



Civil Rights Division

JDR:JR:ALF:SMC:ADM:
166-012-3
2003-2207

*Voting Section - NWB,
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530*

September 4, 2003

Mr. Tony Anchundo
County Registrar of Voters
P.O. Box 1848
Salinas, California 93902

Dear Mr. Anchundo:

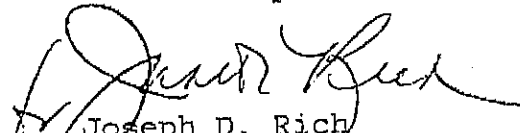
This refers to the change in the number of bilingual poll workers and the consolidation of voting precincts and polling places for the October 7, 2003, special statewide referendum election, including nine consolidations of voting precincts and polling places for Monterey County, California, submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. We received your submission on August 15; supplemental information was received through September 4, 2003.

The Attorney General does not interpose any objection to the change in the number of bilingual poll workers and the consolidation of the following four voting precincts and polling places: Salinas 202, 203, 204, 415 and 418 (Vineyard Christian Fellowship); Salinas 201, 412, 413, 414 and 417 (Sherwood Elementary School entrance hall); Salinas 302, 304 and 305 (Salinas Recreation Department Room 3); and Seaside 6 and 8 (Boys and Girls Club Of Monterey County). However, we note that Section 5 expressly provides that the failure of the Attorney General to object does not bar subsequent litigation to enjoin the enforcement of the changes. In addition, as authorized by Section 5, we reserve the right to reexamine these changes if additional information that would otherwise require an objection comes to our attention during the remainder of the sixty-day review period. See the Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 (28 C.F.R. 51.41 and 51.43).

Your September 4, 2003, letter withdraws your submission of the following five precinct and polling place consolidations: Salinas 504, 601, 604 and 605 (Regency Court Seniors Apartment Recreation Room); Salinas 501 and 502 (Lamplighter Club Room); Natividad 1 and 2 and Santa Rita 4 and 5 (Sheriff's Posse Club House); Elkhorn and Lake 1 and 2 (Echo Valley School library); and Pajaro 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 (Full Gospel Church of Las Lomas) from Section 5 review. Accordingly, no determination by the Attorney General is required concerning this matter. See the Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 (28 C.F.R. 51.25(a)).

Because the Section 5 status of the instant changes is before the court in Salazar v. Monterey County, and in Oliverrez v. California, C-03-3658SI (N.D. Cal.), we are providing a copy of this letter to the court and counsel of record in both cases.

Sincerely,


Joseph D. Rich
Chief, Voting Section

cc: The Honorable Jeremy Fogel
Counsel of Record, Oliverrez v. California
Counsel of Record, Salazar v. Monterey County