

Guest Column: How to Vote the S.A.F.E. Way

May 16, 2022



All registered voters in Del Norte County have received their ballot in the mail. Many voters are rightfully worried about the integrity of the election. The first step in securing the vote... is to vote! Here's how to do so quickly and legally, and how you can track your ballot to make sure it's counted.

Just follow the S.A.F.E. Method:

SEND:

Mail in or drop off your ballot on Day 1 of the election. Don't forget to sign the envelope in the designated area. Drop off in person at the Registrar's office at 981 H St, Suite 160, or at a secured drop box at the Del Norte Senior Center, 1765 Northcrest Dr. Do NOT wait until Election Day, the sooner you get it in the better.

AUDIT:

Track and verify your vote was 1) received and 2) counted online at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov. Check often until your vote is counted and verified.

FIX:

No later than Friday the 13th, your ballot must be in the mail to you. If your ballot doesn't arrive within a reasonable period of time (– no more than five days after mailing – DO NOT WAIT. Visit the registrar's office and report your ballot missing. Request your ballot to be canceled and a new one will be issued.

EXAMINE:

Volunteer to monitor the count of ballots or work at a polling location. Contact Del Norte County Registrar Alissia Northrup at the Registrar of Voter's office, 981 H St, Suite 160, or call 707-464-7216.

If you decide to wait until Election Day to vote, there are a few ways. The easiest way is to drop off your completed ballot at any polling location. Make sure it is placed in the envelope provided and sealed.

Don't forget to sign the envelope in the designated area.

If you prefer the traditional way, bring the ballot you received in the mail with you to your polling location. Surrender that ballot to the poll worker for a new one. You can then cast your vote with that ballot inside the voting booth at the polling station.

Remember, if you have lost your ballot, contact the Registrar of Voter's office immediately to have your lost ballot cancelled, and to obtain a replacement ballot.

By using the S.A.F.E. way, you can secure your vote and protect the integrity of our election. If you want to help or have questions, contact the Del Norte Republicans at 707-464-6966 or at www.delnorterepublicans.org.

Ms. Sanders is chair of the Del Norte County Central Committee