required over a period of approximately 20 years from the last date of issuance of the bonds in the estimated amount of \$5.63 on a \$238,000 residence and in the estimated amount of \$10.24 on a business property having the same value.

(Salt Lake County Ordinance No. 3.54.100(C)(1))

In addition to the bond payment costs as outlined above, the average annual combined net operational and maintenance costs for this facility during its first ten years of operation is projected to require additional annual expenditures of \$580,950. If approved, the County will determine during its next budget cycle whether additional operational and maintenance costs may or may not require any additional funds from budget cuts or a tax increase.

To vote in favor of the above bond issue, select the box immediately adjacent to the words "FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS." To vote against the bond issue, select the box immediately adjacent to the words "AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS."

☐ FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS

☐ AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS

**INCORPORATION OF
MILLCREEK**

1. Shall the area described as:

Beginning at the intersection of the South Salt Lake City boundary line, the Taylorsville City boundary line and the Jordan River; then east and north along South Salt Lake City's boundary line to the Salt Lake City boundary line; then following easterly along Salt Lake City's boundary line to the Southeast Corner of the City's boundary; then northeasterly approximately 1 mile along I-80 to the east line of Section 24 of the Salt Lake Base and Meridian (SLBM); then south along that section line to the ridge line separating Parley's and Millcreek canyons; easterly along the ridge line to the Salt Lake County boundary line; then south along the County boundary line to the ridge line separating Millcreek and Big Cottonwood canyons; then westerly along the ridge line to the east quarter corner of Section 12 of the SLBM; then west along the quarter section line to the easterly boundary line of Holladay City; then following westerly along Holladay City's boundary line to the Murray City boundary line; then northerly along Murray City's boundary line to the northeasterly boundary line of Taylorsville City and along the Taylorsville boundary and the Jordan River to the point of beginning.

be incorporated as the city of Millcreek?

☐ YES

☐ NO

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

2. If the above incorporation proposal passes, under what form of municipal government shall Millcreek operate?

(VOTE FOR ONE)

☐ FIVE-MEMBER COUNCIL FORM

☐ SIX-MEMBER COUNCIL FORM

☐ FIVE-MEMBER COUNCIL-MAYOR FORM

☐ SEVEN-MEMBER COUNCIL-MAYOR FORM

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS

3. If the above incorporation proposal passes, shall members of the city council of Millcreek be elected by district?

☐ YES

☐ NO

TURN OVER ►►

<p><u>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER</u></p> <p>1. To vote, completely blacken the CIRCLE (●) to the LEFT of the candidate. Do not vote for more than the authorized number of candidates.</p> <p>2. Use only the #2 pencil provided.</p> <p>3. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write in the candidate's name on the Write-In line AND completely blacken the CIRCLE (●) to the LEFT of your choice.</p> <p>4. If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one. A vote that has been erased or changed will not be counted.</p> <p>5. To vote for every candidate of one party, blacken the CIRCLE (●) to the LEFT of the name of the party for which you wish to vote. To vote for non-partisan offices, blacken the CIRCLE (●) to the LEFT of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.</p>	<p><u>United States Senator</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>	<p><u>State Auditor</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>
	<input type="radio"/> Frank Searer Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Jose Rodriguez Democrat
	<input type="radio"/> Alan Slocum Republican	<input type="radio"/> Roger Laird, Jr. Republican
	<input type="radio"/> Linda Fisher Libertarian	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In
	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<p><u>State Senator District 5</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>
	<p><u>U. S. Representative</u> <u>District 28</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>	<input type="radio"/> Bill Forbes Democrat
	<input type="radio"/> Larry Herman Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Victoria Snyder Republican
	<input type="radio"/> Rebecca Rehberg Republican	<input type="radio"/> Joseph A. Jackson Libertarian
	<input type="radio"/> William Petelos Natural Law	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In
<p><u>STRAIGHT PARTY VOTING</u></p>	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<p><u>State Representative</u> <u>District 3</u> (Vote for no more than TWO.)</p>
<input type="radio"/> Democratic Party	<p><u>Governor & Lt. Governor</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>	<input type="radio"/> Cheryl Adams Democrat
<input type="radio"/> Republican Party	<input type="radio"/> Conrad Schweitzer--Gov. James Milligan--Lt. Gov. Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Jonathan Davic Democrat
<input type="radio"/> Libertarian Party	<input type="radio"/> Joyce McGrath--Gov. Ethan J. Edwards--Lt. Gov. Republican	<input type="radio"/> Leonard Arnold Republican
<input type="radio"/> Green Party	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<input type="radio"/> Samantha Bolin Republican
<input type="radio"/> Natural Law Party	<p><u>Secretary of State</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>	<input type="radio"/> Jeffrey Jones Libertarian
<p><u>PARTISAN OFFICES</u></p>	<p><u>President & Vice-President</u> <u>of the United States</u> (Vote for ONE.)</p>	<input type="radio"/> Michael R. McCloud Libertarian
<input type="radio"/> Edward Z. Jones--President Steve Kaiser--Vice-President Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Matthew Prior Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Helen Barclay Natural Law
<input type="radio"/> Curtis G. Tucker--President John Fisher--Vice-President Republican	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In
<input type="radio"/> Nathan Davis--President Phillip Knox--Vice-President Libertarian	<p><u>Attorney General</u></p>	<input type="radio"/> _____

<u>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER</u> 1. To vote, completely blacken the CIRCLE (?) to the LEFT of the candidate. Do not vote for more than the authorized number of candidates. 2. Use only the #2 pencil provided. 3. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write in the candidate's name on the Write-In line AND completely blacken the CIRCLE (?) to the LEFT of your choice. 4. If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one. A vote that has been erased or changed will not be counted.	<u>United States Senator</u> (Vote for ONE.)	<u>State Auditor</u> (Vote for ONE.)
	<input type="radio"/> Frank Searer Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Jose Rodriguez Democrat
	<input type="radio"/> Alan Slocum Republican	<input type="radio"/> Roger Laird, Jr. Republican
	<input type="radio"/> Linda Fisher Libertarian	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In
	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<u>State Senator District 5</u> (Vote for ONE.)
	<u>U. S. Representative District 28</u> (Vote for ONE.)	<input type="radio"/> Bill Forbes Democrat
	<input type="radio"/> Larry Herman Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Victoria Snyder Republican
	<input type="radio"/> Rebecca Rehberg Republican	<input type="radio"/> Joseph A. Jackson Libertarian
	<input type="radio"/> William Petelos Natural Law	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In
	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<u>State Representative District 3</u> (Vote for no more than TWO.)
<u>Governor & Lt. Governor</u> (Vote for ONE.)	<input type="radio"/> Cheryl Adams Democrat	
<input type="radio"/> Conrad Schweitzer--Gov. James Milligan--Lt. Gov. Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Jonathan Davic Democrat	
<input type="radio"/> Joyce McGrath--Gov. Ethan J. Edwards--Lt. Gov. Republican	<input type="radio"/> Leonard Arnold Republican	
<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<input type="radio"/> Samantha Bolin Republican	
<input type="radio"/> Edward Z. Jones--President Steve Kaiser--Vice-President Democrat	<input type="radio"/> Jeffrey Jones Libertarian	
<input type="radio"/> Curtis G. Tucker--President John Fisher--Vice-President Republican	<input type="radio"/> Michael R. McCloud Libertarian	
<input type="radio"/> Nathan Davis--President Phillip Knox--Vice-President Libertarian	<input type="radio"/> Matthew Prior Democrat	
<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<input type="radio"/> Helen Barclay Natural Law	
<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	<input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	
<u>Attorney General</u>	<input type="radio"/> _____	
<u>PARTISAN OFFICES</u>		
<u>President & Vice-President of the United States</u> (Vote for ONE.)		

FUN BALLOT FACT

There were 623 different ballot types in San Diego, California for the November 2016 General Election. On a typical ballot, voters were presented with 10 office races and 31 ballot questions.



Paul Lux, Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections
302 Wilson St N, Ste 102
Crestview, Florida 32536-3474

www.govote-okaloosa.com

REMEMBER TO SIGN & DATE
THE BACK OF THIS ENVELOPE

OFFICIAL VOTE

NO POSTAGE

Your Postmaster

Sincerely,

Please accept our apologies.

We hope you understand. We assure you that we are constantly striving to improve our processing methods in order that even a rare occurrence may be eliminated.

Although every effort is made to prevent damage to the mail, occasionally this will occur because of the great volume handled and the rapid processing methods which must be employed to assure the most expeditious distribution possible.

We sincerely regret the damage to your mail during handling by the Postal Service. We hope this incident did not inconvenience you. We realize that your mail is important to you and that you have every right to expect it to be delivered in good condition.

Dear Postal Customer:

WE CARE

UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICETM

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CRESTVIEW FL 32536-3474







Recounts, Challenges, and Audits





Recounts

- Conditional in 20 states and Washington, DC
- Loser can petition in 43 states and Washington, DC





Post-Election “Audits”

- Automatic recounts (29 states and Washington, DC)
- Triggered recounts (four states)
- Procedural audits (one state)

Thank You

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