

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: Elections in Marin: Cheaper by Mail?

Report Date: June 18, 2013

Response by: Marin County Board of Supervisors

FINDINGS

- We agree with the findings numbered: F1; F2; F3.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendation number 1 has been implemented.
- Recommendations numbers 2 and 3 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

Date: July 30, 2013

Signed: _____

Marin County Board of Supervisors
Response to Findings and Recommendations from Grand Jury Report
“Elections in Marin: Cheaper by Mail?”

FINDINGS

- F1. The Marin County Elections Department is well managed with a small staff and encourages public input through the Election Advisory Committee.**

Response: Agree.

- F2. Although 100% VBM in Marin County for general elections would save the County money, California’s current election laws prohibit 100% VBM for general elections.**

Response: Agree.

- F3. Statewide 100% VBM elections, such as those in Oregon and Washington, are unlikely in the near to intermediate future in California because VBM usage in California is substantially lower than in Oregon and Washington.**

Response: Agree.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012-2013 Marin County Civil Grand Jury recommends that:

- R1. The Board of Supervisors encourage our elected representatives in the State Legislature to allow individual counties to adopt 100% VBM for all elections.**

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The Marin County Board of Supervisors has taken a position to support allowing individual counties to adopt 100% VBM for all elections in its annual legislative plan.

- R2. If the State adopts 100% VBM provisions at the discretion of each county, then the Board of Supervisors seek recommendations from**

the Registrar of Voters and the Election Advisory Committee whether or not to pursue 100% VBM.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented if state law is adopted to allow this option.

R3. The Board of Supervisors acknowledge the significant contribution of election volunteers at Agenda Meetings subsequent to each general election.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. After each general election, the Registrar of Voters will submit a resolution to the Board of Supervisors acknowledging the significant contribution of election volunteers.