



November 23, 2009

Absentee Ballot Voting For Hijri Year 1430 (2009)

Background:

Absentee ballot is not discussed in the MCA Constitution. The MCA Executive Committee had decided that the absentee ballots must be used as an 'exception' rather than the 'norm'. Absentee ballots (for unavoidable circumstances) are available to registered MCA members eligible to vote and are unable go to the MCA Community Hall (polling place) on the Election Day, Thursday, December 3, 2009, between 7:00PM to 9:00PM, PST.

Procedures:

- A. The absentee ballots can only be requested in writing and addressed to Election Committee only if a MCA member eligible to vote is:
- Traveling outside the area **OR**
 - Sick and unable to vote in person and the Election Committee can confirm that the member is not able to vote in person **OR**
 - Working as part of your regular working hours during the 'MCA Election time from 7:00PM-9:00PM on December 3, 2009.

Note: Each absentee ballot must be individually requested in written format and state your reason to the election committee. Absentee ballot written request must include the following:

- i. Include a copy of your photo ID issued by the US government*
- ii. Make sure that your request is signed and dated*
- iii. Include your Postal address, email address and/or Phone number.*

Failing to follow the procedures are grounds for denial of absentee ballot from Election committee. Absentee ballot will be issued after October 25, 09.

- B. Within 48 hours of receiving the request for absentee ballot, Election Committee determines the eligibility of the member to vote as described in the MCA constitution. If a requestor is eligible to vote, then an absentee ballot will be issued, otherwise an e-mail or written notice of denial of absentee vote *will be issued within 3 days of the request.*
- C. All absentee ballots will be numbered uniquely and issued specifically for the person requested on the current address we have on file. An absentee ballot will only be issued to the individual who is a MCA member eligible to vote.



In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful
The Muslim Community Association of San Francisco Bay Area
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MUSLIM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

- D.** If necessary, the Election Committee has a right to verify the identification of the requestor by using the standard forms of photo identification, such as State of California issued Driver's License, California ID, US Green Card and/or Passport.
- E.** **A signed absentee ballot can be tendered via following methods:**
- **Hand-carry to one of the Election Committee members. Deadline for this is until December 3, 2009 before 7:00PM. To use this method, please call one of the Election Committee members to arrange a drop-off at least 12 hrs prior to deadline**
 - **Via email to be received by December 2, 2009 (election@mcabayarea.org)**
- F.** If an absentee ballot is lost, then the member can personally approach the Election Committee to get a replacement ballot. The Election Committee after verifying the member ID will issue a replacement ballot, which will be the same 'number' as it was issued previously. If casting of the two ballots with the same number takes place then both ballots will be disqualified. Request for a lost absentee ballot must be made at least three days before the election.
- G.** If an absentee ballot is issued, and if the member wants to change his/her mind for an in-person voting, it can done only if he/she returns back the absentee ballot on the day of election in lieu of in-person ballot. In any case, 2 ballots found for a member both the ballots will be disqualified and rejected.
- H.** A member who submits an absentee ballot must maintain the MCA membership until the elections are completed.

Election Committee

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