

# OAKLAND'S NEW POLICE CHIEF FLOYD MITCHELL GETS TO WORK

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After spending days attending line-ups to meet Oakland Police Department officers, Oakland's new police chief made a soft start to his new job at last Saturday's graduation of a set of recruits. On Monday, his official first day, Chief Floyd Mitchell spoke to the next set of recruits entering the academy at police headquarters and [...] The post Oakland's New Police Chief Floyd Mitchell Gets to Work first appeared on Post News Group.

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**By Magaly Muñoz**

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters announced Monday that they had certified the required number of signatures to trigger a recall election against Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price.



Recall supporters submitted 123,374 signatures before the March 5 deadline, although only needing 73,195 valid signatures to trigger a special election. After the Registrar of Voters (ROV) was unable to verify the needed amount through a random sampling, they proceeded to manually count the signatures, which resulted in 74,757 signatures verified.

Save Alameda For Everyone (SAFE), one of the two primary recall groups, celebrated their success in a press release Monday afternoon, stating they were "thrilled" for reaching this milestone towards ensuring "accountability and transparency in the District Attorney's office."

"We are confident that this grassroots movement will pave the way for positive change and a brighter future for all residents and businesses in Alameda County," Carl Chan, SAFE's Principal Officer, said in the statement.

Brenda Grisham, the other primary officer of SAFE, told the Post that they're excited that the efforts of the volunteers and all involved with the campaign are paying off

"Our effort is just about public safety. Our main focus is keeping the citizens of Alameda County safe," Grisham said.

SAFE initiated its efforts only seven months into Price's administration, a point that Grisham made when discussing how long Price had to prove herself in the District Attorney role.

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She claimed that Price had six months to meet with families of victims and prosecute perpetrators of those crimes to the fullest extent of the law, but instead chose to do the opposite and not protect the people in the community as crime and concerns for public safety continue to rise.

SAFE is calling on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to schedule a special election no later than 125 days after their meeting later this month.

But despite the celebration from the recall proponents, Price's legal team says that the DA is "not happy" with the Registrar of Voters.

Jim Sutton, legal counsel for Price, told the Post that they deem the recall process to be illegal by not following the clear guidance of the county charter to recall local officials.

The county charter states that the ROV has 10 days to verify signatures, which ultimately took nearly six weeks after the random sampling method failed. Additionally, the Board of Supervisors has to appropriate money to the ROV to hire staff in order to make the 10-day deadline, which Sutton claims they did not.

ROV officials did not respond for comment, as staff were instructed to tell the media to refer to the latest update until new information was released.

Sutton talked to the Alameda County Counsel office about the deadline, but claims they gave a "very convoluted" explanation for why they don't have to comply with the 10 days.

Sutton added that many of the circulators of the recall petition were from outside of the county, incentivized by the high payout per signature. He says that this action also violates county charter as circulators need to be residents of Alameda County.

The county charter requires a "qualified elector" to circulate the petition, but also states that the United States Supreme Court has previously ruled that this requirement is an "unconstitutional limitation on protected expressive activity." The charter says because of this ruling, it will follow the state requirements, which only stipulates that a person must be 18 years or older to circulate a petition.

According to Sutton, Price will be asking the Board of Supervisors to not put the election on the ballot based on these alleged illegalities.

When asked if her team will be pursuing legal action should the Board approve the special election, Sutton said, "if the board does schedule the election, will consider all of her legal options."

Members on the Board of Supervisors did not respond for comment at the time of publication.

The Board of Supervisors will meet on April 30 to consider the approval of the certificate of sufficiency for the signatures and the date of the special election.



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**There are no comments yet.**