

Special Redistricting Counsel Proposed Statement of Work and Experience

The required legal services may include, but will not be limited to, legal support to the Commission, staff and consultants regarding the redistricting process, based upon publicly available data. This may include but is not limited to: review of documents including proposed district maps; use and analysis of Racially Polarized Voting (“RPV”) data developed by the Commission’s demographic consultant’s subcontractor to advise the Commission; review and preparation of legal memoranda related to applicable legal issues; advice to the Commission, Commission staff and consultants; and virtual attendance from time to time at Commission meetings.

Applicants must have demonstrated expertise in the federal Voting Rights Act, the California Elections Code provisions applicable to the Commission, the Fair Maps Act, and relevant federal and state case law.

Those responding to this Request for Information (RFI) should provide a description of their prior redistricting experience, including litigation experience as part of the response.

All applicants to this RFI shall demonstrate qualifications to perform legal services in each of the areas described below:

1. Perform all normal and customary duties required of special redistricting counsel in connection with legal issues related to the legal sufficiency of draft maps and the Commission’s adopted map.
2. Advise the Commission and Commission legal staff as to the legality of draft maps and the Commission’s adopted map, and specifically work with Commission and Commission legal staff in connection with drawing new district boundaries.
3. Advise the Commission and Commission legal staff regarding the requirements of State and Federal laws relevant to redistricting activities and demonstrate expertise and experience with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, and relevant cases. This advice will require the use and analysis of Racially Polarized Voting data developed by the Commission’s consultant through its subcontractor.
4. Advise the Commission and Commission legal staff of litigation risks associated with draft redistricting maps and the Commission’s final adopted map and approaches to limit such risks.
5. Attend various Commission public meetings and hearings as requested by the Commission or Commission legal staff.
6. The attorney or firm selected may be required to submit written interim and final reports and summaries with specified deadlines as requested by the Commission or legal staff.

7. Prepare a written opinion on the legal sufficiency of the final map adopted by the Commission to be made part of the report the Commission is required to issue with its final map explaining the basis on which the Commission made its decisions in achieving compliance with the criteria described in Elections Code section 21552.