**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE** 

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## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release February 19, 2021

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## **Stanislaus County Needs Applicants for Redistricting Committee**

The U.S. Census Bureau is required to conduct an accurate count of the population every 10 years. This data is used to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and in redistricting of state legislatures, county boards of supervisors, and city councils. In 2020, the Bureau conducted the decennial census, extending the deadline for responses through October 15, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Upon completion of the Census, Stanislaus County's self-response rate (those residents who responded without contact from the Bureau) was estimated to be 71.1% of residents. The Bureau had anticipated to report final U.S. populations data on or before December 31, 2020, but now anticipates an unknown date in early 2021; the County is expected to receive final data no later than July 31, 2021.

Redistricting is the process by which Supervisorial District boundaries are drawn every 10 years to ensure each district has the same number of people. Pursuant to Elections Code, following each federal decennial census, and using the census as a basis, the board shall adjust the boundaries of any or all of the supervisorial districts of the county so that the supervisorial districts shall be substantially equal in population as required by the United States Constitution. The new boundaries of the Supervisorial Districts will be adopted by the Board this summer.

The County is looking to establish an Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Redistricting Commission to make recommendations regarding the new district map. This commission will assist the County to ensure that each County district is equal in population so that neighborhoods and communities are properly grouped together for purposes of electing a Board member. To qualify you must:

- Be a County resident
- Be a registered voter
- Not be an elected official or family member, staff member, or paid campaign staff of an elected official of Stanislaus County

For more information please review the County's Redistricting website at <u>http://www.stancounty.com/redistricting/</u>. The deadline to apply is March 12.

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