

Hello – My name is Joyce Abela and I **reside in District 4 in the City of Palm Desert.**

This is my first time working the polling sites, as well as presenting in this forum today.

I have so much to say with my observations but do understand there's a time limit – Hence I've written **bullet points without fully elaborating my observations and/or concerns and would appreciate an opportunity to schedule a meeting to discuss this further.**

Changes NEED to be made and I'm not referring to any political party. The INTERNAL operational process of voting within the Riverside Registrar of Voters is broken. The process needs to be re-engineered and ALL THE voting sites throughout Riverside County MUST be consistent within the internal operational process. PERIOD.

I have re-engineering experience background and have begun to write a few ideas if you're interested in hearing them. I've been in various leadership positions in my previous careers.

Isn't overdue to take voting seriously. With ALL the information YOUR VOTERS have provided to you over the years, what's being implemented regarding securing changes for the upcoming Presidential Election?

From the White House on down the political yellow brick road, citizens have been promised that strict measures will be in place to prevent mass shootings.

I think we can ALL agree on both sides of the political fence that this coming Presidential Election in November will be extremely volatile.

You now have 8 months to strategically prepare for the safety of not only the voters in each voting precinct but also the citizens working after the polls have closed accounting for the process of preparing, counting, and separating the ballots and physically loading the ballots themselves, at night, in their vehicles ... to be delivered to Riverside Registrar of Voters Headquarters.

Please do NOT explain to the voters that the Police Force is overworked and/or there's limited resource within the Police Department. There are other resources such as the National Guard, the Military Reserves ... Take responsibility. Be proactive. Prove to us you're resourceful so there won't be innocent voters becoming a mass shooting statistic.

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Training was on THURSDAY 3/3/24 5pm – 8pm via a ZOOM

A representative took role then pressed start to play a fast speaking recorded power point training presentation. Being never worked the polling sites, it was difficult to follow. At the end of training, the representative came back and asked very quickly if there were any questions. I dropped my mouse and quickly retrieved it and was going to ask a question ... by that time she said goodbye and disconnected!

FRIDAY 3/4/24:

I was told a Lead person from Registrar of Voters would contact me for further instruction. It was early afternoon and still no call. I called my recruiter and she said she'll have them call me. About an hour later I received a call and was told to report to my assigned voting site to set up **from 8:30PM to 11:00!** After about 45 minutes I received a missed call, and the caller didn't leave a message. I rarely call back for those calls, but my gut was telling me to. It was the lead that called. She told me to report to the site **at 5:00pm NOT 8:30pm.** I told her I'm glad **that I CALLED my missed call - I would have reported to the site at 8:30PM** Set up was somewhat complete apart from **not having internet connection for the laptops.** The facility had **to lock their doors at 8pm.**

Apparently, there was **no communication and/or arrangements made between a Liaison from the ROV and the polling site management to extend their hours** to allow us to account for the voting ballots each evening before they are dropped off to ROV. Which ended up being **a fiasco on Tuesday 3/5/24 after the polls had ended.**

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SATURDAY 3/4/24

On the first day to vote, the doors at 8am. We had to turn away the voters because we could not process them on the laptops for their information. We had internet connection until approx. 10:45/11:00am. There were a few more glitches but not enough time here to explain.

SUNDAY 3/5/24

Our Lead's did not live within Coachella Valley – they dropped off the ballots at the Riverside ROV location on their way home. I'm not aware of the process between the Leads ballot drop off and the actual ROV site.

Sunday morning the Leads do NOT have the cards to operate the AUV's to vote! Once again, we had to turn away the voters until someone delivered them to our site – approx. 10:00am they arrived.

The Lead was asking ME (my 1st time working the voting polls) how to calculate payroll and overtime and she had no knowledge of our employee ID numbers.

NOTE: Safety Hazard – Several wires were just hanging freely untied in an orderly fashion and exposed so where the public standing in front of the laptop getting registered/verified could easily trip.

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TUESDAY 3/5/24 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Voting ended at 8:00pm. We all worked 16.5 hours straight on election day with lines outside the door.

We were told at 8pm our facility will be locked by 9pm. **WHY was this NOT set up by ROV ahead of time with the facility Manager to have their employee remain on site until all voting poll protocols were complete? There was ample time to plan ahead!**

We needed to break down the polling booths and machines that took an hour by themselves. Then had to sort through and account for all the registrations, count the ballots that were dropped off and count the other assorted scanned ballots!

The obvious fact that our work was not going to be complete in ONE hour, no one in charge took the initiative to contact ROV to contact the facility manager to keep the facility open for us to perform our duties. When I asked our Lead, she didn't want to "bother them".

I took the initiative and told her she MUST call ROV. In the meantime, I spoke with the clerk at the desk and asked her to call HER manager. She said no one was answering.

I then suggested the clerk to call their alarm company to get the name of their contact in case of an emergency at the facility. Too much to explain it was a TOTAL fiasco. I then asked if there was any security ... She made a call. **A man appeared, he had NO credentials and was in plain clothes, no security uniform. She left and he stayed.**

Where's the seriousness of protecting the ballots, let alone the safety of the workers!

10:30pm – work still not completed **HOWEVER the Leads insisted we MUST leave, as per the instructions they were given in their training.**

We all offered to help but were told to leave. **NOW they were two young woman with this individual, I DO NOT and AM NOT passing judgement on his character HOWEVER he had NO CREDENTIALS, and the ladies were there with ALL the VOTER BALLOTS to be packed in their car.**

Counting of Scanned ballots pages 10f 2 and 2 of 2. The final count did not match for each 1 Of 2 page and 2 Of 2 page. This was ON the Primary Election Day.

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BULLET POINTS FROM VOTER COMPLAINTS

- **MANY VOTERS WALKED IN** stating they were mailed either 2 or 3 ballots with their incorrect political party.
 - **Also** – They were mailed ballots for their adult children that haven't lived at that address for several years. (The adult children were also mailed ballots to their OWN current home too) Moved out of state!
 - **The ballot is addressed to a deceased family member.**
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- **DMV has NO business to register voters. PERIOD!**

EVERONE complained there were issues with the voter's ballot when they registered at the DMV.

Voters were REREGISTERING at our site to get their political party corrected.
- **Actual BUBBLES to fill in on the ballot to select candidate or proposition.**

NO ONE could see them, NOT just the senior citizens. THEY were EXTREMELY faint to almost nonexistent.
- **Ballot Envelopes**

Voters were dropping off other people's ballots. I made them sign their names acknowledging they dropped off the ballot on the TOP LEFT side of envelope.

HOW DO WE KNOW they are who they say they are without verification of checking for identification!

BOTTOM LEFT side for OWNER of ballot signature – NOT signed. (I wouldn't accept it – some got defiant and said they'd drop it off in a mailbox then)

Bottom RIGHT side there's an ambiguous sentence voters were questioning, and a name was requested to be printed (who's name the owner of the ballot or the person dropping off another person's ballot) and date.

What's the purpose of the holes in the envelopes.

NOTE: HOW would the ROV know the above situation was happening if the ballots were dropped off in a mailbox?
- **Who validates citizenship upon registration via on-line and/or mail in?**