



**County of Ventura
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER
& REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

Michelle Ascencion

County Clerk-Recorder
& Registrar of Voters

January 23, 2024

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject: Appointments in Lieu of Election at the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election:
Democratic Central Committee and Peace and Freedom Central Committee
Members**

Recommendations:

It is recommended that your Board approve the following appointments:

- 1) Shawn Ellen Terris, Malissa Squiers, Matty Park, Diana Sparagna, and Peter De Domenico to the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, District 1.
- 2) Suzanne Gunther, Richard "Rick" Gunther, Chaise Rasheed, Karen Stevens, and Cathy Willott to the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, District 2.
- 3) Janey Brunton-Muñoz, Luciano Ortiz, and Jesse P. Luna to the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, District 3.
- 4) Steven T. Auclair and Jon Huycke to the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, District 5.
- 5) Ryan John Drury, Mychal Anthony Montoya, Clarisse Amiko Selig, and Leah Dehmohseni to the Ventura County Peace and Freedom Central Committee.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	No { } Yes {X} Elections Code Sections 7228 and 7772.1
Source of Funding:	None
Funding Match Required:	Not Applicable
Impact on Other Departments:	None

Relationship to Strategic Plan

Recommended action helps support the Board's prioritization of transparency to the Ventura County community.

Preserving History • Protecting Democracy

Discussion:

The “appointment in lieu of election” process for members of the Democratic Central Committee and the Peace and Freedom Central Committee is governed by sections Election Code 7228 and 7772.1, respectively, which provide that when, on the 73rd day prior to the election, the number of persons who have filed a declaration of candidacy for the committee does not exceed the number of offices of committee members to be filled at that election, your Board, as the supervising authority, shall appoint in lieu of the election those persons who have filed declarations of candidacy. Those persons appointed shall take office and serve exactly as if they were elected.

The role of the Elections Division with respect to the appointment in lieu of election process is to ensure that the provisions of the Elections Code are complied with fully and that any election/appointment in lieu process is fairly conducted in a consistent and impartial manner.

Your Board is being requested to appoint fifteen (15) full-term members for the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee and four (4) full-term members for the Ventura County Peace and Freedom Central Committee by means of the appointment in lieu of election process. (Please see Exhibits 1 and 2 attached hereto.)

In the elections for the committees set forth above, the number of candidates who have filed declarations of candidacy does not exceed the number of open positions. The Ventura County Democratic Central Committee members being appointed will serve a full term of four years commencing on April 23, 2024, through April 24, 2028. The Ventura County Peace and Freedom Central Committee members being appointed will serve a full term of four years commencing on May 26, 2024, through December 31, 2028.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, County Counsel and Auditor-Controller’s Office.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact our office at (805) 654-2664.



MICHELLE ASCENCION
Clerk-Recorder & Registrar of Voters

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1: Appointment of Committee Members – Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, Districts 1, 2, 3, and 5
- Exhibit 2: Appointment of Committee Members – Ventura County Peace and Freedom Central Committee