



YOLO COUNTY ELECTIONS

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Mr. Daniel Claypool
Executive Director
Citizens' Redistricting Commission

March 18, 2011

By fax – 916-322-0904

Dear Director Claypool,

I write to recommend Ms. Karin Mac Donald for the important position of Consultant to the California Redistricting Commission.

In my job as Clerk-Recorder & Registrar of Voters for Yolo County, California, I have worked with Ms. Mac Donald many times. I am retired scientist, and have a life-long, obsessive interest in how things really work. For this reason, I have engaged Ms. Mac Donald to conduct studies of Yolo County voting systems, and I have cooperated with her and her team on a number of studies with broader focus.

Ms. Mac Donald delivers every time. She is energetic, brilliant, and has the best overall understanding of California voter registration and behavior of anyone I have met in my many years in California government, which has included two positions appointed by Governor Pete Wilson (Director of Governmental Affairs for the CPUC and second district Supervisor for Yolo County) and years as a lobbyist in private practice (representing California's Clerks and Election Officials) and, finally, as Yolo County Elected County Clerk.

I am a "Decline to State" voter. I am not a member of any political party. I am a little suspicious of ideologues, especially when it comes to the protection of voters' rights, and I would not recommend Ms. Mac Donald if I had any inkling that she has a political agenda, or even a political point-of-view regarding the equitable distribution of political representation in the State of California. That is simply not the case.

- California needs a consultant who is committed to excellence and capable of delivering it.
- We need someone who has a head-start and understands this process inside out.
- We need someone who is 100% above the political fray.

- In my opinion, we need Karin Mac Donald.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours very truly,

Freddie Oakley

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