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## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ELECTIONS DIVISION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### WORKSHOP AIMS TO EMPOWER INTERESTED CANDIDATES

*May 12<sup>th</sup> Candidate Workshop will demystify the process of campaigning*

Have you ever considered running for local office? Have your friends or family told you that you would make a good school board member or city lawmaker?

Contra Costa County residents who may consider running for office are encouraged to attend a free workshop being held by the County Elections Division this month.

The Candidate Workshop will be held Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Pacheco Community Center, located at 5800 Pacheco Boulevard in Pacheco.

The workshop is designed to remove the mystery from running for office. Experts will cover what's involved in running for office, including how to file and appear on the ballot, campaign finance disclosure requirements, strategies for spreading a message through the media and social media, and what happens when candidates are in the public eye.

"Being a public servant is a worthwhile endeavor, but there are many steps to get your name on the ballot. It can be confusing and daunting to those unfamiliar with the process," said Joe Canciamilla, Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters. "Our goal is for anyone who attends the workshop to leave feeling confident and energized to take that next step to successfully run for office."

The workshop includes a panel of former elected officials from a variety of local offices who will share their experiences as candidates, including what inspired them to run for office.

For more information, visit the Contra Costa Elections website at [www.cocovote.us](http://www.cocovote.us).

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