



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Announces Partnership with California's Leading Law Enforcement Agencies to Encourage Voter Participation

SACRAMENTO, CA - Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today announced a partnership with the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, California Professional Firefighters, California State Sherriff's' Association and the California Department of Forestry – Firefighters to encourage voter participation.

"These organizations have always recognized the importance of civic involvement and the impact that is made by encouraging their members to have their voices heard. By joining efforts, we can do even more to make voting easy and user friendly for all eligible Californians," said Secretary of State Bruce McPherson.

"From the front lines to the ballot box, firefighters are public servants who care deeply about protecting the integrity of the democratic process by participating and voting," said Lou Paulson, President, California Professional Firefighters.

"The goal of Secretary of State McPherson to have 100% participation in the election process is one that Sheriffs support. That is why in addition to the many activities we already do to encourage voter participation with our members by partnering with Secretary McPherson's office, we can do even more," said Steve Szalay, Executive Director, California State Sheriffs Association.

These law enforcement organizations have been providing information in emails and newsletters on important voting deadlines, finding polling location and resources available to learn about the issues. These resources increase the opportunity for their members and employees to take part in the electoral process.

Secretary McPherson is working with thousands of public and private sector partners to provide voters with the resources to encourage voter participation in the upcoming November 7, 2006 General Election. Partners include: multi-lingual and minority organizations, small businesses, large corporations, industry trade associations, education/youth groups, labor groups and more.

For more information about voter registration and voting, please visit the Secretary of State's web site at: www.ss.ca.gov or call 1-800-345-VOTE (8683).