



FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY

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MEDIA RELEASE

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FORA Accepts County Registrar's Verification of California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, Open Space Preservation, & Economic Revitalization Initiative

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) announced today that it has accepted the County of Monterey Registrar's verification of signatures submitted by the proponents of the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, Open Space Preservation, and Economic Revitalization Initiative. On May 17, 2013, FORA received 26,302 signatures from proponents of the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, Open Space Preservation, and Economic Revitalization Initiative for the purpose of qualifying the initiative for an election.

Employing a random sampling technique as permitted by law, the County Registrar of Voters selected three percent of the petitions (or 790 petitions) for verification. On June 24, 2013, FORA Executive Officer Michael Houlemard was informed by the County that of the 790 signature sample, 650 signatures (82%) were deemed valid. The County Registrar's office has projected the number of valid petition signatures to be 21,568, or 121.5 percent of the signatures required to find the petition sufficient. Since this is more than 110 percent of the signatures required, a "full count" verification of each signature is not necessary.

On May 29, 2013, FORA adopted a resolution seeking assistance from the Monterey County Registrar of Voters regarding potential elections. Subsequently, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors authorized the Registrar of Voters to provide assistance to FORA, including verification of petition signatures. Following the formalization of the agreement between FORA and the County, the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, Open Space Preservation, and Economic Revitalization Initiative petition was transferred to the Registrar of Voters office for signature verification.

In his capacity as FORA Elections Official, Mr. Houlemard has reviewed and accepted the County's determination and will certify the results at the July 12, 2013 FORA Board meeting.

On June 17, 2013, FORA also received petitions with more than 28,000 signatures indicated from proponents of the Protect Fort Ord Open Space Access Initiative. The County Registrar of Voters is currently engaged in verification of these signatures and has not yet released their results.

More information regarding both proposed ballot measures is available on the FORA website at www.fora.org.