**News Release**

Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections

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**Candidate Information Workshop for March 2020 Primary**

A workshop to review the candidate filing requirements and election processes for persons interested in running for an office on the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election ballot will be held on Tuesday, September 17, at 6 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors’ Chambers at the County Government Center, 701 Ocean St., 5th Floor, in Santa Cruz.

The Santa Cruz County Clerk will have Candidate’s Handbooks available for persons interested in running for office. The Candidate’s Handbook is also available online at [www.votescount.com](http://www.votescount.com/) along with information regarding who has already filed candidacy documents and a candidate checklist.

The County Clerk will review the steps and deadlines a person must follow to place his or her name on the primary ballot. In addition, the County Clerk will answer questions about voter registration, voting by mail, campaign filing, and other campaign practices and laws.

Offices up for election on March 3, 2020 include the following federal, state, and local offices:

* 18th and 20th Congressional Districts,
* 17th State Senate District,
* 29th and 30th State Assembly Districts,
* County Supervisors: 1st, 2nd and 5th Districts,
* 7 Superior Court Judges, and
* County Central Committees/Council for the qualified political parties.

The period to collect signatures in-lieu of the filing fee will open on September 12 and close on November 6. Judicial candidates must file a Declaration of Intent and pay their filing fee between October 28 and November 6, so their Signature In-Lieu Petitions must be filed before they file their Declaration of Intention. Candidate filing for all candidates opens November 11 and closes December 6. Deadlines are extended if the incumbent does not file. Election deadlines are very strict, and candidates interested in running for office are encouraged to attend our Candidate Information Night to obtain all the necessary information. Interested persons may also come to the Santa Cruz County Clerk’s Office, located at 701 Ocean Street, Room 310 to learn about running for office.

For more information, please call the Elections Department at 831-454-2060 or visit our website at [www.votescount.com](http://www.votescount.com/) .