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**New Registrar of Voters Office at 325 N. Forbes St. in Lakeport Opens Monday**

*“Our office seeks to ensure every Lake County Resident is aware of their opportunities to vote, and provide for free, fair and transparent elections. This new office location will help us accomplish that.”*

*--Maria Valadez, Registrar of Voters*

**LAKE COUNTY, CA (February 11, 2022)** – Free and fair elections are fundamental to our American democracy. Maintaining a high degree of accessibility, transparency, and a dedication to informing the public surrounding election processes is among the most vital functions of County government.

Maria Valadez, Lake County’s Registrar of Voters, has spent decades working to ensure every eligible Lake County voter has the chance to engage in their democracy, and inform policy direction, by casting their votes in National, State and Local Elections.

On Monday, February 14, at 8am, Valadez and her distinguished team will be open for business at a new location: 325 N. Forbes St., Lakeport. Many local residents will recognize this space as, “The old PG&E building.”

Those that previously paid their PG&E bill at 325 N. Forbes will observe many modifications have been made to the space. Renovations were managed by the outstanding Buildings and Grounds team from the County’s Public Services Department. County Information Technology staff were integral partners in the effort, as well, working to ensure data infrastructure was secure, and would provide for continuous information availability.

Each step of the remodel was guided by a two-pronged focus: providing the best available customer service for Lake County’s voters while responsibly investing public funds.

“Our office seeks to ensure every Lake County Resident is aware of their opportunities to vote, and provide for free, fair and transparent elections,” relates Valadez. “This new office location will help us accomplish that. During recent election cycles, particularly in light of COVID-19 precautions, it has been difficult to provide adequate space for people seeking to observe key public elections processes. The configuration of this new office is purpose-built, and we believe it will enhance public confidence in the diligent work our staff undertake every day.”

Valadez emphasizes, “We are excited to continue providing the highest quality service.”

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