

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Supervisor Heidi Hall, Vice Chair Supervisor Ed Scofield,
Supervisor Dan Miller, Chair Susan Hoek, Supervisor Hardy Bullock
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Nevada City, CA 95959-8617
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John Hickman

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[REDACTED]

May 19, 2022

Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

As voters of Nevada County, we are demanding a third-party hired and under your authority to conduct a fair and unbiased election for the upcoming Nevada Clerk Recorder - Recorder of Votes for both the Primary and General 2022 elections.

We are demanding Clerk Recorder Gregory Diaz, Assistant Clerk Recorder Natalie Adona, and the entire Clerk Recorder staff, recuse themselves of all election maintenance, counting, and validation of both mail in ballots and scanned ballots for the entire election starting first with the Primary on May 28th, 2022, through June 7, 2022 and then on until all votes are processed.

We are demanding the Clerk Recorder as mentioned above, and all staff not interfere or ask about ballot counts coming in concerning demographic, tallies, or other cast ballot information important to election vote count until Diaz, Adona, and the entire staff of the Clerk Recorder's Office are recused.

Cal. Govt. Code § 25201 provides as follows: "Subject to the provisions of the elections Code, the board may establish, abolish, and change election precincts, appoint inspectors, clerks, and judges of election, canvass all election returns, declare the result, and order the county elections official to issue certifications of election."

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors has the right and authority to make this happen, and they must for the sake of the integrity, transparency, and fairness of this election. Or, We The Concerned Citizens Of Nevada County, will demand an automatic audit immediately following this election.

The third-party vendor of the Hart Machines was brought in under contract agreement Resolution No. 19-325 to offer support for the November 5, 2019, Assembly District 1 Special General Election upon the purchase of the new machines. We strongly suggest that Hart Machines support be engaged for the Primary and General Elections because of this election's circumstances and their knowledge of the machines in use.

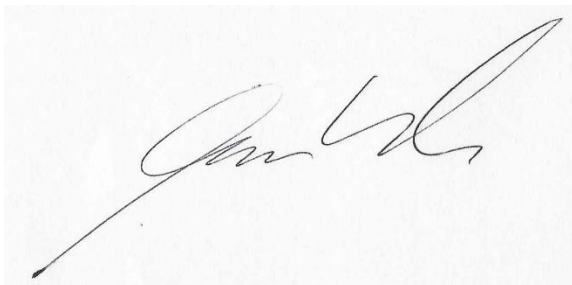
Our list of concerns:

- 1) Nevada County Clerk Gregory Diaz, the Assistant Clerk Recorder Natalie Adona- candidate for the office of Clerk Recorder- Recorder of Votes, and the election staff within the Clerk Recorders office and under the guidance of the Clerk and Assistant to be authorized to count and process the votes of the candidate Natalie Adona seeking this office that holds elections.
- 2) In addition, Gregory Diaz has endorsed Natalie Adona as his successor and represents a conflict of interest along with the entire staff of the Clerk Recorder's office whose employment and performance revue relies upon their authority. <https://www.theunion.com/news/natalie-adona-announces-run-for-clerk-recorder/>
- 3) Upholding fairness and unbiased to other candidates on the ballot running for the Nevada County Clerk Recorder – Recorder of Votes that are not privilege to the same election process and recordation of the ballots as they do not work in the office the same amount of time and longer as the staff currently in there to observe and legibly gather the data
- 4) The Clerk candidate will be able to directly see districts voting and how the votes are cast in real time and can use this data as a privileged advantage to “get out the vote” effort where there is a deficiency in her voter turnout. This is a direct disadvantage to the other candidates running for the same office.
- 5) The Assistant Clerk Recorder - Natalie Adona conducting training of the election workers for an election she is the candidate for the Clerk Recorder and Recorder of Votes. She has a direct advantage to market herself to them by using her name in PowerPoint slides provided during training instead of anonymous names. Ms. Adona's name was marked on the testing ballot by the Clerk Recorder's staff for evaluating the printer machine.

It is clear there needs to be legislation preventing clerk recorders to run as a candidate and run an election they are in. Why did the current Clerk Recorder not manage this matter on his own and take it upon his conscience to create an unbiased election process?

It has come to We The Concerned Citizens Of Nevada County demanding this election be observed and processed by a third-party with the right of observation still in place for transparency efforts by the public until all votes are counted. Windows, cameras, and other observing efforts do not substitute for a candidate processing and validating an election in which they are a candidate.

Thank you kindly for considering this missive,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hickman", written on a light-colored background.

John Hickman

