BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF FRESNO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
ADOPTING AMENDED ELECTION)	
PROCEDURES FOR THE)	
BOARD OF RETIREMENT OF THE)	RESOLUTION
FRESNO COUNTY EMPLOYEES')	
RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION)	19
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WHEREAS, the Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association ("FCERA") is the retirement system for the County of Fresno (the "County"), and for participating governmental employer entities (each a "Special District" or collectively, "Special Districts"), under the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 ("CERL," Gov. Code, § 31450 *et seq.*) and the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 ("PEPRA," Gov. Code § 7522 *et. seq.*);

WHEREAS, the Board of Retirement of FCERA is the governing board of FCERA (the "Board of Retirement");

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno (the "Board of Supervisors") is the board of supervisors of the County;

WHEREAS, Government Code § 31520.1 shall apply to the membership of a board of retirement whose county retirement system membership includes safety members:

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Resolution, FCERA's membership includes general members and safety members;

WHEREAS, under Government Code § 31520.1, the Board of Retirement shall consist of the following members:

A. The first member shall be the County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector;

- B. The second and third members shall be members of FCERA, other than safety members, elected by those members (*i.e.*, general members);
- C. The fourth, fifth, sixth, and ninth members shall be qualified electors of the County who are not connected with the County government in any capacity, except one may be a member of the Board of Supervisors (each a "Supervisor"), and shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors; a Supervisor appointed as a member of the Board of Retirement may not serve beyond his or her term of office as Supervisor;
- D. The seventh member shall be a safety member of FCERA elected by the safety members;
- E. The eighth member shall be a retired member of FCERA elected by the retired members of FCERA;
- F. The alternate member shall be that candidate, if any, for the seventh member from the group under Government Code § 31470.2 or 31470.4, or any other eligible safety member in the County if there is no eligible candidate from the groups under Government Code §§ 31470.2 and 31470.4, which is not represented by a member of the Board of Retirement who received the highest number of votes of all candidates in that group, and shall be referred to as the alternate seventh member;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors' appointment of the Supervisor under Government Code § 31520.1 shall be made pursuant to the Board of Supervisors' policies and procedures for the appointment of any of its members to serve on another public agency's governing board; and

WHEREAS, under Government Code § 31520.5, the Board of Retirement alternate retired member, if any, shall be elected separately by retired members of FCERA in the same manner and at the same time as the eighth member of the Board of Retirement is elected;

WHEREAS, Government Code § 31520.1 permits the Board of Supervisors to determine the manner in which elected members shall be elected to the Board of Retirement;

WHEREAS, under Government Code § 31524, the Board of Retirement's second and third members, seventh member, and, if any, alternate seventh member, shall be employees of the County or a Special District, while they hold such respective offices;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors established the Fresno County
Retirement Board Election Procedure on November 25, 1969, and amended the
Retirement Board Election Procedure on: October 30, 2001; March 1, 2005 (at which
time the Fresno County Retirement Board Election Procedure was renamed as the
Board of Retirement Election Procedures); September 11, 2007; August 11, 2009;
and December 8, 2015 (adding a regular election schedule through 2029);

WHEREAS, as the date of this Resolution, the Board of Retirement has an alternate retired member:

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Resolution, the Board of Retirement does not have an alternate seventh member, but these election procedures shall apply to such an alternate seventh member if and when there should be such a member;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been informed that, on April 3, 2019, the Board of Retirement approved certain further amendments to the Board of Retirement Election Procedures, all of which are incorporated into the Board of Retirement Election Procedures, as set forth below; and

WHEREAS, considering all such proposed further amendments, as approved by the Board of Retirement, the Board of Supervisors further desires to amend the Board of Retirement Election Procedures, as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors adopts these further amended Board of Retirement Election Procedures, which are and shall read as follows:

BOARD OF RETIREMENT ELECTION PROCEDURES

- . <u>Dates of Elections; Officials; Reimbursement of Election Costs.</u>
- A. Regularly-Schedule Elections and Special Elections: Board of Retirement regular elections shall be held on the third Thursday in November for odd election years, and on the third Thursday in August for even election years, except for Special Elections (as defined in Section 1.C, herein) called by the Board of Supervisors under Section 1.C, herein. The Board of Retirement's regular election schedule is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference as Appendix A Election Schedule, and supersedes any prior Board of Retirement's regular election schedule adopted by the Board of Supervisors. These election procedures shall govern all regularly scheduled elections for the Board of Retirement in Appendix A Election Schedule, and all Special Elections for the Board of Retirement Appendix A Election Schedule by amending this Resolution to add future regularly scheduled elections.
- B. County Registrar of Voters Declaration Regarding Election. The County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (the "County Registrar of Voters") may declare that he or she cannot conduct, or complete the conducting of, an election, or the election for a particular member seat, due to any condition, including but not limited to any error, omission, or neglect, or any cause beyond the control of FCERA, including the Board of Retirement, and/or any officer, employee, or agent thereof (the "FCERA Parties"), or the County, including the Board of Supervisors and/or the County Registrar of Voters, and/or any officer, employee, or agent thereof (the "County Parties"), or any Special Districts, including their respective governing boards, and/or any officer, employee, or agent thereof, respectively (the "Special District Parties") that in the determination of the County Registrar of Voters may adversely affect the outcome of the election, or the election for a particular member seat, if the election,

or the election for the particular member seat, were to proceed to completion. If the County Registrar of Voters makes a determination that he or she cannot conduct, or complete the conducting of, a Board of Retirement election, or the election for a particular member seat, under this Section I.B., then:

- 1. The County Registrar of Voters shall declare in writing that he or she cannot conduct, or complete the conducting of, the election, or the election for the particular member seat (and any such declaration concerning the particular member seat only affects that member seat);
- 2. The County Registrar of Voters shall promptly post such declaration, which shall include the condition for such declaration, on its Department website, and provide a copy thereof to the Board of Retirement, the FCERA Retirement Administrator, the Board of Supervisors, and the affected candidates for the election, or the election for the particular member seat, and shall request the Board of Supervisors to call a new Board of Retirement election, or a new election for the particular member seat, which election shall be a Special Election (as defined in Section I.C., herein);
- 3. Any such declaration by the County Registrar of Voters shall be final and conclusive with respect to such condition; and
- 4. The eligibility of members of FCERA to participate in the Special Election called by the Board of Supervisors under Section I.C., herein, shall relate to the Special Election so called without regard to the election for the Board of Retirement, or the election for a particular member seat, that County Registrar of Voters declared that he or she cannot conduct or complete.
- C. <u>Board of Supervisors Call of Special Election</u>. The Board of Supervisors shall, as soon as may be practicable under the circumstances at such time, call for, and set the date of, any Board of Retirement elections to any fill midterm vacancies, or any Board of Retirement election requested by the County Registrar of Voters, under Section I.B.2, herein., or requested by the Retirement

Administrator, under Section IV.F., herein (in either case, a "Special Election," or collectively, "Special Elections").

- D. Officials: The FCERA Retirement Administrator, the FCERA Assistant Retirement Administrator, the FCERA Executive Assistant or the FCERA employee whom the Retirement Administrator certifies in writing to the County Registrar of Voters as the functional equivalent of the FCERA Executive Assistant for purposes of these election procedures, and the FCERA officer who is designated by the Retirement Administrator as the clerk to the Board of Retirement shall be, and each of them acting alone is (each a "FCERA Authorized Officer"), authorized to do any and all things for and on behalf of FCERA under these election procedures, unless the Retirement Administrator is specifically authorized to act hereunder for and on behalf of FCERA. The County Registrar of Voters (including his or her designee where specifically authorized to act hereunder) shall be and is authorized to do any and all things for and on behalf of the County under these election procedures, unless the Board of Supervisors is specifically authorized to act hereunder for and on behalf of the County.
- E. Reimbursement of Election Costs: Pursuant to an agreement entered into by and between FCERA and the County, the County Registrar of Voters shall be reimbursed for all of its election costs by FCERA within forty-five (45) calendar days after any Board of Retirement election referred to herein, or within the time otherwise agreed to between FCERA and the County under the reimbursement agreement.
- II. Types of Elections; Eligible FCERA Membership Classifications.
 - A. <u>Types of Elections</u>: The Board of Retirement shall have two types of elections with separate but comparable election procedures for both types of elections.
 - 1. <u>Active Member Election</u>: One type of election shall be for the second and third members (general members), seventh member (safety member), and, if

any, alternate seventh member (safety member) of the Board of Retirement, who shall be employees of the County or a Special District, as well as be the appropriate membership classification of FCERA for the related Board of Retirement seat number, while they seek election for, and hold, such respective offices (each an "Active Member Election").

- 2. Retired Member Election: The other type of election shall be separate elections that shall be held simultaneously for the retired member and alternate retired member of the Board of Retirement, who shall be retired members of FCERA while they seek election for, and hold, such respective offices, (each a "Retired Member Election").
- B. <u>Classifications of Eligible Members of FCERA</u>: Members of FCERA eligible to participate in a Board of Retirement election are identified and classified as the following types of voters, respectively:
 - 1. "Eligible Active Members" are separately classified within their respective voter classifications:
 - a. "Eligible General Members" are all general members of FCERA who either are employed by the County or a Special District, or have elected in writing to come within the provisions of Article 9 (commencing with Gov. Code, § 31700) of CERL, and on the date of such election was a general member (also known as a "Deferred General Member"), or have otherwise elected in writing under CERL to leave his or her accumulated contributions on deposit with FCERA upon separating from the service of the County or a Special District, and on the date of such election was a general member (also known as an "Inactive General Member"), as of the Eligible Voter Certification Date (as defined in Section VI.C.1., herein); and
 - b. "Eligible Safety Members" are all safety members of FCERA who either are employed by the County or a Special District, or have elected in writing to come within the provisions of Article 9 (commencing with Gov.

Code, § 31700) of CERL, and on the date of such election was a safety member (also known as a "Deferred Safety Member"), or have otherwise elected in writing under CERL to leave his or her accumulated contributions on deposit with FCERA upon separating from the service of the County or a Special District, and on the date of such election was a safety member (also known as a "Inactive Safety Member"), as of the Eligible Voter Certification Date.

- 2. "Eligible Retired Members" are all retired members of FCERA as of the Eligible Voter Certification Date. There shall not be any separate classifications of voters within Eligible Retired Members.
- C. Eligibility to Participate in Elections; One (1) Vote per Eligible FCERA

 Member: A member of FCERA who is eligible to participate in a Board of Retirement election, as provided in Section II.B., herein, may vote only for one (1) candidate who is designated within the same FCERA membership classification to which that eligible member of FCERA belongs as of the Eligible Voter Certification Date (e.g., for an Active Member Election, the eligible member of FCERA may only participate in the appropriate voter classification either as an Eligible General Member or as an Eligible Safety Member, but not both). This "one (1) vote per eligible FCERA member" rule means that a FCERA member's accumulated retirement service credit in the other FCERA member classification (e.g., Eligible Safety Member who has accumulated retirement service credit as a prior general member of FCERA), if any, shall not be considered in the determination of such FCERA members' eligibility to participate in a Board of Retirement election. A person's status as a beneficiary to a member of FCERA, whether living or deceased, does not, in and of itself, make such beneficiary eligible to participate in a Board of Retirement election.
- D. <u>Eligibility to Participate in Elections</u>; <u>Active Member Elections</u>: Eligible Active Members may participate in the election for a member of the Board of Retirement

only within their own classification of FCERA membership either as an Eligible General Member or as an Eligible Safety Member, respectively, as follows:

- 1. An Eligible General Member may participate only in the election of the second and third members (general members) of the Board of Retirement;
- 2. An Eligible Safety Member may participate only in the election of (a) the seventh member (safety member), and (b) the alternate seventh member, if any (safety member), of the Board of Retirement. The alternate seventh member, if any, shall be elected from the group under Government Code § 31470.2 or 31470.4, or any other eligible safety member in the County if there is no eligible candidate from the groups under Government Code §§ 31470.2 and 31470.4, which is not represented by a member of the Board of Retirement who received the highest number of votes of all candidates in that group. If there is no eligible candidate for the alternate seventh member, there may not be an alternate seventh member.
- E. <u>Eligibility to Participate in Elections</u>; <u>Retired Member Elections</u>: Simultaneous elections shall occur for the retired member (eighth member) and the alternate retired member of the Board of Retirement. Eligible Retired Members of FCERA may participate only in the election of retired member (eighth member) and the alternate retired member.
- F. Observing the Election Process: Each candidate, including his or her designated representative, and any member of the public may observe the Retirement Administrator's drawing of lots for the order of placement of eligible candidates' names on the official ballot under Section IV.G., herein, the County Registrar of Voters and his or her designees' undertaking of the pre-count procedures under Section VII.E., herein, and the opening and inspection of Official Return Envelopes and the counting of returned voted official ballots under Sections VII.E. and VII.F., herein, respectively, provided however, (1) each candidate, or his or her designated single representative who is a County employee, but not both,

shall be allowed a reasonable amount of County release time ("County Allowed Time") for such activities and, (2) each candidate, including his or her representative, and members of the public shall not interfere in any way with the Retirement Administrator's drawing of lots for the order of placement of candidates' names on the official ballot, or the County Registrar of Voters' and his or her designees' orderly undertaking of such pre-count procedures and counting, including, but not limited to, the touching or handling of any returned Official Return Envelopes or any returned voted official ballots. Candidates, including their representatives, who are County employees, shall not be allowed any County Allowed Time to obtain nominations or campaign.

- G. <u>Secret Ballots</u>: Each election for the Board of Retirement shall be conducted herein by secret official ballot, and all votes shall be kept secret.
- H. <u>No Write-Ins</u>. Write-in ballots may not be made for any candidates, and write-in votes shall not be counted, in any election for the Board of Retirement.

III. Request for Election.

- A. Requirements. Not later than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days prior to election day (E 120; all references to "E-#" mean election day minus # of calendar days) for a Board of Retirement election, the FCERA Authorized Officer shall provide the following to the County Registrar of Voters for the election:
 - 1. Written Request: Written request for the County Registrar of Voters to conduct the Board of Retirement election that (a) specifies the date of the election either according to Appendix A Election Schedule, or as a Special Election called by the Board of Supervisors under Sections I.C. or IV.F., herein, respectively; (b) specifies the relevant member election, including the related seat number, for the Board of Retirement; (c) includes a confirmation that the County-FCERA cost reimbursement agreement is in effect (See Section I.E., herein); and (d) provides an estimate of the specific number of Official Ballot

Packets (as defined in Section VI.A., herein) that FCERA requests the County Registrar to order for printing in relation to such election; and

2. <u>Election Calendar</u>: Proposed calendar of events for the election, which calendar shall be consistent with these election procedures.

IV. Nomination Process.

- A. <u>Notice of Election</u>: Not later than E-70, FCERA shall provide a written notice of the election ("Notice of Election") to as follows:
 - 1. For Active Member Elections, to each County department, Special District, and recognized employee representation organization having FCERA members employed by the County or a Special District, and to each eligible deferred and inactive FCERA member at the deferred or inactive FCERA member's then-current address on file with FCERA.
 - 2. For Retired Member Elections, which shall be separate elections held simultaneously for the retired member and alternate retired member of the Board of Retirement, (a) to each organization recognized by the Board of Retirement as representing the retired members of FCERA, and (b) for regularly-scheduled Retired Member Elections, to each retired member of FCERA at his or her then-current address on file with FCERA provided that such notice shall be by mailing a flyer (or including information along with or in the monthly benefit statement mailed to each retiree) that provides basic information about the regularly-scheduled Retired Member Elections.
- B. <u>Member Seats</u>: The Notice of Election shall state the following concerning the election for each member seat on the Board of Retirement:
 - 1. Each member seat for which the election is being held, specifying the classification of (*i.e.*, for Active Member Election, specifying either the general member or safety member classification, or for the Retired Member Elections, specifying the retiree classification) and qualifications for the member seat, and

the related seat number, or reference to retiree alternate member, as applicable.

- 2. The term of office for each member seat for which the election is being held.
- 3. Procedures for submissions of nominations and candidate's certification thereof and candidates' statements, including deadlines for submissions thereof, the date of the election to be held, and the time period for the pre-count and counting of returned voted official ballots, all of which shall comply with these election procedures.
- C. <u>Nominee and Office Holder Qualifications</u>: Each nominee and office holder shall meet the following qualifications, as applicable:
 - 1. For the Active Member Election:
 - a. The nominee who is a general member of FCERA may be elected and hold office only as the second or third member of the Board of Retirement, provided that, at all relevant times, he or she shall be an employee of the County or a Special District, and remain (a) employed by the County or a Special District, and (b) in the classification of a general member of FCERA.
 - b. The nominee who is a safety member of FCERA may be elected and hold office only as the seventh member, or, if any, alternate seventh member of the Board of Retirement, provided that, at all relevant times, he or she shall be an employee of the County or a Special District, and remain (a) employed by the County or a Special District, and (b) in the classification of a safety member of FCERA.
 - c. The nominee may be elected and hold office only in one seat at a time as a member of the Board of Retirement.
 - d. Any nominee who is elected to any such seat on the Board of Retirement, but either separates from the service of the County or a

Special District, or changes his or her FCERA membership classification from general member to safety member or vice-versa, shall automatically vacate his or her office.

- e. The nominee may not be elected and hold office as a member of the Board of Retirement if he or she is or would be prohibited by law from holding such office.
- 2. For the Retiree Member Elections:
- a. The nominee shall be, and at all relevant time remain, a retired member of FCERA.
- b. The nominee may be elected and hold office only in one seat at a time as a member of the Board of Retirement.
- c. A nominee may not be elected and hold office as a member of the Board of Retirement if he or she is or would be prohibited by law from holding such office.
- D. Nominations; Candidates' Statements: A petition, specifying the seat number (or for the Retired Member Elections, specifying the retiree classification of the member) of the Board of Retirement, and signed by at least fifteen (15) Eligible General Members for the second or third member, or by at least fifteen (15) Eligible Safety Members for the seventh member, or, if any, alternate seventh member, or by at least (15) Eligible Retired Members for the retired member (eighth member) seat or the alternate retired member seat of the Board of Retirement, as applicable, shall be delivered to the FCERA Retirement Administrator together with a certification from the nominee of said petition certifying his or her willingness and qualification to serve on the Board of Retirement for such specified member seat number (and for the Active Member Election, giving the name of the County department or Special District in which he or she is employed), and his or her contact information, which shall, among other things, include an email address; such email address may be used for all notices provided by FCERA or the County Registrar of Voters or his or

her designee, to the candidate under these election procedures. Each Eligible General Member, each Eligible Safety Member, and each Eligible Retired Member, as applicable may nominate only one (1) person per member seat on the Board of Retirement for which the election is (or elections are, as applicable) being held and in which such Eligible General Member, Eligible Safety Member, or Eligible Retired Member, respectively, may participate. The nominee may also submit a candidate's statement of two hundred (200) words or less, which shall be distributed with the official ballots, subject to the following:

- 1. The candidate's statement may include the name and occupation (for the Active Member Election, including the name of the County department or Special District in which he or she is employed, or for the Retired Member Elections, including the name of the County department or Special District in which he or she was employed), of the candidate and a brief description of the candidate's education, qualifications, and platform expressed by the candidate. The statement shall be limited to a recitation of the candidate's own personal background, qualifications, and platform, and shall not in any way refer to other candidates for that office or to another candidate's qualifications, platform, character, or activities.
- 2. The candidate's statement shall be submitted with the petition in Word form, 12-point font type.
- 3. Once submitted, the statement may not be withdrawn, revised, or refiled by the nominee.
- 4. The candidate's statement will be published as presented by the candidate, subject to the requirements of this Section IV.D., and any reformatting deemed necessary by the Retirement Administrator and/or the County Registrar of Voters.
- 5. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section IV.D., neither the FCERA Parties nor the County Parties assume any responsibility for the

content or form of the statement or the distribution thereof to any voters, or for making any changes to the content of the statement, or for correcting its grammar, punctuation, or spelling, provided however, that the County Registrar of Voters may, in his or her sole discretion, after providing written notice to the affected candidate, delete any portion of the statement that the County Registrar of Voters determines to be non-compliant with the requirements of this Section IV.D.

- E. <u>Close of Nominations</u>: The nomination period shall close twenty (20) calendar days (E 50) after the date FCERA provides the Notice of Election pursuant to this Section IV. If the nomination period ends on a weekend or holiday, it shall be extended to the end of the next FCERA business day.
- F. Confirmation of Eligible Candidates: Prior to determining the order of placement of candidates' names on the official ballot, the Retirement Administrator shall determine that the nominees are duly nominated and eligible candidates for election of the relevant seat on the Board of Retirement. If the Retirement Administrator determines that a nominee is not duly nominated or eligible for such seat, the Retirement Administrator shall declare such nominee as ineligible as a candidate for such seat. If the Retirement Administrator determines that no nominee is duly nominated or eligible for such seat, the Retirement Administrator shall declare that there is no nominee who is eligible as a candidate for such seat, and the Retirement Administrator shall promptly request the Board of Supervisors to call a Special Election for such seat, and simultaneously provide a copy of such request to the County Registrar of Voters. Any such declaration by the Retirement Administrator shall be final and conclusive, but only as to such election for such seat, and the Retirement Administrator shall so inform the nominee(s), if any, and the reason therefor.
- G. <u>Placement of Eligible Candidates' Names on Official Ballot</u>: On E-47, the FCERA Retirement Administrator shall determine the order of placement of duly

nominated and eligible candidates' names on the official ballot by drawing of lots at FCERA's office in the manner provided for the County Registrar's drawing of lots to break tie votes under Section VII.I., herein, except that the order of placement of such candidates' names on the official ballot shall be based on descending order of the lots as they are drawn. At least one (1) FCERA business day prior to such drawing of lots, FCERA shall provide written notice to all such candidates that they may observe such drawing of lots. The FCERA Retirement Administrator shall provide such candidates' names, and order of placement of such candidates' names on the official ballot, to the County Registrar of Voters not later than E – 45.

H. <u>Unopposed Candidates</u>: If any duly nominated and eligible candidate is unopposed for election at the close of nominations, the Retirement Administrator shall so certify to the Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Supervisors shall order that no election be held for such seat and shall direct the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the candidate pursuant to Government Code § 31523, subdivision (c). The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall deliver the casted ballot to the Board of Retirement, and a copy thereof to the County Registrar of Voters.

V. <u>Preparations for Elections</u>.

A. <u>Preparation of Elections Materials</u>: For each Board of Retirement election, not later than E-35, the Retirement Administrator, or any other FCERA Authorized Officer, and the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee shall coordinate their respective pre-printing activities for the official ballot form and, if any, candidates' statements (See Section VI.A., herein, regarding the County Registrar of Voters' mailing of the Official Ballot Packet to eligible voters) as follows:

1. The FCERA Authorized Officer shall provide the following to the County Registrar of Voters:

- a. Sample proof of the form of the official ballot showing eligible candidates' names and order of their placement on the ballot (See Section IV.F., herein, regarding the Retirement Administrator's confirmation of eligible candidates); and
 - b. Sample proof of the candidates' statements, if any.
- 2. The County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee shall order for printing the Official Ballot Packets based on the estimate of the specific number of Official Ballot Packets that FCERA requests the County Registrar to order under Section III.A.1., herein, plus additional official ballots and Official Return Envelopes, in his or her determination, to accommodate an estimated number of voters who might need reissued official ballots or Official Return Envelopes. The County Registrar of Voters shall order the printing of appropriate type of official ballots and Official Return Envelopes for each election (*i.e.*, Eligible General Members, Eligible Safety Members and Eligible Retiree Members) so that types of Official Return Envelopes can be matched with their like-kind official ballots, for example, and not as a limitation, color-coding Official Return Envelopes to match the color of their like-kind official ballots.
- 3. At least one FCERA Authorized Officer shall review all sample proofs of the forms of official ballot and, if any, candidates' statements provided to the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee under Sections V.A.1.a. and V.A.1.b, herein, respectively, and give final written verification to the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee that the form of official ballot and, if any, candidates' statements are correct and ready to print.
- B. <u>Confidentiality</u>: The mailing addresses of the Eligible Active Members and Eligible Retired Members shall remain confidential, and not subject to public disclosure (See Gov. Code, § 31532; Cal. Const. Art I, § 1).
- C. <u>FCERA-Certified Electronic Data Files</u>: At the most recent payroll period ending before E-45, a FCERA Authorized Officer shall, not later than E-43, deliver to

the County Registrar of Voters the following together in an individual transmittal for each type of election that has been called (*i.e.*, Active Member Election or Retired Member Elections), FCERA's then-current electronic data file, in a computer program that is acceptable to the to the County Registrar of Voters:

1. For Active Member Elections: Eligible General Members who may participate in the election of the second and third members of the Board of Retirement (general members), and Eligible Safety Members who may participate in the election of the seventh member of the Board of Retirement (safety member), and the alternate seventh member (safety member), if any, and their names and mailing addresses for receipt of Official Ballot Packets (which mailing address shall be his or her then-current mailing address as filed with his or her employer for active members of FCERA, or as filed with FCERA for deferred or inactive members, accompanied by the FCERA Authorized Officer's certification, which shall be signed and dated as of the delivery date (the "Eligible Voter Certification Date"), and shall state the following:

ACTIVE MEMBER ELECTION CERTIFICATION

This certification is provided under the Election Procedures of the Board of Retirement of FCERA, as adopted by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors on [__insert date__] (the Election Procedures).

[__insert name__], [__insert title__] of the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association (FCERA) certifies to the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters that:

- a. The accompanying electronic data file(s) for the [__insert date__] Active Member Election represents and correctly identifies all current, eligible voters who may vote in such election;
- b. The accompanying electronic data file(s), depending on the Board of Retirement member seat, corresponds to the classification of members of FCERA who may vote for the relevant seat in such election (*i.e.*, Eligible General Members may vote only for the Eligible General Member seat(s), and Eligible Safety Members may vote only for Eligible Safety Member seat(s));
- c. If an accompanying electronic data file represents Eligible General Members, then that electronic data file correctly identifies and only includes all

current Eligible General Members who may vote for the Eligible General Member seat(s) for such election;

- d. If an accompanying electronic data file represents Eligible Safety Members, then that electronic data file correctly identifies and only includes all current Eligible Safety Members who may vote for the Eligible Safety Member seat(s) for such election;
- e. If an Active Member Election includes both the Eligible General Member seat(s) and the Eligible Safety Member seat(s), there are no voters classified in the accompanying electronic data file(s) both as an Eligible General Member and an Eligible Safety Member for such election;
- f. If an Active Member Election is only for one type of classification (*i.e.*, Eligible General Member seat(s) or Eligible Safety Member seat(s)), there are no voters classified in the accompanying electronic data file(s) from the other classification for such election;
- g. An Eligible General Member's or Eligible Safety Member's accumulated retirement service credit has not been considered in the determination of such FCERA members' eligibility to participate in such election;
- h. There are no identified voters in the accompanying electronic data file(s) who are retired members of FCERA as of the Eligible Voter Certification Date; and
- i. The information in the accompanying electronic data file(s) of eligible voters is complete and accurate for all such Eligible General Member's or Eligible Safety Member's, as applicable, who may vote in such election, as of the date that such electronic data file(s) of eligible voters and this certification is delivered to the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters, which is the "Eligible Voter Certification Date" under the Election Procedures.
- j. Any capitalized terms that are not defined herein, are defined in the Election Procedures.

Signature:	
Title:	
Date:	

2. For Retired Member Elections: Eligible Retired Members of FCERA who may participate in the election of retired member (eighth member) and the alternate retired member of the Board of Retirement, if any, and their names and mailing addresses for receipt of Official Ballot Packets (which mailing address shall be his or her then-current mailing address as filed with FCERA) accompanied by the FCERA Authorized Officer's certification, which shall be signed and dated as of the Eligible Voter Certification Date, and shall state the following:

RETIRED MEMBER ELECTIONS CERTIFICATION
This certification is provided under the Election Procedures of the Board of Retirement of FCERA, as adopted by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors on [insert date] (the Election Procedures).
[insert name], [insert title] of the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association (FCERA) certifies to the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters that:
a. The accompanying electronic data file for the [insert date] Retired Member Elections represents and correctly identifies all current, Eligible Retired Members who may vote in such elections; b. The accompanying electronic data file corresponds to the classification of Eligible Retired Members who may vote in such elections (i.e., the retired member (eighth member) and the alternate retired member seats); c. The accompanying electronic data file correctly identifies and only includes all current Eligible Retired Members who may vote in such elections. d. There are no identified voters classified in the accompanying electronic data file(s) who are deferred or inactive general members of FCERA or deferred or inactive safety members of FCERA, or general members of FCERA who are employed by the County or Special District, or safety members of FCERA who are employed by the County or Special District; and e. The information in the accompanying electronic data file of eligible voters is complete and accurate for all such Eligible Retired Members who may vote in such elections, as of the date that such electronic data file of eligible voters and this certification is delivered to the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters, which is the "Eligible Voter Certification Date" under the Election Procedures. f. Any capitalized terms that are not defined herein, are defined in the Election Procedures.
Signature: Title: Date:

3. Before delivering the FCERA-certified electronic data file(s) of eligible voters to the County Registrar of Voters for any Active Member Election or Retired Member Elections, as required herein, the FCERA Authorized Officer who will provide each of the foregoing certifications and electronic data file(s) shall ensure that the file(s) are accurate and complete according to the FCERA

Authorized Officer's certification to be delivered and FCERA's records that are reflected in such data file(s), and shall retain such records and files for the same period that the County Registrar of Voters is required to retain tallied ballots under Section IX., herein. The County Registrar of Voters may rely exclusively on the foregoing certifications delivered by the FCERA Authorized Officer as conclusive proof of the accuracy and completeness of the information set forth in each accompanying applicable FCERA-certified electronic data file of eligible voters delivered to the County Registrar of Voters.

VI. <u>Distribution of Official Ballot Packets to Eligible Voters</u>.

A. <u>Ballot Requirements; Mailing</u>: Twenty-four (24) calendar days before the election (E – 24), the County Registrar of Voters shall mail a sealed outgoing official ballot packet (each an "Official Ballot Packet," or collectively "Official Ballot Packets") to each Eligible Active Member for the Active Member Election, or to each Eligible Retired Member for the Retired Member Elections, at the mailing address for each such eligible voter, based solely on the information set forth in each applicable FCERA-certified electronic data file of eligible voters, delivered to County Registrar of Voters and certified by a FCERA Authorized Officer under Section VI.C., herein. All such eligible voter name and address data shall remain confidential, including for mailing purposes, pre-counting, and official ballot counting (See Section V.B., herein).

- 1. The Official Ballot Packet shall bear the applicable eligible voter's name and address and consist of the following documents to be inserted therein:
 - a. One (1) official ballot that is applicable to the eligible voter's FCERA member classification pursuant to Section II.B., herein, for an election of the Board of Retirement (*i.e.*, either one official ballot for Eligible General Members in the Active Member Election, or one official ballot for

Eligible Safety Members in the Active Member Election; or one official ballot for Eligible Retired Members in the Retired Member Elections);

- Voting instructions prepared by the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee;
- c. Candidates' statements, if any; and
- d. One (1) non-postage paid official ballot return envelope bearing the address of the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters Office ("Official Return Envelope"), and providing a unique identifying number, code and/or symbol, as determined by the County Registrar of Voters, that will enable the County Registrar of Voters to verify the identity of the eligible voter who returns the voted official ballot.
- 2. The County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall:
- a. Use a company or companies, which is or are certified by the California Secretary of State to print ballots, to provide all ballots and undertake all ballot layout and preparation and/or inserting processes relating to such documents to be provided, prepared, laid out, and/or inserted into the Official Ballot Packets, provided however, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees instead may, at his or her option, undertake any or all of such functions;
- b. Use non-profit postage for mailing of the Official Ballot Packets if such method of mailing is available; and
 - c. Mail the Official Ballot Packets as required herein.
- VII. <u>Pre-Count; Counting; Election Results</u>. The County Registrar of Voters shall process the receipt, pre-counting, and counting of returned voted official ballots for the election as follows:

- A. <u>Reissued Official Ballot Materials</u>: The procedures for spoiled, mismarked, undelivered, lost, or destroyed, official ballots or Official Return Envelopes are as follows:
 - 1. If a voter has spoiled or marked his or her official ballot or Official Return Envelope in error and needs a replacement, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees must receive the spoiled or mismarked ballot or Official Return Envelope back from the voter and a signed declaration under penalty of perjury from the voter, as applicable, before a new official ballot or Official Return Envelope is issued to the voter, as follows:

"My spoiled/mismarked official ballot for the [inset date___] Board of Retirement election has been surrendered to the Fresno County Registrar of Voters."

Or

"My spoiled/mismarked official return envelope for the [inset date___] Board of Retirement election has been surrendered to the Fresno County Registrar of Voters."

2. If a voter claims that he or she did not receive in the mail the Official Ballot Packet or claims that he or she lost or destroyed his or her official ballot or Official Return Envelope, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees must receive a signed declaration under penalty of perjury from the voter, as applicable, before a new official ballot or Official Return Envelope is issued to the voter, as follows:

"I did not receive my official ballot packet for the [inset date___] Board of Retirement election. If I receive my official ballot packet, I will immediately destroy the original official ballot."

Or

"I lost or destroyed my official ballot for the [inset date___] Board of Retirement election. If I find my official ballot, I will immediately destroy the official ballot."

Or

"I lost or destroyed my official return envelope for the [inset date___] Board of Retirement election. If I find my official return envelope, I will immediately destroy the official return envelope."

- 3. The County Registrar of Voters' created roster of FCERA members who voted in each election under Section VII.D.1., herein, and counting of returned voted official ballots under Section VII.F., herein, shall take into account, any new official ballot issued to the voter under this Section VII.A.
- B. Return of Voted Official Ballots: Each member of FCERA returning his or her voted official ballot to the County Registrar of Voters must return the voted official ballot in the voted official ballot's like-kind, Official Return Envelope provided to the member by the County Registrar of Voters. Voted official ballots may be returned to the County Registrar of Voters only by United States Postal Service, overnight delivery by a commercial carrier, or hand delivery to the County Registrar of Voter's office by the voting FCERA member whose name is on printed on the official ballot, not later than 5:00 PM on the date of the election. A postmark date on the Official Return Envelope containing the voted official ballot, or a date that the Official Return Envelope containing the voted official ballot was given to an overnight commercial carrier, shall not be considered. A returned voted official ballot that is not in the voted official ballot's like-kind, Official Return Envelope, or multiple voted official ballots that are in a single Official Return Envelope, shall be rejected. If during counting of returned voted official ballots, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee discovers any returned voted official ballot that is not among likekind returned voted official ballots, such returned voted official ballot shall be deemed to have been returned in an envelope other than its like-kind, Official Return Envelope, and such returned voted official ballot shall be rejected. Bulk delivery of

voted official ballots, defined as the delivery in any manner of multiple voted official ballots, shall not be accepted by the County Registrar of Voters.

- C. Return of Voted Official Ballots from Outside Continental United States:

 Members of FCERA who reside outside of the continental United States may, subject to these election procedures, return their voted official ballot by United States mail or overnight delivery by a commercial carrier to be received in the County Registrar of Voters Office not later than 5:00 PM on the date of the election. A postmark date on the Official Return Envelope containing the voted official ballot, or other countries' marks on the Official Return Envelope containing the voted official ballot indicating any date, including but not limited to a mailing date, or date that the Official Return Envelope containing the voted official ballot was given to an overnight commercial carrier, shall not be considered.
- D. <u>Pre-count Procedures</u>: Commencing at 9:00 AM on the next County business day following the election, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable under the circumstances at such time, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall undertake the following pre-count procedures before opening and counting the returned voted official ballots.
 - 1. Prior to opening the Official Return Envelopes, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall (a) verify whether the name of the voter, and his or her FCERA member classification, on each Official Return Envelope, matches the voter's name and FCERA member classification on the FCERA-certified electronic data file(s) for such classification delivered to the County Registrar of Voters under Section VI.C., herein, and (b) create a roster of FCERA members who voted in each election. The roster of FCERA members who voted shall remain confidential, and not subject to public disclosure (See Section V.B., herein). If the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee determines that any returned Official Return Envelopes do not comply with these election procedures, none of those Official Return Envelopes will be

opened, none of the voted official ballots contained therein will be counted, and the County Registrar of Voters shall proceed to complete all pre-count procedures for all other returned Official Return Envelopes for the Active Member Election or the Retired Member Elections, as applicable.

- 2. The County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall complete all pre-count procedures for the Active Member Election or the Retired Member Elections prior to opening the Official Return Envelopes under Section VII.E., herein.
- E. Opening and Inspecting Official Returned Envelopes; Separating Returned Voted Official Ballots: Upon opening the Official Returned Envelopes, and before the official voted ballots are separated from their respective Official Return Envelopes, the Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall inspect each opened Official Returned Envelope solely for the purpose of determining whether the returned official ballot contained therein is in its like-kind, Official Returned Envelope. If the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees discover that any returned voted official ballot is not its like-kind, Official Return Envelope, such returned voted official ballot shall be rejected. After all Official Returned Envelopes have been so opened and inspected for an election, the Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall separate the returned official ballots from their respective Official Returned Envelopes, and, once separated, kept in separate groups, as follows:
 - 1. For the Active Member Election:
 - a. Returned official ballots for the active general member seat(s) shall be grouped together, and kept separate from all other returned official ballots; and
 - b. Returned official ballots for the active safety member seat(s) shall be grouped together and kept separate from all other returned official ballots.
 - 2. For the Retired Member Elections: returned official ballots for the retired member (eighth member) seat and alternate retirement member seat shall be

grouped together (but in any event shall be considered as official ballots for separate elections) and kept separate from all other returned official ballots.

- F. <u>Counting the Returned Voted Official Ballots</u>: After opening and inspecting all of the Official Return Envelopes under Section VII.E., herein, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee(s) shall count the returned voted official ballots by using an electronic voting system until completed, as follows:
 - 1. The County Registrar of Voters shall tally the results of the official count for the Active Member Election (including separate counts for the active general member seat(s) and the active safety member seat(s) in the same regularly scheduled election or Special Election), and for the Retired Member Elections (including separate counts for the retired member (eighth member) seat and the alternate retired member seat in the same regularly scheduled election cycle or Special Election), according to the following categories, as applicable:
 - a. Official ballots issued;
 - b. Official ballots returned;
 - c. Rejected official ballots;
 - d. Votes cast:
 - e. Overvotes (*i.e.*, returned voted official ballot invalidated due to more than one vote per member seat);
 - f. Blanks (*i.e.*, not voted);
 - g. Spoiled/reissued official ballots; and
 - h. Undeliverable official ballots.
 - 2. In the event an electronic voting system cannot be used for counting all of the returned voted official ballots, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee(s) shall count the returned voted official ballots by hand. In the event a returned voted official ballot cannot be counted by an electronic voting system due to the condition of the voted official ballot, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee(s) shall create a duplicate ballot, using the same

information in the returned voted official ballot, and count such duplicate ballot in the same manner as all other like-kind returned voted official ballots are counted by the electronic voting system. The County Registrar of Voters shall retain the returned voted official ballot that cannot be counted by the electronic voting system, and indicate on such returned voted official ballot that it cannot be used and that the duplicate ballot has been used in its place; the created duplicate ballot shall be deemed to be the voted official ballot.

- 3. Any candidate receiving the highest number of votes, in the plurality of all votes cast for the election of a member seat on the Board of Retirement, shall be deemed elected for that seat.
- G. <u>Posting and Delivering Election Results</u>: The County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall complete all counting procedures for the Active Member Election or the Retired Member Elections under Section VII.F, herein, prior to posting the results of each election. After completing the counting procedures for each election, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee shall, as soon thereafter as may be practicable under the circumstances at such time, promptly post the election results on its Department website and deliver the election results to the FCERA Retirement Administrator by email or hand delivery.
- H. Request for Recount Requirements: In the event a candidate desires to request a recount of the election for the member seat that he or she is seeking on the Board of Retirement, he or she must file a written request for the recount with the County Registrar of Voters, and comply with this Section VII.H., not later than 5:00 PM on the fifth (5th) calendar day following the date that the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee has posted the election results on its Department website pursuant to Section VII.G., herein. In the event of timely multiple requests for a recount of the election for the member seat, each requesting candidate shall comply with this Section VII.H, herein, without regard any other request for a recount, but there shall be only one recount.

- 1. <u>Recount Request in Writing</u>. The written request for a recount must comply with this Section VII.H., herein.
- 2. One Request Per Candidate. A candidate may only request a recount of the election for the member seat that he or she is seeking on the Board of Retirement, and a recount will only be conducted if the candidate first pays the County Registrar of Voters' the full cost of the recount pursuant to this Section VII.H.2.
 - a. In the event of a request for a recount, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee shall, not later than five (5) County business days thereafter, provide the candidate a written estimate cost of the recount, and the candidate must deposit an amount equal to the cost estimate, in the form of cash, cashier's check, or money order, with the County Registrar of Voters not later than the third (3rd) County business day thereafter.
 - b. In the event the money so deposited is insufficient to pay the County Registrar of Voters' costs of completing the recount, the County Registrar of Voters shall suspend the recount and provide the candidate a written estimate of the cost of completing the recount. The candidate must deposit an amount equal to the cost estimate with the County Registrar of Voters not later than the third (3rd) County business day thereafter. In the event the County Registrar of Voters does not receive the estimated cost in the form of a cash, cashier's check, or money order deposit within such time, the recount shall be terminated, and any activities that the County Registrar of Voters undertook toward the recount shall be disregarded and have no force or effect.
 - c. In the event the moneys so deposited are sufficient to pay the County Registrar of Voters' costs of the recount, the County Registrar of Voters shall conduct recount, including breaking any resulting tie vote, according to the election procedures for counting returned official ballots under Section

VII.F., herein, and the following procedures shall apply, depending on the outcome of the recount:

- i. If the recount does not change the result of the election in the favor of the candidate requesting the recount, including a resulting tie vote or breaking a tie vote, the County Registrar of Voters shall so inform the affected candidates of the recount results and such recount shall be disregarded.
- ii. If the recount changes the result of the election in the favor of the candidate requesting the recount, including a resulting tie vote or breaking a tie vote, the County Registrar of Voters shall post the changed election results on its Department website and deliver the changed election results to the FCERA Retirement Administrator, pursuant to Section VII.G., herein.
- iii. No affected candidate shall be entitled to a new recount following the completion of a recount under these election procedures.
- d. The amount of moneys deposited by the candidate for the costs of a recount shall only be refunded to the candidate requesting the recount upon the completion of the recount if such candidate achieves a new count in the election that changes the result of the election in his or her favor, including a resulting tie vote (in which case any such tie vote shall be broken under Section VIII.I., herein, but if the outcome of the broken tie vote is favorable to the candidate requesting the recount, that outcome shall not give such candidate a right to the refund) or breaking a tie vote; otherwise all of such moneys paid to the County Registrar of Voters and spent for the recount shall be retained by the County Registrar of Voters.
- e. Any amount of such moneys so deposited with the County

 Registrar that is required to be refunded, as provided herein, or in any event

 not spent for the recount, will be refunded to the candidate within thirty (30)

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County business days following the completion of the election process. In the event of timely multiple requests for a recount of the election, the County Registrar shall determine whether or how to apportion any such amounts to be refunded to the requesting candidates.

- I. Tie Votes: After the conclusion of, or passage of time allowed herein for, any recount that may be conducted pursuant to Section VII.H, herein, if two or more candidates receive an equal and the highest number of votes, in the plurality of all votes cast for the election of a member seat on the Board of Retirement, the County Registrar of Voters shall direct the candidates who received the tie votes to appear before him or her or his or her designee at the office of the County Registrar of Voters at a time and date, not later than five (5) County business days thereafter, to be designated by him or her for the drawing of lots to break the tie, provided that a candidate may designate a representative to appear and act for him or her in his or her absence. If a candidate or his or her representative is not in attendance at the specified time and date for, or attends but at any time does not participate in, the drawing of the lots, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee shall proceed and appoint a Department employee or employees (in either case, who is not a spouse, domestic partner, parent or child of any affected candidate) to act as the candidate's or candidates' representative(s) for all purposes relating to the drawing of lots, provided that, if a candidate or his or her representative appears, or attends but at any time does not participate, while the drawing of lots is in progress, the drawing of lots shall continue until completion without regard to the fact that the candidate or his or her representative had not appeared or participated. The County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee shall break the tie by drawing of lots in the following manner, using ordinary materials and supplies selected by the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee:
 - 1. Before undertaking the drawing of lots, the following procedures shall be read aloud to the candidates or their representatives who are present.

- 2. The candidates or their representatives shall be provided a small slip of paper, each approximately the same size, upon which they shall write the name of the candidate.
- 3. The candidates or their representatives shall fold and place their signed slips in identical small sealed containers (*e.g.*, pill bottle with a cap), seal them, and hand their sealed containers to the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designee, and those sealed containers, once returned to him or her, shall be placed by Registrar of Voters or his or her designee in a larger opaque container (*e.g.*, hat, bag, or bucket).
- 4. Without looking into the larger container, the County Registrar of Voters' or his or her designee shall reach into the larger container, retrieve only one (1) of the smaller sealed containers, and open the retrieved sealed container. The name of the candidate whose name is in the retrieved sealed container shall be announced as the winner of the elected seat.
- 5. The candidate winning the tie for the election of a member seat on the Board of Retirement shall be deemed elected for that seat, and the completion of such drawing of lots to break the tie vote shall be final and conclusive.
- J. <u>Certification of Final, Official Election Results</u>: The County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall complete all counting procedures for each election under Section VII.F., herein, prior to certifying the final, official election results of such election. After completing all such counting procedures for each election, the County Registrar of Voters shall, as soon thereafter as may be practicable under the circumstances at such time, certify the final, official election results of such election, and, such certification shall be the final and conclusive, official results of the election, except for any County Registrar of Voters final action, or a response, in relation to the protest under Section VIII.A.2, herein. Upon certification of the official election results of each election, the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees shall promptly post the certified final, official election

results on its Department website and deliver the certified final, official election results to the FCERA Retirement Administrator by email or hand delivery. The counting procedures and certification of the final, official election results shall be completed not later than fourteen (14) calendar days following the first day of opening the Official Return Envelopes for each such election, as applicable, provided that the time for such completion shall be extended by any additional time as may be necessary for the County Registrar of Voters to act upon or respond to any request for recount, under Section VII.H., herein, and by five (5) County business days in the event there is the need for the drawing of lots to break the tie, as provided in Section VII.I., herein.

K. <u>No Requirement for County Registrar of Voters to Act.</u> Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these election procedures, the County Registrar of Voters is not required to post or deliver any election results under Section VII.G., herein, or certify, post and deliver any final, official election results under Section VII.J., herein, when the County Registrar of Voters declares that he or she cannot conduct or complete the conducting of the election, or the election of a particular member seat, as provided in Section I.B., herein.

VIII. Protest; Legal Challenge.

A. <u>Protest Requirements</u>: In the event a candidate desires to protest the results of any election, other than making a request for a recount of the election for the member seat that he or she is seeking on the Board of Retirement, of the election for the member seat that he or she is seeking on the Board of Retirement, he or she must file the written protest with the County Registrar of Voters (and he or she must include written proof that he or she has provided a copy of the written protest to any other affected candidate), in compliance with this Section VIII.A., <u>not later than 5:00 PM on the fifth (5th) calendar day</u> following the date that the County Registrar of Voters has posted the election results on its Department website

pursuant to Section VII.G., herein. The County Registrar of Voters shall not be obligated to consider any additional or amended grounds for the protest, or any augmented documentation or other evidence from the protesting candidate, after receipt of the written protest.

- 1. <u>Protest in Writing</u>. The written protest shall be based on the failure of the FCERA Parties, the County Parties, and/or the Special District Parties, as applicable, to comply with these election procedures, and must specify such grounds for the protest and be accompanied by any documentation or other evidence that may be referenced in the protest.
- 2. <u>County Registrar of Voters Action or Response</u>. Subject to the candidate's compliance with Section VIII.A., herein, the County Registrar of Voters shall, with thirty (30) County business days of receipt of the written protest, act upon or respond to the written protest and provide notice thereof to the affected candidates and the FCERA Administrator.
- 3. <u>Valid and Timely Protest; Final, Official Election Results</u>. Once the County Registrar of Voters takes final action, or provides a response, in relation to any protest under Section VIII.A., herein, such final action or response, as applicable, shall be the final and conclusive, official results of the election.
- B. Failure to Exhaust Administrative Remedies: Any candidate's failure to timely make a request for a recount or pay the County Registrar of Voters for the full cost of a requested recount, if any, as required in Section VII.H., herein, or timely file a valid written protest of the official election results as required under Section VIII.A., herein (or raise any issue that could have been raised in a protest but was not raised), shall be considered a failure of the candidate to exhaust his or her administrative remedies with respect to (a) any failure of any of the FCERA Parties, the County Parties, and/or the Special District Parties to comply with these election procedures (or any issue, to the extent the issue could have been raised but was not raised in the protest); and (b) the election results.

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C. Legal Challenge to Election and Writ of Mandate: Any legal challenge relating to, or seeking review of, any right or duty of, act or omission including any failure by FCERA Parties, the County Parties, and/or the Special District Parties, as applicable, to comply with these election procedures relating to any election of the Board of Retirement under these election procedures or otherwise, shall be by writ of mandate under Code of Civil Procedure § 1085 in the Fresno Superior Court.

IX. FCERA Posts Official Election Results.

Not later than ten (10) FCERA business days following the later of the date that (1) the County Registrar of Voters or his or her designees delivers the certified final, official election results to the FCERA Retirement Administrator for each election, or provides notice of final action, or a response to a protesting candidate, relating to his or her protest under Section VIII.A., herein, to the FCERA Administrator, a FCERA Authorized Officer shall post such results on FCERA's website (www.FresnoCountyRetirement.org) and deliver a copy thereof as follows: (1) for an Active Member Election, to each County department and Special District employing members of FCERA who were eligible to vote in the election, and to each recognized employee representation organization having FCERA members who were eligible to vote in the election and employed by the County or a Special District, and (2) for Retired Member Elections, to each organization recognized by the Board of Retirement as representing the retired members of FCERA. A FCERA Authorized Officer may provide any updating information under this Section IX in the event of any legal challenge to any certified final, official election results.

X. Swearing in the Newly Elected Member.

The Board of Retirement shall swear in the newly elected member as soon as practicable under the circumstances at such time.

XI. Retention of Tallied Returned Official Ballots.

The County Registrar of Voters shall retain tallied returned official ballots until the later of: (i) six (6) months following the certified final, official election results under Sections VIII.H.3., or VIII.H.4., herein, or (ii) the final judgment, including any appeals, of any legal challenge brought pursuant to Section VIII.C., herein.

XII. Effectiveness.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption. From and after its effective date, this Resolution supersedes any prior resolution of the Board of Supervisors with respect to the subject of Board of Retirement Election Procedures, including the prior resolutions of the Board of Supervisors referenced in the recitals to this Resolution.

	THE FOREGOING was passed and AD	OPTE	D by the follo	owing vote	of the
Boa	rd of Supervisors of the County of Fresno	this _	day of _		_2019, to-
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	AYES:				
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Appendix A - Election Schedule

	Appendix A - Liection Schedule							
			Election					
Category	Member No.	Term Expires	Month	Year				
General	2	12/31/2018	August	2018				
Retired	8	12/31/2019	November	2019				
Retired Alt.	8 Alt.	12/31/2019	November	2019				
Safety	7	12/31/2020	August	2020				
General	3	12/31/2020	August	2020				
General	2	12/31/2021	November	2021				
Retired	8	12/31/2022	August	2022				
Retired Alt.	8 Alt.	12/31/2022	August	2022				
Safety	7	12/31/2023	November	2023				
General	3	12/31/2023	November	2023				
General	2	12/31/2024	August	2024				
Retired	8	12/31/2025	November	2025				
Retired Alt.	8 Alt.	12/31/2025	November	2025				
Safety	7	12/31/2026	August	2026				
General	3	12/31/2026	August	2026				
General	2	12/31/2027	November	2027				
Retired	8	12/31/2028	August	2028				
Retired Alt.	8 Alt.	12/31/2028	August	2028				
Safety	7	12/31/2029	November	2029				
General	3	12/31/2029	November	2029				
General	2	12/31/2030	August	2030				
Retired	8	12/31/2031	November	2031				
Retired Alt.	8 Alt.	12/31/2031	November	2031				
Safety	7	12/31/2032	August	2032				
General	3	12/31/2032	August	2032				