

## From R. Doug Lewis, Executive Director

The 2006 election may be the most stressful election cycle in modern history. HAVA changed the elections landscape and added so many new requirements. Virtually every election process has changed – some major changes, some less so. Voter groups and partisans continue to challenge election officials. How can you best protect yourself? What are the best methods for accomplishing the new requirements? You need to be in Chicago this summer to know if you are on the right course and to learn what additional resources are available to you.

**C**hicago. Third largest city in America and largest city in the Midwest. A modern American city with the charm of old world Europe with its wonderful diversity of ethnic neighborhoods. Chicago offers a rich heritage of restaurant choices with such a variety it could be the United Nations of eating out. Conference attendees get what has been termed “the best value in elections or voter registration conferences.” 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 of our Professional Education Courses (you can only take one since they run concurrently). During the conference you will get to hear the latest in legislation, court cases, current issues, and trends in elections and voter registration; our successful Professional Practices Papers presentations where you get to see really innovative programs offered by your colleagues in other jurisdictions; and the awards luncheon recognizing the accomplishments of your peers and those who serve our profession. And at the end of the formal program we offer a low cost optional tour on Saturday.

Attendees will be kept up to date on continuing reform efforts and how they affect elections and possibly lead to legislation. You will want to attend to give your input into what should happen. You will be updated on what the new U.S. Election Assistance Commission is doing and what standards and studies they will be issuing. This is a meeting you cannot afford to miss.

**M****Magnificent Mile**, where our hotel is, offers hundreds of top retailers, including four separate shopping centers. Oak Street is known for its upscale boutiques. And State Street is famous for landmark department stores and the Midwest’s largest jewelry district. **The Magnificent Mile** offers 460 stores in eight city blocks where you can choose from delectable restaurants, unique shops and several museums and galleries to round out your stay on the mile.

Opportunities to get top notch professional program content, combined with an exciting place to visit, are all too rare — so make sure you register early.

This hotel sells out regularly, so you will want to book early. Once our room allocation is filled – or the hotel sells out before our cutoff date – there will be no more rooms, so don’t take a chance by waiting too long. Book the hotel immediately. We have negotiated a terrific rate for our members. If you have questions, please call our Conference Director, Pat Hawkins at 916-686-7928.

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

### **Tuesday, August 15, 2006**

8:00-9:00	Class Registration (Separate Registration For Classes Required)	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Registration
9:00-4:30	Class #5 <b>Ethics in Elections</b> Instructor: Christa Slaton, Ph.D.	Denver/Houston
	Class #6 <b>Communications in Elections</b> Instructor: Doug Lewis	Los Angeles/Miami
	Class #15 <b>Training in Elections</b> Instructor: Robert Montjoy, Ph.D.	Salon A
	Class #19 <b>Election Law-Constitutional Issues</b> Instructor: Clif Perry, Ph.D.	Salon B
12:00-1:30	Lunch (Students only)	Salons F/G/H

### **Wednesday, August 16, 2006**

8:00- 11:00	Courses #5, #6, #15 and #19 Continued	
1:00-5:00	Committee Meetings TBA	TBA
2:00-6:00	Educational Exhibit Area Open	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
3:00-4:00	Elections Legislative Committee	TBA
4:00-8:00	Registration Desk Open	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Registration
6:00-7:30	Welcome Reception Co-Sponsored by: <b>Diebold Election Systems</b>	Chicago Ballroom D

### **Thursday, August 17, 2006**

(All meetings today will be in the Chicago Ballroom D/E)

8:00-5:00	Registration Desk Open	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Registration
8:30-9:00	Continental Breakfast	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
8:00-5:00	Educational Exhibits	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
9:00-9:30	<b><u>Welcome/Announcements</u></b>	
9:30-10:30	<b><u>Help America Vote Act</u></b> Guidelines for Voting System Standards	
10:30-11:00	<b><u>Educational Exhibits</u></b> /Break	5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
11:00-12:00	<b><u>Election Assistance Commission</u></b> Discussion of Projects and Activities	
12:00-12:30	<b><u>National Voter Registration and Elections News</u></b>	
12:30-2:00	No-host lunch	

- 2:00-2:05 **Ethical Dilemma Presentation**
- 2:05-3:30 **Professional Practices Presentations “and the winner is...”**
- 3:30-4:30 **Voter Registration and Elections Legislation**
- 4:30-5:30 **Educational Exhibits**
- 6:00-11:00 Evening on Lake Michigan Odyssey Cruise Ship  
Co-Sponsored by: Sequoia Voting Systems

### **Friday, August 18, 2006**

- 8:00-3:00 Registration Desk Open 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Registration
- 8:00-12:00 Educational Exhibit Area Open 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
- 8:30-9:00 Continental Breakfast 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
- 9:00-10:15 **Concurrent Discussion Groups**
- Breakout #1 **Ethical Dilemma Discussion** Denver/Houston
- Breakout #2 **A Guide to Preparing for An All Mail Election** Los Angeles/Miami
- Breakout #3 **Mastering Media Relations** Kansas City
- Breakout #4 **Challenged Elections and Recounts** Scottsdale
- 10:15-10:45 **Educational Exhibits**/Break 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Foyer
- 10:45-12:30 **Concurrent Discussion Groups**
- Breakout #1 **Election Officials Certification Programs** Denver/Houston
- Breakout #2 **Using Microsoft Project to Manage Elections** Los Angeles/Miami
- Breakout #3 **Corporate Poll Workers** Kansas City
- Breakout #4 **Chicago Elections** Scottsdale
- 12:30-2:30 **Graduation Luncheon and Awards Ceremony**  
Sponsored by: ES & S Chicago Ballroom A/E
- 2:30-4:45 **Concurrent Discussion Groups**
- Breakout #1 **Central Count of Absentee Ballots** Denver/Houston
- Breakout #2 **Partnering with Community Groups** Los Angeles/Miami
- Breakout #3 **Training Poll Workers** Kansas City

### **Saturday, August 19, 2006**

- 9:00-4:00 Chicago Highlights Tour — (See description elsewhere in this booklet)  
(Separate sign up and fee required)

# **THE ELECTION CENTER'S ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Chicago, Illinois  
August 17 – August 18, 2006

## 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 August 3, 2006**

Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate and NACRC ..... \$339

Non-Members ..... \$439

Registration and check received **after August 3, 2006 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 ..... \$439

Non-Members ..... \$539

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 August 3, 2006** 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 3, 2006.

Please return completed form and your check in order to reach the Conference Office by **August 3, 2006** in order to avoid the additional fee to:

The Election Center  
Conference Center  
P.O. Box 965  
Elk Grove, California 95624

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND MAIL THAT REQUIRES A SIGNATURE FOR DELIVERY**

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

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

# Marriott

## CHICAGO DOWNTOWN

### The Election Center Annual National Conference August 14 – August 20, 2006

To receive the special conference rates below, registration for the Election Center is required. Failure to register for the conference could result in forfeiture of room or increase in room rate. To receive the conference rate, use this promotional code:

**ECG2006**

CONVENIENT ONLINE RESERVATIONS CAN ALSO BE MADE:  
<https://marriott.com/reservation/availability.mi?propertyCode=CHIDT&gc=ecgecga>

**All reservations must be accompanied by a first night non-refundable room deposit.**

Deposits can be placed by major credit card, check, or money order payable to  
**THE CHICAGO MARRIOTT.**

Check-out time is 12 noon. Check-in time is 4 P.M.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Hotel does not mail confirmation slips. For your convenience, you may receive either a faxed or e-mailed confirmation directly from the hotel:*

**Submit To:**  
**CHICAGO MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN**  
**540 North Michigan Ave**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60611**

**Reservations Phone Number (800) 228-9290**  
**Reservation fax number: (312) 245-6928**  
**For any other hotel information: (312) 836-0100**

Please reserve ___room(s) for _____person Arrive: _____ (day)                  (date)                  (time) Depart: _____ (day)                  (date)          Check out is 12 Noon	<b>Accommodations</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Singles (1 person) \$155.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles (2 people) \$155.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Triples (3 people) \$175.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Quads (4 people) \$195.00 <b>Room Type Requests:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> King Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Double Beds
<i>Name</i> _____ <i>Organization/Firm:</i> _____ <i>Address:</i> _____ <i>City:</i> _____ <i>Postal Code:</i> _____ <i>State:</i> _____ <i>Country:</i> _____ <i>Phone:</i> _____ <i>Fax:</i> _____ <i>Email address:</i> _____	<b>Please guarantee on the following credit card:</b> Type of card: _____ Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____ <b>Marriott Rewards Number</b> _____ <b>Marriott Elite Status:</b> _____

\* Rates exclusive of state and city room tax (Currently 15.4%)

**Any Special Request/ADA Requirements?    Please list:** \_\_\_\_\_

### RESERVATIONS CUTOFF DATE: July 20, 2006

All reservations received after this date or after the group block has been filled, will be accepted on a space available basis only, at prevailing hotel rates. Please make reservations early for best availability.

# **COURSE #5**

## **ETHICS IN ELECTION AND VOTER REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION**

Instructor: Christa Slaton, Ph.D.,  
Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

Tuesday, August 15, 2006                      9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.  
Wednesday, August 16, 2006                8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

- I. Application of General Concepts & Critical Thinking
  - A. Philosophical Approaches to Ethics
  - B. Theories of Human Nature and the Proper Role of Government
- II. Levels of Ethical Reflection
  - A. Expressive
  - B. Moral Rules
  - C. Ethical Analysis
  - D. Postethical
- III. Ethical Decision-Making
  - A. Application of Ethical Decision-Making Model
  - B. Analysis of Administrative Responsibility
- IV. Exercises: Ethical Problems in Elections/Registration Administration
- V. Review of Codes of Ethics for Public Service
- VI. Review of Principle and Standards of conduct of Elections/Registration Officials

# **COURSE #6**

## **COMMUNICATIONS IN ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION**

Instructor: Doug Lewis,  
The Election Center, Houston, Texas

Tuesday, August 15, 2006

9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday, August 16, 2006

8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

Effective communication with the media, state legislatures, and 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. Topics may include:

- I. Knowing Ourselves and Others
  - A. Thoroughly understanding ourselves
  - B. Defining the publics involvement with our offices
    1. External publics
    2. Internal publics
    3. Administrative and/or budget authorities
- II. Developing a Plan to Effectively Communicate Our Programs
  - A. Methods of reaching
  - B. Defining our objectives
  - C. What course of action
  - D. Four principles of persuasion
- III. Relating to News Media and Public Relations
  - A. Mass media
  - B. Specialized media
  - C. Personal appearances
- IV. Communicating with your Legislature, State Board or Local Government
- V. Internal Communications
  - A. Public relations starts in the office
  - B. The importance of the telephone
- VI. Legal Notifications
- VII. Communications from a Reporter's Viewpoint
- VIII. Developing a News Release and News Conferences (Group Exercise)

**THIS CLASS IS FOR CERA GRADUATES ONLY**

## **COURSE #15**

### **TRAINING IN ELECTIONS: REACHING ALL LEVELS**

Instructor: Robert Montjoy, Ph.D.,  
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana

Tuesday, August 15, 2006

9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday, August 16, 2006

8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

- I. Training adults to increase performance:  
Principles from education and industry.
- II. Applications of training principles to differentiate groups in elections.
  - a. Staff
  - b. Poll workers
  - c. Candidates
  - d. Voters
- III. Class exercise.

**STUDENTS: Please bring examples of training materials that you use.**



**THIS COURSE IS FOR CERA GRADUATES ONLY**

**COURSE #19**

**ELECTION LAW–CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES**

Instructor: Clif Perry, Ph.D.,  
Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

Tuesday, August 15, 2006

9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday, August 16, 2006

8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

This course is an advanced CERA course that builds on fundamental constitutional principles presented in Course X: Election Law. It explores issues that affect the elections process, which range from who gets on the ballot and to what happens in a contested presidential election that pits federal constitutional issues against state statutes and state constitutional issues. The course will highlight some of the most significant U.S. Supreme Court decisions in recent decades.

- I. The Who, Why, and How of Ballot Access
  - A. Candidates, Parties, Independents
  - B. Free Speech, Free Association, and Equal Protection Issues
  - C. Connections between Public Financing and Free Speech
- II. Redistricting
  - A. Partisan vs. Racial Gerrymandering
  - B. Equal Protection or Political Question
- III. Bush v. Gore
  - A. Equal Protection Issues
  - B. Federal Issues/Roles
  - C. State Issues/Roles
  - D. Local Issues/Roles

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

Chicago, Illinois  
August 15-16, 2006

**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM**

(Please use a separate form for each person registering)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ (For Emergencies)

Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Course #5: Ethics!**

Platinum, Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate \_\_\_\_\_ \$319.00

Non-Member ..... \_\_\_\_\_ \$419.00

**Course #6: Communications**

Platinum, Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate \_\_\_\_\_ \$319.00

Non-Member ..... \_\_\_\_\_ \$419.00

**Course #15: Training in Elections**

Platinum, Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate \_\_\_\_\_ \$319.00

Non-Member ..... \_\_\_\_\_ \$419.00

**Course #19: Election Law—Constitutional Issues**

Platinum, Gold, Silver, Blue, Associate \_\_\_\_\_ \$319.00

Non-Member ..... \_\_\_\_\_ \$419.00

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **August 3, 2006**

Registration and check received by the Conference Office after August 3, 2006 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 August 3, 2006** 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 4, 2006.

Please mail this form and check to reach the Conference Office before **August 3, 2006**

to: The Election Center  
Conference Office  
P.O. Box 965  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND MAIL THAT REQUIRES A SIGNATURE FOR DELIVERY**

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

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

# **CHICAGO HIGHLIGHTS TOUR**

**Saturday, August 19, 2006 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

For a true view of what's happening in Chicago from down in the streets to high in the sky, come along on a narrated highlights tour. We will be introduced to the architectural wonders, dynamic sculpture and breathtaking skyline of this World Class City. We will see such marvels as the tallest building on the North American Continent – Sears Tower and the EL tracks as they wind their way through The Loop as the center of the city is called. The guide will tell us about the spectacular sculptures and buildings as you discover this city's exciting diversity of art and architectural styles.

We will travel along some of the 26 miles of uninterrupted shoreline, see Chicago's inviting harbors, watch the city as it seems to rise out of Lake Michigan and drive through the Museum Campus where the guide will point out the Adler Planetarium, the Shedd Aquarium and Oceanarium, the Field Museum of Natural History and Soldier Field. A special stop will be made at Planetarium Point for the perfect photo opportunity of the spectacular skyline of Chicago.

Our tour will include the campus of the University of Chicago, the Hyde Park and Kenwood neighborhoods, Robie House (designed by Frank Lloyd Wright), Rockefeller Chapel and the Museum of Science and Industry which is the only building left from the great Columbian Exposition of 1892.

The new "South Side" is growing rapidly, but there are still remnants of the way life used to be in the city and our guide will tell us the stories of Glessner House and Clark House (the oldest home in Chicago). If time permits, we will circle the campuses of the Illinois Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois and Hull House.

After a stop for lunch, we will go back into the heart of the city and enjoy a trip through Millennium Park, the newest addition to Chicago's lakefront. We will see the enormous stainless steel sculpture called Cloud Gate which is affectionately known as The Bean. The Pritzker Band shell with seating in the great lawn for 4,000 people is amazing! We will walk over Columbus Drive on the only bridge designed by the famous architect, Frank Gehry.

The final stop on our trip through Chicago will be at the Observatory of the John Hancock Building on North Michigan Avenue. Everyone can enjoy the view from on high of what they have been introduced to down on the streets.

**WHAT A GREAT WAY TO ORIENT YOURSELF  
TO FRIENDLY AND FABULOUS CHICAGO!**

RESERVATION FORM  
CONFERENCE TOUR

***Chicago Highlights!***

**August 19, 2006**

Please complete this form and return with payment to:

The Election Center  
Conference Office  
P.O. Box 965  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Number of people attending \_\_\_ x \$52\* = \_\_\_\_\_ (enclosed)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE:

Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

(FOR EMERGENCIES)

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

\*A lunch stop will be provided. There will be a variety of places to eat. The price of your lunch is not included in the tour fee.

**RESERVATION DEADLINE**  
**July 14, 2006**

In the past, these trips have always **sold out** and tickets may not be available **after July 14, 2006. Sign up now!**

# MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

## HOTEL PARKING

Valet Parking	\$35.00 per day
Self Parking	\$22.00 per day

## TRANSPORTATION

(All fares shown are one way and are approximate)

Airport Express from Midway Airport .....	\$20.00
Airport Express from O'Hare Airport .....	\$25.00
Taxi from Midway Airport .....	\$25.00 to \$35.00
Taxi from O'Hare Airport .....	\$40.00 to \$50.00

## DOOR PRIZES

If you would like to donate items to be given away by drawing at the Graduation Luncheon, please leave them with Pat Hawkins at the Conference Registration Desk.

(Please make sure they have your name on each item so that your gift can be acknowledged.)

### **PLEASE NOTE DEADLINES:**

Chicago Highlights Tour .....	July 14, 2006
Marriott Chicago Downtown.....	July 20, 2006
Conference and Classes .....	August 3, 2006

# An Evening on Lake Michigan

(This event is being co-sponsored by **Sequoia Voting Systems**  
and *The Election Center* for attendees)

August 17, 2006

**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 \$86 each.

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

(FOR EMERGENCIES)

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUGGESTED ATTIRE:** Cocktail Dresses or Pant Suits for the Ladies.  
Suits or Sport Coats and Slacks for the Gentlemen. **No jeans, shorts or athletic shoes PLEASE.**

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

The Election Center  
Conference Center  
P.O. Box 965  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

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

## **W**hy be a member of The Election Center?

The Election Center is the voter registration and elections community's only full-time professionally staffed organization in existence. The Center 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 FaxCast and Email Alert systems 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;
- ★ 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.

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, full-time 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 know 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.

**A**ll 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 too great. Most officials don't realize how good we've 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 more than 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. Please review and sign the enrollment form today and send it along with your check. 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 20 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?

Ernest Hawkins  
Former Voter Registrar  
Sacramento County, California

Alice Miller  
DC Board of Elections  
Washington, DC

Julie Pearson  
Pennington County Auditor  
Rapid City, South Dakota

Dr. Robert Montjoy  
Professor  
University of New Orleans

Brook Thompson  
Director of Elections  
State of Tennessee

Doug Lewis  
Executive Director  
The Election Center

Join The Center today. Use the enrollment form and help support your profession. Keep your voice heard through your support.

## **MEMBERSHIP IN THE ELECTION CENTER (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELECTION OFFICIALS)**

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 below:

### **ALL MEMBERS**

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.

**FaxCast™ & 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 Center for details.

**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 offers goods or services to the election and voter registration profession. Includes on principal member and one free Corporate Associate Member. Additional Corporate Associate Memberships can be purchased for \$75 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 FaxCast™ 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 her under Gold or Platinum levels.

**SILVER MEMBER: \$350 PER YEAR** – One complimentary associate member plus FaxCast™ , 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 FaxCast™, 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 \$75 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.

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## MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Membership is for one year beginning with the date of receipt of your original check. Renewals will be based on the original anniversary date, not on 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**  
 **STATE MEMBER \$350**                               **SILVER MEMBER: \$350**  
 **BLUE MEMBER: \$150**                               **ASSOCIATE MEMBER: \$50**  
 **CORPORATE ASSOCIATE MEMBER \$75**  
 CHECK ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_  SEND INVOICE  
 **ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County or Jurisdiction**  
**(or Employer) Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Note to accounting office:**

The Election Center Federal Tax ID # is 54-1578880, a non-profit (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.