



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

Department Name:

Santa Barbara County Employees' Retirement System ("SBCERS")

Department Number:

810

Agenda Date:

August 18, 2026

Placement:

Administrative Agenda

Estimated Time:

Continued Item:

No

If Yes, date from:

Not applicable

Vote Required:

Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s): Gregory Levin, CPA

DocuSigned by:

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CONTACT: Dani Couture

SUBJECT: Certification of Board of Retirement Safety Seventh Member Special Election

Concurrences:

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: No

Other Concurrence:

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Certify the special election results for the Safety Seventh Member of the Santa Barbara County Employees' Retirement System Board of Retirement in favor of the sole nominated member, Christopher Gotschall of the Sheriff's Office.

Summary Text:

The Board of Supervisors is asked to certify Christopher Gotschall as the Safety Seventh Member of the SBCERS Board of Retirement. The Safety Seventh Member position of the Board of Retirement was vacated on March 12, 2026. SBCERS issued an Election Notice on April 1, 2026, beginning the filing period for nominating petitions through May 4, 2026. One Petition of Nomination and Declaration of Candidacy was received for the Safety Seventh position on the Board of Retirement. SBCERS staff certified the candidate's petition in accordance with the Trustee Elections Policy adopted by the SBCERS Board of Retirement and no election was held as only one candidate was nominated.

Discussion:**Nomination and Certification**

On April 1, 2026, SBCERS issued an Election Notice announcing the nomination filing period for the Safety Seventh Member seat on the Board of Retirement, with nominating petitions due by May 4, 2026. One Petition of Nomination and Declaration of Candidacy was submitted, from Christopher Gotschall of the Sheriff's Office. SBCERS staff reviewed and certified the petition in accordance with the SBCERS Trustee Elections Policy.

Basis for Recommended Action

The Trustee Elections Policy provides that when only one candidate is nominated for a seat, no election is required. Because only one valid petition was received for the Safety Seventh Member position, staff recommends the Board of Supervisors take action to formally certify Mr. Gotschall's election. Mr. Gotschall will serve the remainder of the term ending December 31, 2028.

Background:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Retirement consists of nine members and two alternates. Members of the Retirement System elect four members and two alternates, representing General, Safety, and Retired members of SBCERS. The newly elected Safety Seventh Member will serve the remainder of the term ending December 31, 2028.

Special Instructions:

Return a copy of the minute order to SBCERS for its files.

Contact Information:

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