

VOTER PROTECTION
MWD 10-4-26 meeting
Xiomara Flores-Hulguin

Xiomara shared a quote from Anne Frank: " How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." She would respectfully substitute the last words to read: before starting to defend democracy." Let's ensure that our votes are protected!

Xiomara reminded the members that we had 30 days until the election and that ballots had been mailed. It was critical to do the following to prepare to vote:

- Thoroughly review the Official Voter Information Guide - it has important voter information about the midterms, including dates to remember.
- Thoroughly review, complete, and sign your ballot envelope - it's a long ballot!
- Don't delay, vote today! Return your ballot as soon as you receive it. On Tues., Oct. 6th, the secure ballot drop boxes open.
- To track the status of your ballot, sign up at: wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov
- On Sat., Oct. 24th, the Vote Centers will open for in-person voting.
- If you have any voting questions or concerns, please call the Voter Protection Hotline at 1 (877) 321-8683 (VOTE). Also, please save the hotline number on your cell phone to use as needed and to share with family and friends. On a related note, if you see something, say something. Please call the Voter Protection Hotline.

What actions can you take if you're interested in volunteering:

- **Hotline Operators** answer calls from any voter seeking guidance. Operators can help callers navigate the voting process, locate polling sites and Early Vote Centers, track ballots, find candidate details, and more. No prior experience is needed. Training is provided and mandated. Bilingual speakers are encouraged to sign up.
- **Poll Observers** are our frontline presence on Election Day - they observe the voting process and support voters at the polling places across California counties by reporting, logging, and escalating issues directly to the attorney team for a swift resolution.
- **Volunteer Attorneys** are stationed across California and on call on Election Day to respond to voting-related issues in real time. Volunteer attorneys evaluate reports, gather information, and resolve issues submitted by our hotline operators and poll observers.

If you have time and are interested in any of the above activities, please email voterprotectionteam@cadem.org or visit CADEM's website.

Thank you/¡Muchas gracias! Let's protect our voting rights! "