



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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## **Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Visits with Santa Barbara County Elections Employees and Encourages Voter Participation**

SACRAMENTO, CA – Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today visited with staff members of the Santa Barbara Registrar of Voters' Office to encourage voter participation and toured the absentee ballot processing center.

"I commend all of you for working so hard to ensure that this election runs smoothly," said Secretary McPherson. "Voting is every citizen's most basic right and I applaud your efforts to ensure that each and every vote is counted accurately on Election Day."

Secretary McPherson visited the Santa Barbara County absentee processing center where staff members were busy verifying that each returned absentee ballot is processed and counted. As of Friday, Santa Barbara County had received more than 40,000 returned absentee ballots and had over 94,000 requests for absentee ballots. Joining Secretary McPherson at the center was Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters Joe Holland.

Following the tour, Secretary McPherson and Mr. Holland visited with staff members at the main office of the Santa Barbara County Registrar of Voters.

The polls are open tomorrow from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters who need assistance can call the Secretary of State's Voter Assistance Hotline at 800-345-VOTE (8683) or visit the Secretary of State's website at [www.ss.ca.gov](http://www.ss.ca.gov).

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