



**NEWS RELEASE  
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TWO PAGES**

## **City of Santa Maria Is Gearing Up For Election**

The City Clerk's office has been busy preparing for the upcoming General Municipal Election which will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, to elect two members of the City Council.

For anyone interested in running for office, there are certain steps you must take. First, you must be at least 18 years of age and a registered voter of the City of Santa Maria. Second, you must be "nominated" by 20 registered voters of the City.

The Nomination Period to run for office opens on July 14th and ends on August 8th. Candidate Nomination information will be available at the City Clerk's office during that time. The nomination papers are provided to you and contain space for you to obtain signatures of 30 registered voters. While only 20 signatures are necessary to qualify you as a valid candidate, it is recommended that you obtain all 30 in the event some are invalid. There is no fee to run for office in Santa Maria. Should any of the incumbents decide not to run for re-election, the nomination period will be extended for five days until August 13th. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (805) 925-0951 ext. 307 for an appointment to pull nomination papers and to receive a candidate orientation.

Voting is a privilege and registering to vote is easy as 1-2-3. Voter registration forms are available at City Hall, the Santa Maria Public Library, and at the County Elections office (addresses below). Postage is prepaid on the registration forms. You may register to vote at any time; however, if you want to vote in the November election, you must register before October 20, 2014.

City Hall  
110 E. Cook Street

Public Library  
421 S. McClelland Street

County Elections  
511 E. Lakeside Pkwy.

Registering online is available through the Secretary of State Website at: [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/votereg1.html](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/votereg1.html). It is not recommended that you register online within 45 days of the election as your registration may not be processed in time for you to vote on November 4th.

For information about the City of Santa Maria's election, learn what is required to run for a City elected office, obtain voter registration information, or register to vote online, visit our Elections Website at <http://www.cityofsantamaria.org/Elections.shtml>. You may contact the City Clerk's office at 925-0951 ext. 307 for further information.

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Additionally, information on County-wide ballot measures and candidates may be obtained from the County Elections office at 346-8370 or online at <http://sbcvote.com/Elections/Elections.aspx>. State-wide topics are available through the Secretary of State at (916) 657-2166 or online at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/>. The League of Women Voters also has a Website with a wealth of information to advise voters on national, state and local issues. You can visit their Website at [www.ca.lwv.org/](http://www.ca.lwv.org/).

After the close of the nomination period, the candidate's names will be posted on the City's Website so voters will know who will be listed on the ballot.

Closer to the election, look for information in your local newspaper regarding Candidate's Forums where you may meet your local candidates and hear their positions on issues. A well informed voter makes better decisions on the candidates and issues on the ballot. These officers will be governing your City for the next four years. It is your responsibility to:

**GET REGISTERED!  
GET INFORMED!  
GET OUT AND VOTE!**

Questions may be directed to the Records/City Clerk Division, 925-0951 ext. 307.

<b>Department:</b>	<b>City Manager, Records/City Clerk Division</b>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	<b>Rhonda Garietz, CMC, Chief Deputy City Clerk</b>
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	<b>(805) 925-0951 ext. 307</b>
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