

ELECTION CENTER

26th Annual National Conference



**August 17, 2010
to
August 21, 2010**

**Hyatt Grand Cypress Hotel
Orlando, Florida**

THE ELECTION CENTER

Board of Directors

Keith Cunningham, *CERA*

Lima, Ohio

Ernest Hawkins, *CERA*, Chair

Elk Grove, California

R. Doug Lewis, *CERA*

Houston, Texas

Robert Montjoy

New Orleans, Louisiana

Julie Pearson, *CERA*

Rapid City, South Dakota

A Message from R. Doug Lewis, Executive Director

FL We booked Florida as our location for this Conference almost four years ago because it was then, and is now, a very good value. The location for this year's National Conference is Orlando, Florida, located just outside of Disney World. While we will keep you busy during the daytime with the serious professional training and discussions, you can also remember what it is to be a kid again with one of the world's best fun and entertainment venues. Serious work first but then serious fun after work too.

What Congress has passed in legislation and what is still being considered in legislation affecting voter registration or election administration is facing every jurisdiction in America and the National Conference is where you get an opportunity to see and hear how others are responding to ever increasing federal mandates. In addition to concerns about legislation, there is the overall concern of how to economize and still conduct elections. How are others coping with budget cuts and how can we still do the job with fewer resources? Are elections in America more at risk now than they were in 2000 because of continuous budget cuts? What can you do about it and still serve your voters well? What are strategies for survival?

While we seek answers to those concerns, you will also get the full range of voting systems and voter registration software vendors who are exhibiting at the conference so you can determine what systems you may need in the future. What technology can help you? During the conference you will get to hear the latest trends in elections and voter registration; our successful Professional Practices Papers where you see really innovative programs offered in other jurisdictions; and the awards luncheon recognizing the accomplishments of your peers and those who serve our profession.

PEP The hallmark of Election Center National Conferences is that you get the most substantive elections programs offered to the profession. Preceding the conference will be Four Professional Education Program courses: two Core and two Renewal courses (you can only take one since they run concurrently). And at the end of the formal program, we offer an unusual tour.

Our hotel is a wonderful value. The Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress is priced less than many hotels in your state. You must act fast on this hotel ... DO NOT DELAY... because they sell out consistently, so make your reservations TODAY. If you have questions or need help, please call Pat Hawkins in our Conference Office immediately at 916-686-7928.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SECURITY NOTICE: Because of security concerns, you must wear your Election Center name badge when entering any meeting room, lunch room or the exhibit area. Thank you for your cooperation.

Tuesday, August 17, 2010

- 8:00-9:00 Class Registration
(Separate Registration for Classes Required)
- 9:00-4:30 Class #5 **Ethics**
Instructor: Shawn Schooley, Ph.d.
 Auburn University, AL
- Class #6 **Communications**
Instructor: Doug Lewis, CERA,
 The Election Center, Houston, TX
- Class #19 **Election Law: Constitutional Issues**
Instructor: Clif Perry, Ph.d.
 Auburn University, AL
- Class #23 **Researching Election Administration**
Instructor: Robert Montjoy, Ph.D.
 University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch (Students only)

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

- 8:00-11:00 Courses #5, #6, 19 and #23 Continued
- 1:00-3:00 PEP Board Committee Meeting (PEP Members Only)
- 4:00-5:00 Ethics Committee
- 2:00-6:00 **Educational Exhibit Area Open**
- 3:00-5:00 Postal Committee Meeting
- 3:00-5:00 Elections Legislation Committee Meeting
- 4:00-8:00 Registration Desk Open
- 6:00-7:30 Welcome Reception

Thursday, August 19, 2010

- 8:00-3:00 Registration Desk Open
- 8:30-9:00 Continental Breakfast
- 8:00-5:00 **Educational Exhibits**
- 9:00-9:30 **Welcome/Announcements**
- 9:30-10:20 **Legislative Update**
[A Review of Pending Federal Voter Registration and Elections Legislation](#)
- 10:20-10:50 Break and **Educational Exhibits**
- 10:50-11:15 **MAIL Update: Electronic Tools, Waiver Process**
- 11:15-11:45 **Pew Center on the States**
[Voter Registration Modernization/Election Cost Study Update](#)
- 11:45-12:30 **Election Assistance Commission**
[Discussion of Projects and Activities](#)
- 12:30-2:00 No Host Lunch
- 2:00-2:05 **Election Ethical Dilemma Presentation**
- 2:05-4:15 **Professional Practices Presentations “...and the winner is...”**
- 6:30-7:00 **Cocktails**
- 7:00-10:30 **Beach Party and Dinner (Inside)**
Suggested Attire: Shorts, sandals, etc
(Music by Street Talk—This is the same group that we had in 2003 in Bal Harbor)

Friday, August 20, 2010

- 8:00-10:30 Registration Desk Open
- 8:00-11:00 **Educational Exhibit Area Open**
- 8:30-9:00 Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-10:15 **Concurrent Discussion Groups**
Breakout #1
Election Ethical Dilemma Discussion
- Breakout #2
Professional Practices Exhibits

Breakout #3

Preparing for Possible New Language Requirements after the 2010 Census

Breakout #4

HAVA Funding and Audit Issues

10:15-10:45 Break and **Educational Exhibits**

10:45-12:30 **Concurrent Discussion Groups**

Breakout #1

Election Information Technology

Breakout #2

Census Legislation and Elections

The Three Phases of Redistricting-How To Meet The Challenge

Breakout #3

All Mail Voting

The King County Experience

Breakout #4

UOCAVA Surveys

(Feedback on Data Collection for November)

12:30-3:00 **Annual CERA Graduation Luncheon and Ceremony**

3:00-5:30 **Concurrent Discussion Groups**

Breakout #1

Tour Orange County Election Office

Florida is having an election the week after the conference. This will be an opportunity to observe poll worker training, absentee ballot processing, early voting and preparation for voting equipment delivery.

Free bus tickets are available. Please use form elsewhere in this booklet to request tickets. You must have a ticket to board the bus.

Breakout #2

Voter Registration and Election Roundtable: What's on Your Mind?

(For those who do not want to tour the Orange County Election Office)

Saturday, August 21, 2010

9:00-4:30 Alligator Airboat Adventure and Winter Park Boat Tour
(Separate registration required)

Please meet in the Grand Cypress Ballroom Foyer at 8:45.

You must wear tour button that will be provided in your registration packet.

Suggested dress: Cool, casual and comfortable!

Don't forget your camera!

BREAKOUT #1
TOUR ORANGE COUNTY ELECTION OFFICE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2010
3:30 – 6:30 P.M.

ADVANCE TICKET REQUEST FORM*
TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY
(One Ticket per form)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ HOME _____

(For Emergencies)

FAX _____

*We need to know in advance the number of attendees who want to visit the Orange County Election Office so that we can order enough busses to accommodate all of those wanting to participate.

Your ticket will be included in your registration packet. Tickets may not be available on site.

After the CERA Graduation luncheon, please wait in the Grand Cypress Ballroom Foyer. Buses will begin to load at 3:15 P.M. and depart at 3:30 P.M. Buses will be back to the Hotel at approximately 6:30 P.M.

Please include this ticket request form in the envelope with your registration form.

**THE ELECTION CENTER'S
26th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Orlando, Florida

August 19 – August 20, 2010

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please use a separate form for each person registering)

NAME: _____

OFFICE ADDRESS _____

(Address and office phone number provided will be printed on the attendee list distributed to conference participants)

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: Office: _____ Home: _____

(FOR EMERGENCIES)

FAX: _____

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

Registration and check received by the Conference Office

no later than July 31, 2010

Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate and NACRC..... \$399

Non-Membs..... \$499

Registration and check received **after July 31, 2010 or at the Conference:***

*Security requires all attendees to wear Election Center name badges to enter the meeting rooms and exhibit area. If you choose to register at the conference you may be delayed up to two hours in order to process your registration. Sorry, we cannot invoice or accept credit cards.

Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate and NACRC..... \$499

Non-Members..... \$599

Registration fee enclosed: \$ _____

Membership Number: _____

Are you a CERA graduate? Yes ___ No ___, If Yes, what year? _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: Written cancellation stating reason for same must be received by the conference office **no later than July 31, 2010** in order to receive full credit toward a class, workshop or conference to be used during the next calendar year less a \$50 processing fee. There will be no credit given for cancellations received on or after August 1, 2010.

Please return completed form and your check in order to reach the Conference Office by **July 31, 2010** in order to avoid the additional fee to:

The Election Center

Conference Center

P.O. Box 965

Elk Grove, California 95759

MAIL THAT REQUIRES A SIGNATURE FOR DELIVERY CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

For additional information, please call Pat Hawkins at (916) 686-7928.

The Election Center's Federal I.D. Number is 54-1578880



THE ELECTION CENTER ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Reservations can be made and confirmed online at
<http://www.resweb.passkey.com/go/electioncenter>

(Enter the above link into a web browser or by calling (402) 592-6464 or 1-888-421-1442.)

A first night non-refundable room deposit must accompany all reservations.

Please Print or Type.

Guest Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax#: _____

Arrival Date _____ at _____ (am/pm) Check-in time is after 4pm

Departure Date _____ at _____ (am/pm) Check-out time is before 12 noon

No. of adults _____

No. of children _____

☐ One King Bed

☐ Two Double Beds

Rates

All rates are subject to applicable taxes

Standard Room	\$152.00
Lake View Room	\$172.00

Pool View Upgrade	\$192.00
Regency Club Upgrade	\$252.00

There are a limited number of rooms at the group rate. All reservations must be received by **July 26, 2010**.

After this time, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis at the prevailing hotel rates.

Credit Card: _____ Expire Date : _____

Name of Card holder: _____

Special Requests/Additional Information:

Gold Passport #: _____

Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress
 One Grand Cypress Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32836
 Phone: 407-239-1234 Fax: 407-239-3800

Please note room types are not guaranteed.

COURSE #5

ETHICS

Instructor: Shawn Schooley, Ph.D.
Auburn University, AL

Tuesday, August 17, 20109:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 18, 20108:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

As with all professionals, Election Administrators and Election Officials may not fully understand or appreciate their duties and obligations without also understanding the disciplinary rules and ethical mandates governing their professional activities. Yet professional codes of ethics may have the complexion of arbitrary prescription and proscriptions unless those parameters are founded upon well reasoned and generally accepted ethical precepts. This course will be concerned with identifying and explaining those precepts and with connecting those precepts to the Principles and the Standards of Conduct for Elections and Registration Officials.

Examples of topics that may be covered in this course:

- 1. Principles of reasoning.
- 2. Ethical foundations.
- 3. Ethical Theories: Utilitarianism and non-Utilitarian theories.
- 4. Principles and Standards of Conduct for Elections and Registration Officials.

COURSE #6

COMMUNICATIONS

Instructor: Doug Lewis, CERA
The Election Center, Houston, TX

Tuesday, August 17, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 18, 2010 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Effective communication with the media, state legislatures and local boards and other entities involved with elections and voter registration is critical to maintaining budget and public support for the electoral process and for effective voter outreach and other public relations purposes. This course discusses effective communication with the media, state legislatures, local boards, and other entities involved with elections or voter registration is critical to maintaining budget and public support for the electoral process and for effective voter outreach and other public relations purposes. This course will provide the skills and principles important to effective representation of elections/registration departments and offices.

Examples of topics that may be covered in this course:

- 1. Knowing ourselves and others.
- 2. Developing a plan to effectively communicate our programs.
- 3. Relating to news media and public relations.
- 4. Communicating with your legislature, state board, or local government.
- 5. Developing a new release and news conference.

<p>CREDIT FOR THIS COURSE IS GIVEN ONLY TO GRADUATE STUDENTS RENEWING THEIR CERA STATUS</p>
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COURSE# 19

ELECTION LAW: CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

Instructor: Clif Perry, Ph.d.
Auburn University, AL

Tuesday, August 17, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 18, 2010 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The right to vote is a fundamental, constitutional guarantee evidencing an inchoate principle of democracy, to wit, an equal opportunity to participate in the making of public law. This course will be concerned with how the laws governing elections further or hinder the attainment of that democratic goal. Special attention will be devoted to the analysis of constitutional requirements and prohibitions applied to federal and state statutes.

Examples of topics that may be covered in this course:

1. Voting: e.g., Barriers to voting, the right to equally weighed votes, etc.
2. Districting: e.g., Racial and political gerrymandering, etc.
3. Primaries: e.g., Closed, semi-open, open partisan and nonpartisan blanket, etc.
4. Campaigning: e.g., Truth in campaigns, financing campaigns, etc.

<p>CREDIT FOR THIS COURSE IS GIVEN ONLY TO GRADUATE STUDENTS RENEWING THEIR CERA STATUS</p>
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COURSE #23

RESEARCHING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

Instructor: Robert Montjoy, Ph.d.
New Orleans University, New Orleans, LA

Tuesday, August 17, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 18, 2010 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The election system is receiving greater scrutiny today than ever before. Researchers from a variety of organizations are studying many aspects of election administration, sometimes in isolation from other parts of the system. Their findings, which show up in academic journals, government reports, and popular press, can influence policy makers and public opinion. This course is a summary of methods and findings for election administrators. The goal is to help practitioners discern what is useful, critique what is not, and identify gaps that need to be filled. Topics include:

1. An only-slightly-technical review of methods commonly used in election research.
2. Selected topics of election research
 - a. Appointment/election of election officials
 - b. Voter registration and turnout
 - c. Voting equipment
 - d. Poll officials
 - e. Ballots
 - f. Voting sites
 - g. Polling place operations
 - h. Alternative voting (mail, early, etc.)

Orlando, Florida
August 17-18, 2010

(Please use a separate form for each person registering)

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____

Please register me for the following course: (Check only one)

Non-Member.....	\$439.00
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Non-Member.....	\$439.00
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Non-Member.....	\$439.00
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Non-Member.....	\$439.00
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Registration and check received by the Conference Office after July 31, 2010 or on site*, add \$100 to above fees. *Security requires all students to wear Election Center name badges to enter the classroom. If you choose to register at the class you may be delayed up to two hours in order to process your registration, in which case you may not receive credit for the class. Sorry, we cannot invoice or accept credit cards.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Written cancellation stating reason for same must be received by the conference office **no later than July 31, 2010** in order to receive full credit toward a class, workshop or conference to be used during the next calendar year less a \$50 processing fee. There will be no credit given for cancellations on or after August 1, 2010.

The Election Center
Conference Office
P.O. Box 965
Elk Grove, CA 95759

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ALLIGATOR AIRBOAT ADVENTURE **AND WINTER PARK BOAT TOUR**

Saturday, August 21, 20109:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Come along with us on a very interesting and unique tour. We will be spending a large part of the day on a very comfortable and well-air conditioned bus and on the water. Let me tell you about it.

Imagine seeing the world in a whole new light. This excursion will take us into the seldom-visited heart of natural Florida. It all begins at this 100 year old out post – A turn of the century fish camp.

We will travel by airboat into pristine sections of fresh water marshes and up river, into the bald-cypress swamp; home of the Florida Alligator, American Bald Eagle and a huge assortment of wildlife. We will also see a marvelous assortment of birds, reptiles and plants – some endangered, some threatened, and a few native species found in this area. We will board the air boats to experience The American Heritage River and its abundant wildlife. Each airboat is driven by a Coast Guard Licensed boat captain. This is a soft adventurous tour without the dirt or danger. Snack time will consist of some Gator Bites (yes, I said Gator Bites) and a soft drink.

We will then board the bus and head out to Winter Park, Florida. This area was originally developed for wealthy Northerners as a summer retreat. We will enjoy approximately two hours in the Park Avenue shopping district where the Southern charm that lured the elite society can still be seen here. Picturesque shops, boutiques, cafes, brick-lined streets and the towering trees that make up the place to be and be seen. We can browse the exclusive boutiques and art galleries filled with one-of-a-kind treasures, as well as stores bearing the names of your favorite designers. You will also be able to pick out a café for your lunch.

After lunch, we will be taking a 45 minute pontoon boat ride that glides through canals and tree lined lakes. We will view beautiful homes nestled along beautiful lakes and observe nature. It's really the only way to see the true beauty of Winter Park which includes Rollins College, Kraft Azalea Gardens, Isle of Sicily, tropical birds, plants, flowers and magnificent mansions.

Hope to see you there! Don't forget the camera!

RESERVATION FORM POST CONFERENCE TOUR

ALLIGATOR AIRBOAT ADVENTURE AND WINTER PARK BOAT RIDE

August 21, 2010

Please complete this form and return with payment to:

The Election Center
Conference Office
P.O. Box 965
Elk Grove, CA 95759

Number of people attending _____ x \$75 = _____ (enclosed)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: Work: _____ Home: _____
(FOR EMERGENCIES)

FAX: _____

Dress cool, casual and comfortable. Bring your camera.

RESERVATION DEADLINE
July 9, 2010

In the past, these trips have always **sold out** and tickets may not be available
after July 9 2010. Sign up now!

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

HOTEL PARKING

Overnight Valet Parking\$20 for 24 hours
Self Parking..... Complimentary

TRANSPORTATION

Mears Shuttle\$20 one-way, \$33 Round Trip
407-423-5566

Taxi (One way) Approximately \$70

Town Car - Meet and Greet\$58, plus tip
407-423-5566

Hertz (Airport or Hotel) Daily from \$39, Weekly from \$149
800-654-2240

Use Code CV#04KW0001

PLEASE NOTE DEADLINES:

Alligator Airboat Adventure & Winter Park Boat Ride.. July 9, 2010

Hyatt Grand Cypress July 26, 2010

Conference and Classes..... July 31, 2010

IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE:

Security requires all attendees to wear Election Center name badges to enter the meeting rooms and exhibit area. If you choose to register at the conference or for a class, you may be delayed up to two hours in order to process your registration.

Sorry, we cannot invoice or accept credit cards.

RESERVATION FORM

EVENING EVENT

DINNER AND BEACH PARTY

August 19, 2010

ADDITIONAL TICKETS: One Ticket is included in your registration fee. If you would like additional tickets, please use this form.

Please reserve _____ additional tickets for the event at \$75 each.

Total enclosed: \$ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: Work: _____ Home: _____

(FOR EMERGENCIES)

FAX: _____

ATTIRE: Beach Attire (shorts, sandals, etc.)

Please send this completed form and check for additional tickets to:

The Election Center
Conference Center
P.O. Box 965
Elk Grove, CA 95759

For additional information, please call Pat Hawkins at (916) 686-7928.

FUTURE ELECTION CENTER **CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS**

2011

January 6-7	JEOLC The Fairfax at Embassy Row Washington, DC
February 16-20	Special Workshop Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Phoenix, AZ CERA Classes #7, #8, #21
April TBA	Special Workshop Hotel TBA, Indianapolis, IN CERA Classes #9, #10, #22
May TBA	Auburn University Auburn, AL CERA Classes TBA
July TBA	CERA Summer Session Sanibel Harbor Resort Ft. Myers, FL CERA Classes #1, #2, #3, #4, #5
August 16-20	27th Annual National Conference Hyatt Regency on the Riverwalk San Antonio, TX Classes #11, #12,, #22, #24

2012

January 5-6	JEOLC The Fairfax on Embassy Row Washington, DC
February TBA	Special Workshop Hotel TBA San Diego, CA CERA Classes #1, #2, #23
April TBA	Special Workshop Hotel TBA City TBA CERA Classes #3, #4, #24
May TBA	Auburn University Auburn, AL CERA Classes TBA
July TBA	CERA Summer Session Sanibel Harbor Resort Ft. Myers, FL CERA Classes #6, #7, #8, #9, #10
August 14-18	28th Annual National Conference Boston Park Plaza and Towers Boston, MA CERA Classes #5, #6, #13, #25

Why be a member of the Election Center?

The Election Center is the voter registration and elections community's only full-time professionally staffed organization dedicated solely to voter registration and election administration. The Center, also known as the **National Association of Election Officials**, serves members and nonmembers in inquiries about elections and voter registration laws at national and state levels. Additionally, The Election Center tracks Congressional changes and relays that information immediately to those in elections and voter registration administration. It is a nonprofit, IRS 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to education and service for the elections and voter registration profession to improve administration of the election process.

The Center keeps track of proposed rules and regulations and how they affect our jobs and our profession. In recent years, The Election Center was responsible for:

- The U.S. Postal Service creating an "Official • Elections Mail" logo to distinguish official voter information from campaign materials;
- Getting the Postal Service to establish a program • for better use of rates and services including bulk mail for elections;
- Providing the voice for the elections profession in • election reform;
- Alerting us when the U.S. Congress has held • hearings on issues affecting the way we do our jobs, such as the Help America Vote Act, and alternative voting issues, and assisting with legislation related to voters with special needs;
- Keeping us informed on Social Security legislation and which eventually resulted in Congress approving an exemption from Social Security taxes on our part-time elections/registration workers;
- Letting us know through its Email Alert system of legislation which affects our ability to do our jobs; and to stay on top of the legislation as it proceeds through the system so that we can have our say when it is appropriate;
- The creation of the profession's national Code of Ethics;
- Establishment of the Professional Certification Program to recognize professional development, which leads to the status of Certified Election/ Registration Administrator (CERA), the nation's highest professional designation;
- Establishment of certification program for individual states leading to Registered Election Official (REO);
- Establishment of the Professional Practices Papers representing the best of the administrative ideas in elections;
- Establishment of the Election Preparation Checklist series;
- Calling positive attention to the dedicated men and women of this profession;
- Creation of the Elections Hall of Fame.

Support

In recent years, our profession has been under attack by partisans and activists who question the professionalism and honesty of those in the elections community. It has been The Election Center providing the voice of reason and providing programs to demonstrate our professional skills and accomplishments.

There are many services offered by The Election Center that have served the elections community well over a number of years. The real reason that you should join, however, is that for an organization like The Election Center to exist it needs members of the profession to support it. The Center is the focal point for voter registration and election administration.

Services, while needed and worthwhile, are secondary to the importance of having a dedicated, fulltime staff operation that looks out for our best interests. Due to the concentrated effort of The Center, we now have a full fledged continuing education program for voter registration and elections officials.

The Professional Education Program is affiliated with Auburn University, one of the nation's outstanding academic institutions. Due to staff effort, we know almost immediately whenever there is a bill that will affect our profession or our daily responsibilities. Due to staff effort, attention is called to proposed regulations **before** they become final-giving us the chance to respond, to influence and to modify the process before final regulations.

Thanks to the Election Center staff, we are now the correct people to contact or work with in Congress whenever there is an issue that affects us. Thanks to the staff, we know whom to contact in various departments or agencies and how better to achieve a resolution to our problems. Thanks to the staff, we know whom to talk to across the country facing problems similar to ours.

All of these benefits are not possible without a full-time staff operation to serve our needs and that's why we need to support The Election Center. It should be automatic that we send \$350 a year or more to The Center, just as a sustaining effort. All of us have been through budget crunches, but this is one area where we **cannot** cut; the value to our profession is just too great.

Most officials don't realize how good we have had it. Let us share with you: The Election Center has not raised its membership fees in its existence. Yet the cost of everything has gone up in the last 20 years. Your contribution to The Election Center, at whatever level you are sending, *buys less than half* of what it did 20 years ago.

During that time, The Center has offered us the most thorough, complete, and detailed conferences and workshops in existence for elections and voter registration officials. They have kept their promise to us of offering the most substantive programs available anywhere for those in our profession. That's why we owe it to them to be supportive year after year after year. Additionally, we need to tell others about The Center and its value to our profession.

It's also why you ought to join The Election Center this year at whatever level you feel you can. See the enrollment form for the levels of membership and the kinds of services received by each level. Regardless of your choice of membership, you can't go wrong if you support the only nonprofit organization serving our profession. We encourage you to take immediate action to send in your membership now. We each need to ask our neighboring officials to join and help **support our organization**.

Once you have determined the level of support you can offer, make it automatic **that this one expense stays in your budget no matter what**. You will be glad you did. Our profession will be glad you did. With your support, The Election Center will be around for another 10 years to lead us to the next level of commitment to our communities, to our nation, and to the support of democracy. Can there be any more noble cause?

For more information about new programs and continuing programs being offered by The Election Center visit our website at www.electioncenter.org. You will see the nature of service that is being planned for the next couple years. Service costs money, and in order to improve the services we **need** your membership. Join today! Use the enrollment form and help support you profession. Keep you voice heard through your support.

Benefits and Services

The Election Center is the professional association for city, county or state government individuals working in voter registration or elections administration. It is through the Election Center that professional certification as a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) or Certified Elections/Registration Vendor (CERV) can be earned. Membership in The Election Center not only sustains a professional staff operation dedicated to your profession, it also entitles members to certain benefits and services. Those services and each level of membership are described on the next page.

All members of the Blue, Silver, State, Gold, and Platinum levels receive discounts on all fees for special workshops and conferences and substantial discounts on tuition for the Professional Education Program classes. The savings of joining as a member will more than pay the cost of membership: the savings of one special workshop, one conference and four Professional Education Program courses per year, will potentially save a member more than \$500 per year and, depending on level of membership, could save \$1,000 or more. Membership is for one year beginning with the date of your first payment; renewals date from your original anniversary date, not from the date of any subsequent payments.

Each level of membership is entitled to name associate members; associates are entitled to member discounts on all Election Center program offerings including the Professional Education Program, special workshops and conferences. See description of individual membership levels to determine number of free associates (if any). Additional associate members can be obtained at \$50 each. Associate Members *must* be tied to a principal member.

Professional Education Program The most extensive, comprehensive, and finest continuing education program available for elections and voter registration officials. The program offers continuing education credits from Auburn University. Additionally, the program can lead to certification as a **Certified Elections Registration Administrator** (CERA) upon the successful completion of the program requirements. Reduced tuition to the Professional Education Program is available to all members.

Email Alert™ are The Election Center's specialized information services which alert members to pending legislation in Congress and then tracks the progress of that legislation; proposed regulations from departments or agencies; important news affecting elections and voter registration officials. Also included are Action Items requiring immediate attention, or nationwide surveys of administrative or legal practices on specific issues. This service is automatically part of Silver, State, Gold and Platinum levels and limited service is provided at the Blue level.

JobBank™ offers government offices the opportunity to list jobs with The Election Center for inclusion on our website and for distribution to our members nationally. The job posting service allows members to see what other jurisdictions are doing, to see salary ranges being paid throughout the nation and provides individual professionals with an ability to utilize their skills nationally. This single service alone is helping to shape skills and pay improvements nationally.

EC Surveys™ has been expanded to offer additional survey opportunities. Election Center Surveys have long been a great source of information and answers to problems encountered by voter registration and elections officials. The Election Center surveys all states or a selected distribution of other local elections officials to determine what other officials are doing about various issues, laws or regulations related to registration and elections. Quick information exchange surveys are free to Silver, State, Gold and Platinum levels. Corporate members and Blue level are charged for surveys. More extensive surveys which require more time to compile and analyze are available on a fee charged basis.

EC Consultants is the newest, and potentially one of the most valuable, services ever offered to members. We offer members the opportunity to have an internal review of their operations by a consulting unit from The Election Center. The consultant(s) can be arranged to provide a total review of all office operations; a review of a specific area of operations; a technology team to study ways to update technology usage; or a peer review program to study the personal management style of operations and make recommendations. This service is a fee based service. While it is not free to any level of membership, the costs of such consulting is a savings over the cost of other outside consultants and with people who know this profession. Call the Consulting Office at 916-524-7700 for details.

THE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP

PLATINUM MEMBER OR STATE PLATINUM MEMBER: \$1,200 PER YEAR - A Platinum Member can attend all Election Center workshops and conferences free of charge. This is restricted to the primary Platinum Member. Additionally, the Platinum Member is eligible for member discounts on tuition in the Professional Education Program. Members at this level can name up to 10 associate members at no additional charge, with the only stipulation that they work directly for, and are employed by, the principal member. Other services as noted above.

CORPORATE MEMBER: \$800 PER YEAR - Open to vendors who offer goods or services to the election and voter registration profession. Includes one principal member and one free Corporate Associate Member. Additional Corporate Associate Memberships can be purchased for \$80 per person per year.

GOLD MEMBER OR STATE GOLD MEMBER: \$750 PER YEAR - Members at this level are entitled to two complimentary associate members. The Gold Member can attend one conference or workshop free of charge each year. Full Email Alerts™ service is provided. Discounts are offered for the Professional Education Program and all other Election Center services. Other services as described in ALL MEMBERS section.

STATE MEMBER: \$350 PER YEAR - This is the entry level for members from state governments. Because services for states are more extensive and costly, Blue level is not available to states. State memberships are also available in **State Gold and State Platinum**. levels and have the same benefits and services as listed here under Gold or Platinum levels.

SILVER MEMBER: \$350 PER YEAR - One complimentary associate member plus Email Alerts™, EC Surveys™ plus discounts on all conferences, workshops, and tuition for the Professional Education Program. Other services as described in ALL MEMBERS section.

BLUE MEMBER: \$150 PER YEAR - Limited Email Alerts™, plus availability of EC Surveys™ plus discounts on all conferences, workshops and the tuition for the Professional Education Program. Associate membership available at \$50 each. Availability of other services as described in ALL MEMBERS section.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: \$50 PER YEAR OR CORPORATE ASSOCIATE MEMBER AT \$80 PER YEAR. There is no single Associate membership level. Associate membership can only be obtained by being tied to a principal member. Discounts provided to Associate Members as explained in the ALL MEMBERS section above. Associates have the same renewal date as the primary member regardless of when associate member joins.

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Membership is for one year beginning with the date of receipt of your original check. Renewal will be based on the original anniversary date, not on the date of subsequent payment. Associate Membership is available only to those who have a principal member in one of the approved membership categories; it cannot be obtained as a separate status.

☐ PLATINUM MEMBER: \$1200

☐ GOLD MEMBER: \$750

☐ SILVER MEMBER: \$ 350

☐ BLUE MEMBER: \$150

☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBER: \$50

☐ CORPORATE MEMBER: \$800

☐ CORPORATE ASSOCIATE MEMBER: \$80

☐ STATE MEMBER: \$350

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED \$_____

☐ SEND INVOICE

☐ ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION:\$_____

Name: _____Title: _____

County or Jurisdiction (or Employer) Name: _____

Address: _____City: _____State _____ZIP _____

Phone: (____) _____Fax: _____E-Mail: _____

Return to:
The Election Center 12543 Westella, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77077 Phone: 281-293-0101
Fax: 281-293-0453 E-Mail: services@electioncenter.org

Note to accounting offices:
The Election Center Federal Tax ID # is 54-1578880, a nonprofit (exempt) 501 (c) (3) corporation. This form serves in lieu of IRS form W-9 or any form requesting Taxpayer ID. *Please* help us to cut down on wasted manpower, time and paper; mark your records that Taxpayer ID has been provided.

.....to contact The Election Center

National Office

12543 Westella, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77077

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FAX (281) 293-0453 or
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Consulting Office:

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Published by
Sierra Copy and Printing
Sacramento, California 95821



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