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**PRESS
RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Candidate Seminars Planned

San Mateo County Elections Office Offers Candidate Seminars

(Redwood City, CA) The San Mateo County Elections Office will hold two candidate seminars for potential candidates running for office or considering a run for office in the upcoming Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election on November 8, 2011. There are 12 Cities, 14 School Districts, and 17 Special Districts with scheduled candidate elections.

The first of two Candidate Seminars will be held on July 13 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Elections Office, 40 Tower Road in San Mateo. The seminar is designed for candidates and their staff, but open to anyone who is interested in the process. The second seminar will be held on July 21 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the same location. The Elections office will also hold a Data Seminar on July 29, 2011 at 2 p.m. for candidates and campaign staff interested in learning more about obtaining voter data and its many uses. Candidates and their staff are welcome; RSVPs are requested. All seminars are open to the public.

“Traditionally, we offer candidate seminars to help candidates or interested parties obtain information about the requirements to run for local office. Once the mechanics of running for office are understood, the filing process is no longer complicated,” explained Mark Church, Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder.

Current public office holders and newcomers alike can benefit from information provided at the seminar. And, all attendees will be given a bound copy of the updated 54 page Candidate’s Guide. The guide is also available on www.shapethefuture.org, the Elections

web site. "The purpose of the seminar is to encourage interest in public service and to provide helpful guidance and resources to candidates," explained Church.

"At the seminar, elections staff will review the pertinent details and procedures that apply to candidates for local office," said Church. Topics covered will include campaign finance reports, the filing process, the calendar of applicable deadlines, required forms, candidate statements, voter registration guidelines, requirements for campaign signs, and various election resources, rules and regulations for campaign activities and how to access and use the voter registration data as allowed by law.

To RSVP to attend a candidate or data seminar, attendees may do so online at <https://www.shapethefuture.org/elections/2011/nov2011/default.asp> or by contacting Megan Asmus, Candidate Filing Officer, at 650.312.5293 or masmus@smcare.org. Attendees are asked to provide their name, which seminar date they plan to attend and the number of persons attending.

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