Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

RECOGNIZING THE STAFF OF THE COUNTY CLERK-ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has established an employee recognition program to publicly show support to employees for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the residents of the County of Santa Cruz; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 our community was faced with monumental challenges including the COVID-19 global pandemic, as well as the CZU Lightning Complex fires; and

WHEREAS, each County Department employee deserves recognition for their dedication to continue providing uninterrupted services to the public and in many cases support our local residents during this time as Disaster Service Workers; and

WHEREAS, staff in the County Clerk-Elections Department hosted voter outreach meetings through Zoom to provide information about the November 3, 2020 election and the changes that were being made to conduct it safely, and mobile voting units brought voting to all areas of the County including communities that were impacted by the CZU Lightning Complex fires as well as to the hospitals, senior living, and senior care facilities where voters were not able to access voting easily; and

WHEREAS, staff implemented a voter service center model which involved mailing a ballot to every registered voter and providing in-person voting locations with extended hours to help "flatten the voting curve" and encourage voters to vote in ways other than in person on Election Day; and

WHEREAS, staff worked with the Information Services Department to set up a voter hotline staffed by County employees which involved creating a special conference line that rolled the voter hotline calls to various departments, buildings, and phone systems, and setting up restricted access to the voter registration database for the hotline operators to use to obtain information and help direct the voter.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bruce McPherson, Chair of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, hereby honor and recognize the staff of the County Clerk-Elections Department for their dedicated service on behalf of the County of Santa Cruz.

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Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

February 23, 2021

Date