Secretary of State Kevin Shelley Announces Results of Random Alphabet Drawing for March 2, 2004 Statewide Primary Election

SACRAMENTO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced the results of the randomized alphabet drawing held today in the Secretary of State’s office in Sacramento.

The random results will be used to determine the order of presidential, congressional, and state legislative candidates on the ballot in the March 2, 2004 statewide primary election.

Randomized Alphabet for Use in the March 2, 2004 Statewide Primary Election


This alphabet applies throughout the entire name of the candidate. If the names of two or more candidates begin with the same letter, their order is determined by applying this randomized alphabet to the next letters of the name.

In order to ensure that each candidate has an equal opportunity to have his or her name listed at the top of the ballot, statewide candidates are “rotated” by the 80 assembly districts. In legislative districts that encompass more than one county, the county election officials will conduct their own randomized alphabet drawing to determine candidate order.

This random alphabet technique has been required by California law since 1975.

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