



**City of Lake Forest**  
Public Information Office

## Press Release

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09/08/2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #2017-04

**Subject :** Orange County Registrar of Voters Verifies Sufficient Number of Valid Signatures for Special Election to Recall Council Member Andrew Hamilton  
**Contact :** Stephanie Smith, City Clerk  
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Lake Forest, CA – On September 6, 2017, the Orange County Registrar of Voters provided a “Certificate of Verification of Signatures” to the City of Lake Forest signifying a sufficient amount of valid signatures were gathered for a special election to recall Andrew Hamilton from the City Council. The results of the signature gathering efforts are as follows:

- Submitted Signatures – 16,225
- Valid Signatures – 9,155
- Invalid Signatures – 7,070
- Invalid (duplicate) Signatures – 1,769
- Required Signatures – 8,834

Per the California Elections Code, the City Council is required to hear this matter at its next available meeting which is September 19, 2017. Based on this schedule, the City Council must take action by October 3, 2017 to call the special election, establish an election calendar, and open nominations for candidates seeking to succeed Councilmember Hamilton for the balance of his term expiring November, 2018. The special election can be held no sooner than 88 days and no later than 125 days from the date it is called. According to the Registrar of Voters, the estimated cost of the special election is \$210,000 - \$240,000.

To run for this City Council position, candidates must be (1) registered voters in the City of Lake Forest, (2) complete a nomination packet that will be available once the election date has been established, and (3) file campaign and economic interest disclosure forms.

On March 7, 2017, proponent Larissa Fellick Clark served Councilmember Hamilton with a “Notice of Intent to Circulate Recall Petition.” The “Petition for Circulation” was certified on March 31, 2017, giving proponents 120 days to obtain the required 8,834 signatures, which is 20% of the registered Lake Forest voters listed on the most recent Secretary of State report.

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