



Honorable F. Ann Rodriguez

Pima County Recorder
115 North Church Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85701

PHN: (520) 740-4330 FAX: (520) 623-1785 WEB: <http://www.recorder.pima.gov>

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2007

CONTACT: CHRISTOPHER J. ROADS

(520) 740-4330

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FEBRUARY 5, 2008 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE ELECTION

Pima County Recorder F. Ann Rodriguez would like to remind voters that anyone who wishes to participate in the February 5, 2008 Presidential Preference Election **must** be registered with the same political party affiliation of the Presidential candidate they wish to vote for, in accordance with A.R.S. §16-241(A).

The Recorder's office has received a number of inquiries about whether Arizona's Open Primary laws apply to the Presidential Preference Election (PPE). "Remember," states Ms. Rodriguez, "this is not a primary election, it's a "preference" election. There is a difference. The results of the PPE are non-binding, meaning the winners in Arizona may not necessarily be the candidates running in the General Election in November. The Open Primary laws in Arizona don't apply to this election."

Through the initiative process, the voters of the State of Arizona voted to allow voters registered as Independent and Party Not Designated to participate in our regular Primary Elections that are held in September. When the voters of the State of Arizona passed this initiative in 1996, the Presidential Preference Election was not included.

If anyone who is currently registered to vote as an Independent or No Party Designated wants to participate in the upcoming February 5, 2008 Presidential Preference Election, that voter will have to re-register for the political party affiliation of the candidate that they wish to

vote for. They need to change their registration *no later than midnight on Monday, January 7, 2008*.

There are 3 reasons a person must re-register to vote:

- ✓ Name Change
- ✓ Address Change
- ✓ Political Party Change

Re-registering can be done simply by completing a new voter register form. For additional information, visit the Recorder's website at www.recorder.pima.gov. Voters with an Arizona driver's license or Motor Vehicle Division issued identification card may register online at the EZ Voter Registration site at www.servicearizona.com.

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