14211. Arrangement of polling place.
The polling places shall be arranged so that neither the ballot containers nor the voting booths or compartments shall be hidden from the view of those present.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14213. Proclaim polls open.
Before the precinct board receives any bal lots, it shall pro claim aloud at the place of election that the polls are open.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14215. Exhibit ballot container.
Before receiving any bal lots, the precinct board, in the presence of any persons assem bled at the poll ing place, shall open and exhibit and close the ball lot con tainer or contain ers. There af ter, the ball lot con tainer or contain ers shall not be removed from the poll ing place or pres ence of the bystand ers until all the bal lots are counted, nor opened until after the polls are finally closed.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14224. Voting booth occupancy.
Except as pro vid ed in Sec tion 14222, vot ing booths or com part ments shall not be occu pied by more than one per son at a time, unless the voter is eli gi ble under the assisted-voter pro vi sions. Voters shall not remain in or occupy the booths or com part ments lon ger than is nec es sary to mark their bal lots, which shall not exceed 10 min utes. How ever, where no other voter would be incon ve nienced, a lon ger period shall be allowed.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14225. Deposit of ballot in ballot container.
Members of the precinct board shall not deposit in the bal lot con tainer any bal lot from which the slip contain ing the num ber of the bal lot has not been removed by a mem ber of the pre cinct board and handed to the voter. This sec tion does not apply to vot ing by absent voter bal lot.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14227. Deposit ballot in ballot container.
The voter shall hand the folded ballot or the envelope containing the ballot to a precinct board member, who shall remove the ballot stub, hand it to the voter, and deposit the ballot in the ballot container. If the ballot is to be transferred from the envelope to the ballot container, care shall be taken not to disclose the markings of the voter on the ballot.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14280. Precinct officer supplies ballot.
Unless other wise pro vide d by law, a voter shall not receive a bal lot from any per son other than one of the pre cinct offi cers. No per son other than a pre - cinct offi cer or offi cer autho rized by law shall deliver a bal lot to any voter.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14282. Assistance to voter.
(a) When a voter declares under oath, admin is tered by any mem ber of the pre cinct board at the time the voter appears at the poll ing place to vote, that the voter is then unable to mark a bal lot, the voter shall receive the assis tance of not more than two per sons selected by the voter, other than the voter’s employer, an agent of the voter’s employer, or an offi cer or agent of the union of which the voter is a mem ber.

(b) No per son assist ing a voter shall divulge any infor ma tion regard ing the mark ing of the bal lot.

(c) In those poll ing places that are inac ces si ble under the guide lines pro mul gated by the Sec re tary of State for acces si bil ity by the phys i cally hand i capped, a phys i cally hand i capped a phys i cally hand i capped per son may appear out side the poll ing place and vote a reg u lar bal lot. The per son may vote the bal lot in a place that is as near as pos si ble to the poll ing place and that is acces si ble to the phys i cally hand i capped. A pre cinct board mem ber shall take a reg u lar bal lot to that per son, qual ify that per son to vote, and return the voted bal lot to the poll ing place. In those pre cincts in which it is imprac ti cal to vote a reg u lar bal lot out side the poll ing place, absent tee bal lots shall be pro vided in suf fi cient num bers to accom mo date phys i cally hand i capped per sons who pres ent them selves on elec tion day. The absent tee bal lot shall be pre sented to and voted by a phys i cally hand i capped per son in the same man ner as a reg u lar bal lot may be voted by that per son out side the poll ing place.

(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14287. Distinguishing marks.
No voter shall place any mark upon a bal lot that will make that bal lot iden ti fi able.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14293. Deposit in ballot box.
Hav ing folded the bal lot, the voter shall deliver it folded to a mem ber of the pre cinct board, who shall then sep a rate the slip con tain ing the num ber from the bal lot, hand the slip to the voter, and deposit the bal lot in the bal lot box in the pres ence of the voter.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14296. Canceled ballots.
Any voter who does not vote the bal lot he or she has received, shall, before leav ing the poll ing place, return it to the board mem ber hav ing charge of the bal lot, who shall imme di ately can cel it. All can celed bal lots shall be returned to the bal lot clerk in the same man ner as spo il ed bal lots.
(Added by Stats. 1994, c. 920, §2.)

14402.5. Voting by provisional ballot when poll closing is extended by court order.
If the time for clos ing the polls is extended pur su ant to a court order, all votes cast dur ing the time that the clos ing of the polls is extended shall be by pro vi sional bal lot. Any pro vi sional bal lots cast pur su ant to this sec tion shall be sep a rate and held apart from other pro vi sional bal lots cast by vot ers prior to the time the clos ing of the polls was extended.
(Added by Stats. 2003, c. 809, §10.)

14403. Deface unused ballots.
Imme di ately upon the clos ing of the polls and before any voted bal lot is taken from any of the bal lot con tain ers, the pre cinct board mem ber shall, in the pres ence of all per sons in the room who may desire to observe them, pro - ceed to ren der the unused bal lots unus able in one of the fol low ing ways:
(a) By draw ing across its face, in ink or indel i ble pen cil, two lines that cross each other, the cross to be more than three inches square. The pre cinct board mem ber shall there upon, imme di ately and before any bal lots are taken from any bal lot con tainer, place all defaced bal lots within an enve lope or other recep ta cle pro vided for that pur pose.
(b) By tear ing or cut ting in a man ner so that it is appar ent that the bal lot
has been intentionally destroyed to prevent its use. If this method of destruction is used, it shall be done in a manner so that the serial number of the ballots is retained for the purposes of reconciliation.

(c) By placing all of the unused ballots into a special container provided for that purpose. A tamperproof seal containing spaces for entering the total number of unused ballots enclosed, the beginning and ending serial numbers thereof, and signature lines for all members of the precinct board, followed by a statement certifying that all of the ballots were placed in the container in their presence and the information on the seal is true and correct, shall be provided. After signing the seal, it shall be placed on the container in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without tearing the seal.

(Added by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §10.)

14404. Alternate method of defacing unused ballots.

Immediately upon the arrival of the hour when the polls are required by law to be closed on election day, the election official conducting the election shall openly, in the election official’s main office, in the presence of any persons who are present to observe, according to the procedure set forth in Section 14403, proceed to render every unused ballot remaining in the control of the election official unusable. The election official shall forthwith make and file an affidavit, in writing, as to the number of ballots destroyed. If the procedure in subdivision (c) of Section 14403 is used, the tamperproof seal shall be signed by the election official and at least one deputy or assistant election official or registrar. The sealed container shall then be placed, with the sealed containers containing unused ballots from the precincts, in a security area by the election official until disposition is made pursuant to Section 17301 or 17302.

Alternatively, the election official may, immediately upon the arrival of the hour when the polls are closed, recycle for any other lawful purpose any unused ballots remaining in the control of the election official that clearly identify the election for which they were prepared. No later than 30 days following the last day to certify the official results of the election, the election official shall make and file an affidavit, in writing, as to the number of ballots recycled. At the election official’s discretion, the unused ballots may be recycled up to six months following an election or at the conclusion of an election contest proceeding, whichever is later.

(Added by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §12.)

14405. Reconciliation of ballots.

(a) The members of the precinct board shall account for the ballots delivered to them by returning a sufficient number of unused ballots to make up, when added to the number of offi cial ballots cast and the number of spoiled and canceled ballots returned, the number of ballots given to them. The officers receiving returned ballots shall compel this accounting.

(b) The precinct board shall complete the roster as required in Section 14107, and shall also complete and sign the certificate of performance prescribed in Section 15280, if that section applies.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §13.)

Article 2. Elections Using Voting Systems

14420. Processing of voted ballots after close of polls.

(a) As soon as the polls are closed, the precinct board shall remove the voted ballots from the ballot container and take them out of the secrecy envelopes or detach them from the secrecy stubs. Where the envelope or stub is also the write-in ballot, and a write-in vote has been registered on it, the ballot card shall not be separated from the envelope or stub. If two or more separate ballot cards have been used in the election, the precinct board shall sort them into groups, each of which shall contain the same series of ballot cards.

(b) After completing the action described in subdivision (a), the precinct board shall count the number of ballot cards in each group, and certify the number of ballots cast on the voting roster as provided by Section 14105. If there is any discrepancy between the number of votes listed in the roster and...
the number of ballots voted, this fact shall be noted with an explanation of the difference and signed by all the members of the precinct board.

(Amended and renumbered by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §16.)

14421. Placement of ballots in containers; delivery to receiving centers.
The precinct board shall group voted ballot cards and voted separate write-in ballots, as directed by the elections official, and place them in containers. The board shall also place spoiled and void ballots, if any, in containers as directed by the elections official. All of these ballots, along with the containers for voted ballot cards, shall be placed in one or more boxes, which shall then be sealed and delivered as soon as possible to the receiving centers or central counting places with the unused ballots, supplies, and other materials as directed by the elections official.

(Amended and renumbered by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §18.)

14433. Transmit results of votes cast to elections official.
If ballots are counted at precincts pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 15340) or Article 5 (commencing with Section 15360) of Chapter 4 of Division 15, the precinct board immediately shall transmit, unsealed, to the elections official a statement showing the result of the votes cast at the polling place. The statement shall be open to public inspection.

(Added by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §19.)

14434. Delivery of sealed packages to elections official.
The sealed packages containing the lists, papers, and ballots shall be delivered by two of its members without delay, unopened, to the elections official or to a receiving station designated by the elections official.

(Added by Stats. 1998, c. 1073, §19.)