



NEW CALIFORNIA STATE, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County
105 E. Anapamu Ave., 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA, 93101

May 13, 2024

Subj: Single Day Hand Counting Precinct Paper Ballots & Budget Reality

Supervisor Joan Hartmann

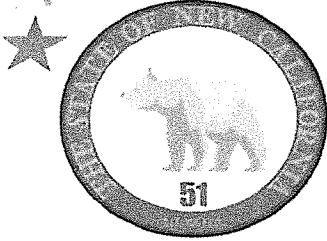
I am addressing this letter to you as I live within the 3rd Supervisorial District. I am also sending a copy to Supervisor Steve Lavagnino, the current Chair of the BoS.

The purpose of this letter is to discuss the current fiscal reality in the County of Santa Barbara and how that status so impacts the fiscal integrity of the County of Santa Barbara., that it becomes incumbent on the BoS to seek economic sense and a balanced budget.

- 1) The recent SCOTUS decision in Sheetz v County of El Dorado will have a negative impact by reducing county budget funds and ought not be ignored.
- 2) California State's current budget deficit is now estimated to be over US\$80 Billion for the 2024-25 Budget. This State of California financial shortfall will have a negative impact on the funds available for grants,
- 3) You yourself mentioned at the candidate forum in Goleta, that 50% of the S.B. County Budget is comprised of funds from grants from both the California State and the U.S. Government.
- 4) How large and damaging will the Budget deficit of the State of California become, and how deep an influence on the County of Santa Barbara's budget will there be?
- 5) Cutting unnecessary costs would seem to be an obvious place to begin.

Practical solutions concern the costs associated with our current conduct of elections.

- 1) Save approximately US\$2 Million per year, by dropping Dominion machines.
- 2) Save the cost of US\$19.50/Ballot for production mailing and processing of mail-in ballots and changing to paper, in-precinct ballots.
- 3) In 2022. approximately 237,759 voters (57% of the total) cast votes in the 2022 election.
- 4) Based on these numbers, the total cost of the current ballot is estimated to be greater than US\$6.6 Million.
- 5) The total estimated cost for in person precinct ballots is US\$5/voter, which gives an estimated cost for the 2022 election of a total cost of US\$1,2 Million.



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I wonder what sort of reasoned thought, can or will justify the throwing away of US\$5.5 MILLION dollars to participate in an electronic system that has been proven in court, to be vulnerable to false results, resulting from the imposition of outside algorithm manipulation.

I believe that all elected officials are expected, and in fact duty bound by oath, to be fiscally sensible. As such, I urge you and all your colleagues on the Board of Supervisors to make the changes outlined above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Philip Gallanders', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Philip Gallanders,
Co-Chair, Santa Barbara County Committee
The State of New California
Assemblyman, State of New California Assembly



STATE OF NEW CALIFORNIA
PHILIP GALLANDERS
NCS ASSEMBLY MEMBER
RESTORED GOVERNMENT DELEGATE
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY EXEC. BOARD

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