



2009 Voters Guide

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LWV/GLC, P. O. Box 8322, Las Cruces, NM 88006 • (575) 542-VOTE (8683) • <http://www.lwvglc.org>

This is your free copy of the Voters Guide to the election. To request more copies, call the League of Women Voters at 524-VOTE (8683).

This Election Day, Know Your Voting Rights Office of the Secretary of State: 800-477-3632

Every registered voter in New Mexico has the right to:

- Inspect a sample ballot before voting
- Ask for and receive instructions on how to operate the voting machine or mark a paper ballot
- Vote by emergency paper ballot if the voting machine is broken and cannot be repaired in a reasonable length of time
- Ask for, receive and vote by another paper ballot if your paper ballot is spoiled or defective

- Cast a ballot if you are in line when the polls close at 7 p.m.
- Be assisted by a person of your choice if you are disabled or need help reading the ballot (your employer or an agent of your employer, an officer or agent of your union or a candidate on the ballot for this election are not allowed to provide assistance)
- Vote free from intimidation by election officials or any other person

False voting, bribery, coercion or intimidation are election crimes and subject to prosecution.

Las Cruces Municipal Election November 3

A Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. This municipal election will fill positions for City Council Districts 3, 5 and 6, and one Judge for the Las Cruces Municipal Court.

If you are a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older on election day and are registered to vote in Doña Ana County, you may vote in this Municipal Election. If you live in Districts 3, 5 or 6, you will also be eligible to vote for a City Council candidate from your district. All eligible voters can vote for the municipal court judge position.

If you have a question concerning the election, call the Las Cruces City Clerk's Office at 541-2115. The Voters Guide is also available on the Internet at www.lwvglc.org

Voting Information

Registering To Vote

Anyone who wants to vote in this election must have already registered to vote in Doña Ana County. If you have not yet registered to vote, you have already missed the deadline and will be ineligible to vote in this election. The deadline was Oct. 6.

Absentee Voting By Mail

Any person qualified to vote may vote by absentee ballot. You do not need a reason to vote absentee.

To request an absentee ballot, you must complete an absentee ballot application. There are several ways to obtain an application. You may call the City Clerk's Office, 541-2115, to request an application and return the completed application either by mail or in person.

As of Oct. 7, you may go to the City Clerk's Office, ask for an application, complete it while you are there and then vote on a paper ballot that is placed in a secrecy envelope and counted with the final election votes.

Your information on the absentee ballot application has to be verified by the City Clerk's Office before you can receive the absentee ballot and vote. Oct. 31 is the last day the City Clerk's Office will mail out absentee ballots.

If you apply for an absentee ballot and receive it, you must vote that ballot. If you apply, but do not receive

the absentee ballot, you may go to the City Clerk's Office until 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 31, and apply for a replacement ballot.

Your completed ballot must be received in the City Clerk's office no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. All ballots delivered by mail must be turned in to the City Clerk's Office.

Only the applicant or immediate family (spouse, children, parents, brothers or sisters) may return the ballot. When voting early on a paper ballot, your ballot will be placed in a secrecy envelope and counted with the rest of the absentee ballots on election night.

Absentee Voting in Person (formerly called "early voting")

Any person registered to vote within the Las Cruces city limits may vote absentee in person on a paper ballot at the City Clerk's Office beginning at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, ending at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31.

Voting Offenses

Voters are obligated to report voting offenses to the City Clerk or the District Attorney. Voting offenses are:

- Any form of campaigning within 100 feet of a building containing a polling place
- Using, possessing or carrying alco-

holic beverages within 200 feet of a polling place

- False voting, such as voting or offering to vote although not qualified or voting in a precinct where not registered, voting in another's name, voting more than once during a single election or assisting another person in committing a voting offense.

Election Day

On Nov. 3, the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Your registration card carries your precinct number where you are registered, as well as your polling location. If you do not have your registration card, contact the County Clerk at 647-7428. Read the Las Cruces Sun-News or The Las Cruces Bulletin for a list of polling places and addresses.

There will be someone who speaks Spanish at each of the polling places and at the City Clerk's Office.

Run-off Election

If no candidate receives 40 percent of the votes cast for a particular office, a runoff election shall be held within 45 days after certification of the results of the election.

The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast for the office in question shall automatically become the candidates at the runoff election (from City Charter, Sec.7.05c).

2009 ELECTION LAWS FACT SHEET

All voters should be prepared to verbally present or physically show an ID to vote.

Note: Absentee ballots may be accepted in signed and sealed envelopes at the City Clerk's Office until 7 p.m. Election Day.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces (LWVGLC) is a nonpartisan organization that provides information about political issues and candidates for public office in order to promote greater citizen responsibility and participation in government. Because the League is nonpartisan, it DOES NOT support or oppose any political party or candidate. It does publish and distribute factual information for citizens to use when preparing to vote.

The information in this Voters Guide was obtained by means of questionnaires sent to all the candidates. Their answers are printed exactly as received by the League. Because of space restrictions, candidates are limited to a specific number of words. Also, lists are converted to paragraphs and responses are converted to normal text.

All candidates are listed in alphabetical order. Three dots at the end of a candidate's response indicate the word limit has been reached.

Disclaimer

The information in this Voters Guide has been carefully assembled and compiled to assure maximum accuracy. However, the League assumes no responsibility either for correctness of all the information furnished to the League by candidates or other organizations or for errors or omissions. In instances where there is a question of potentially defamatory content, the League will defer to the opinion of counsel.

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The Voter Services Committee: Nancy Anderson, Marjorie Burr, Fran Clark, Win Jacobs, Marnie Leverett and Vicki Simons, vice president for voter services

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Voters Guide Editor: Dale E. Yeo