

# Ballot Designation Worksheet

Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 13107.3 and Section 20711 of the California Code of Regulations, this entire form **must be completed**, or it will not be accepted and you will **not** be entitled to a ballot designation. **DO NOT LEAVE ANY RESPONSE SPACES BLANK.** If information requested is not applicable, please write N/A in the space provided. Otherwise the information **MUST** be provided. Upon filing, this worksheet will be a public record.

Candidate Information

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Home/Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Information

Attorney Name (or other person authorized to act in your behalf): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Home/Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Ballot Designation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1<sup>st</sup> Alternative:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2<sup>nd</sup> Alternative:** \_\_\_\_\_

You may select as your ballot designation:

- (a) Your current principal profession(s), vocation(s), or occupation(s) [maximum total of three words, separated by a “/”]
- (b) The full title of the public office you currently occupy and to which you were elected
- (c) “Appointed [full title of public office]” if you currently serve by appointment in an elective public office and are seeking election to a different office
- (d) “Incumbent” if you were elected (or, if you are a Superior Court Judge, appointed) to your current public office and seek election to a new term
- (e) “Appointed Incumbent” if you were appointed to your current elective public office (other than Superior Court Judge) and seek election to a new term

In the space provided on the next page or on an attachment sheet, describe why you believe you are entitled to use the proposed ballot designation. Attach any documents or exhibits that you believe support your proposed ballot designation. If using the title of an elective office, attach a copy of your certificate of election or appointment. These documents will not be returned to you. **Do not submit originals.**

If your proposed ballot designation includes the word “volunteer,” indicate the title of your volunteer position and the name of the entity for which you volunteer along with a brief description of the type of volunteer work you do and the approximate amount of time involved. You may only use the ballot designation “community volunteer” if you

volunteer for a 501(c)(3) charitable, educational, or religious organization, a governmental agency or an educational institution. You may not use “community volunteer” together with another designation.

**Remember, it is your responsibility to justify your proposed ballot designation and to provide all requested details.** For your reference, attached are Elections Code Sections 13107 and 13107.3, and 2 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 20711. You may also wish to consult Elections Code Section 11307.5 ("community volunteer") and 2 CCR Sections 20712 - 20719 (found at [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)).

Justification for use of proposed ballot designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current or Most Recent Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Start/End Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Name or Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) who can verify this information:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Before signing below, answer the following questions.**

Does your proposed ballot designation:

- Use only a portion of the title of your current elected office? Yes  No
- Use only the word “Incumbent” for an elective office (other than Superior Court Judge) to which you were appointed? Yes  No
- Use more than three total words for your principal professions, vocations or occupations? Yes  No
- Suggest an evaluation of you, such as outstanding, leading, expert, virtuous, or eminent? Yes  No
- Refer to a status (Veteran, Activist, Founder, Scholar), rather than a profession, vocation or occupation? Yes  No
- Abbreviate the word “retired”? Yes  No
- Place the word “retired” after the words it modifies? Example: Accountant, retired Yes  No
- Use any word or prefix (except “retired”) such as "former" or "ex-" to refer to a former profession, vocation or occupation? Yes  No
- Use the word “retired” along with a current profession, vocation, or occupation? Example: Retired Firefighter/Teacher Yes  No
- Use the name of a political party or political body? Yes  No
- Refer to a racial, religious, or ethnic group? Yes  No
- Refer to any activity prohibited by law? Yes  No

**If the answer to any of these questions is “Yes,” your proposed ballot designation is likely to be rejected.**

Candidate’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

For your reference, the relevant provisions of Elections Code section 13107 are reproduced below:

**13107.**

(a) With the exception of candidates for Justice of the State Supreme Court or Court of Appeal, immediately under the name of each candidate, and not separated from the name by any line, unless the designation made by the candidate pursuant to Section 8002.5 must be listed immediately below the name of the candidate pursuant to Section 13105, and in that case immediately under the designation, may appear at the option of the candidate only one of the following designations:

(1) Words designating the elective city, county, district, state, or federal office which the candidate holds at the time of filing the nomination documents to which he or she was elected by vote of the people, or to which he or she was appointed, in the case of a superior court judge.

(2) The word "incumbent" if the candidate is a candidate for the same office which he or she holds at the time of filing the nomination papers, and was elected to that office by a vote of the people, or, in the case of a superior court judge, was appointed to that office.

(3) No more than three words designating either the current principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate, or the principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents. For purposes of this section, all California geographical names shall be considered to be one word. Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.

(4) The phrase "appointed incumbent" if the candidate holds an office other than a judicial office by virtue of appointment, and the candidate is a candidate for election to the same office, or, if the candidate is a candidate for election to the same office or to some other office, the word "appointed" and the title of the office. In either instance, the candidate may not use the unmodified word "incumbent" or any words designating the office unmodified by the word "appointed." However, the phrase "appointed incumbent" shall not be required of a candidate who seeks reelection to an office which he or she holds and to which he or she was appointed, as a nominated candidate, in lieu of an election, pursuant to Sections 5326 and 5328 of the Education Code or Section 7228, 7423, 7673, 10229, or 10515 of this code.

(b) Neither the Secretary of State nor any other elections official shall accept a designation of which any of the following would be true:

(1) It would mislead the voter.

(2) It would suggest an evaluation of a candidate, such as outstanding, leading, expert, virtuous, or eminent.

(3) It abbreviates the word "retired" or places it following any word or words which it modifies.

(4) It uses a word or prefix, such as "former" or "ex-," which means a prior status. The only exception is the use of the word "retired."

(5) It uses the name of any political party, whether or not it has qualified for the ballot.

(6) It uses a word or words referring to a racial, religious, or ethnic group.

(7) It refers to any activity prohibited by law.

(c) If, upon checking the nomination documents and the ballot designation worksheet described in Section 13107.3, the elections official finds the designation to be in violation of any of the restrictions set forth in this section, the elections official shall notify the candidate by registered or certified mail return receipt requested, addressed to the mailing address provided on the candidate's ballot designation worksheet.

(1) The candidate shall, within three days, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays, from the date he or she receives notice by registered or certified mail, or from the date the candidate receives actual notice of the violation, whichever occurs first, appear before the elections official or, in the case of the Secretary of State, notify the Secretary of State by telephone, and provide a designation that complies with subdivision (a).

(2) In the event the candidate fails to provide a designation that complies with subdivision (a) within the three-day period specified in paragraph (1), no designation shall appear after the candidate's name.

(d) No designation given by a candidate shall be changed by the candidate after the final date for filing nomination documents, except as specifically requested by the elections official as specified in subdivision (c) or as provided in subdivision (e). The elections official shall maintain a copy of the ballot designation worksheet for each candidate that appears on the ballot in the county for the same period of time as applied to nomination documents pursuant to Section 17100.

(e) The designation shall remain the same for all purposes of both primary and general elections, unless the candidate, at least 98 days prior to the general election, requests in writing a different designation which the candidate is entitled to use at the time of the request.

For your reference, Elections Code section 13107.3 is reproduced below:

**13107.3.**

(a) A candidate who submits a ballot designation pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 13107 shall file a ballot designation worksheet that supports the use of that ballot designation by the candidate, in a format prescribed by the Secretary of State.

(b) The ballot designation worksheet shall be filed with the elections official at the same time that the candidate files his or her declaration of candidacy.

(c) In the event that a candidate fails to file a ballot designation worksheet in accordance with subdivision (a), no designation shall appear under the candidate's name on the ballot.

For your reference, Elections Code section 13107.5 is reproduced below:

**13107.5.**

(a) A candidate's ballot designation as "community volunteer" shall constitute a valid principal vocation or occupation for purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 13107, if not otherwise in violation of any of the restrictions set forth in that section, and subject to the following conditions:

(1) A candidate's community volunteer activities constitute his or her principal profession, vocation, or occupation.

(2) A candidate is not engaged concurrently in another principal profession, vocation, or occupation.

(3) A candidate may not use the designation of "community volunteer" in combination with any other principal profession, vocation, or occupation designation.

(b) The Secretary of State shall by regulation define what constitutes a community volunteer for purposes of this section.

For your reference, 2 CCR 20711 is reproduced below:

**20711. *Ballot Designation Worksheet.***

(a) In order to facilitate review of a candidate's proposed ballot designation by the Secretary of State pursuant to Elections Code Section 13107, the candidate shall submit, at the time of filing his or her proposed ballot designation on the Declaration of Candidacy, a completed Ballot Designation Worksheet on a form provided by the Secretary of State.

(b) All Ballot Designation Worksheets filed with the Office of the Secretary of State or the county elections officials pursuant to this section shall be public records and shall be available for inspection and copying at the public counter of the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, Fifth Floor, 1500 11th Street, Sacramento, California 95814, or at the office of the applicable county elections official.

(c) The Secretary of State shall provide a master copy or copies of the Ballot Designation Worksheet to all elections officials responsible for providing and accepting the nomination documents for candidates in elections for offices certified by the Secretary of State. The Ballot Designation Worksheet shall request that the candidate proposing the ballot designation provide the following information:

(1) The candidate's name, home, business and mailing addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail address, if available, and fax number;

(2) A designation of the office for which the candidate is seeking election;

(3) The name, home, business and mailing addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail address, if available, and fax number of the attorney representing the candidate or for any other person to be contacted in the event the Secretary of State requires further information regarding the proposed ballot designation;

(4) The proposed ballot designation submitted by the candidate;

(5) The candidate may submit one or more proposed alternate ballot designations ranked in order of the candidate's preference;

(6) A brief statement identifying the factual basis upon which the candidate claims the proposed ballot designation and each proposed alternate ballot designation, including the following:

(A) If the candidate holds elected office and is submitting his or her proposed ballot designation pursuant to Elections Code Section 13107, subdivisions (a)(1) or (a)(2), the candidate shall indicate the elective office he or she currently occupies and may attach a copy of his or her Certificate of Election;

(B) If the candidate is a judicial officer and is submitting his or her proposed ballot designation pursuant to Elections Code Section 13107, subdivisions (a)(1) or (a)(2), the candidate shall indicate the elective office

he or she currently holds and may attach either (A) a copy of his or her Certificate of Election or (B) a copy of his or her commission or certificate of appointment, issued at the time the candidate was appointed to the judicial office which he or she currently occupies;

(C) If the candidate submits a ballot designation pursuant to Elections Code Section 13107, subdivision (a)(3), the candidate shall indicate:

ballot designation; (i) The title of the position or positions which he or she claims supports the proposed

(ii) The dates during which the candidate held such position;

(iii) A description of the work he or she performs in the position;

(iv) The name of the candidate's business or employer;

information; and (v) The name and telephone number of a person or persons who could verify such

(vi) A statement that the professions, vocations or occupations relied upon to support the proposed ballot designation constitute the primary, main or leading professions, vocations or occupations of the candidate, in accordance with the definition of the term "principal" as set forth at Section 20714, subdivision (b).

(D) If the candidate submits a ballot designation pursuant to Elections Code Section 13107, subdivision (a)(4), the candidate shall indicate the date on which he or she was appointed to the office for which he or she is an appointed incumbent.

(d) The candidate may attach or append any supporting documents or other exhibits to his or her Ballot Designation Worksheet which he or she believes support his or her proposed ballot designation. Such attached documents or other exhibits shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference as part of the candidate's Ballot Designation Worksheet and shall be considered as such by the Secretary of State.

(e) If a candidate requests a change of his or her ballot designation pursuant to Elections Code Section 13107(e), that request shall be accompanied by a Ballot Designation Worksheet.