



Honorable F. Ann Rodriguez

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ONLY VOTERS REGISTERED AS DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN OR GREEN PARTY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MARCH 22, 2016 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE ELECTION

Pima County Recorder F. Ann Rodriguez would like to remind voters that anyone who wishes to participate in the March 22, 2016 Presidential Preference Election **must** be registered with the same political party affiliation as the Presidential candidate they wish to vote for, in accordance with A.R.S. §16-241(A). The political parties participating in this election are the Democratic Party, the Republican Party and the Green Party.

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

Ms. Rodriguez states "each state is governed by their own set of laws. Many states do allow Independents and Party Not Designated voters to participate in selecting the political party's Presidential candidate, however the State of Arizona is not one of them."

If voter registered to vote as an Independent or Party Not Designated who wants to participate in the upcoming March 22, 2016 Presidential Preference Election will have to re-register as a Republican, a Democrat or a Green Party. These voters need to change their registration ***no later than midnight on Monday, February 22, 2016.***

The quickest and easiest way to update your voter registration is at servicearizona.com. Voters with a valid Arizona driver's license or Motor Vehicle Division issued identification card may register online on this site. For additional information, visit the Recorder's website at www.recorder.pima.gov or call the Recorder's office with any questions at (520) 724-4330.

After the Presidential Preference Election voters can change their political party affiliation back to Independent or Party Not Designated by again updating their voter registration at servicearizona.com.

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