

LUANNE CUTLER  
WASHOE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



RENO, NEVADA

Washoe County is a beautiful and diverse area in the northwest section of the Nevada. This encompasses the cities of Reno and Sparks. It is also home to the northeast section of gorgeous Lake Tahoe. The majority of the population resides in the Reno and Sparks Valley at about 4500' in elevation and approximately 25 miles from Lake Tahoe. There are a wide variety of outdoor activities including watersports, some of the best snow skiing in the country and hiking mountain trails. Washoe County is also the home of the University of Nevada, Reno. There are currently 225,000 registered voters in the County. Washoe County has the distinction of having an evenly divided electorate – nearly the same number of Republicans as Democrats. It brings a great deal of extra media attention during a Presidential Election Cycle.

Luanne Cutler was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to her current position of Washoe County, NV Registrar of Voters in June of 2013. In Nevada, this is an appointed position – not an elected one. Luanne is a member of The Election Center and IACREOT as well as NACCEO (Nevada Association of County Clerks and Election Officials). She works closely with the Secretary of State's Office, the Reno City Clerk and the Sparks City Clerk. She provides input and testimony during our Bi-Annual Legislative Sessions.

She has worked in the Registrar of Voters Office since 1989 and has seen many changes in voter registration and elections during her tenure. There have been two different voter registration systems and three different voting systems. In 1989, Washoe County was using punch card voting equipment. In 1995, they switched to an optical scan system which was well-received by the voters.

After the passage and implementation of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) then Secretary of State Dean Heller chose to move the state to one voting system. Touch-screen voting from vendor Sequoia Voting Systems was selected. We currently use the Edge II touch-screen voting machine through our vendor, Dominion Voting Systems (formerly Sequoia Voting Systems).

The Office of the Registrar of Voters is comprised of only six (6) permanent employees. During an election cycle, anywhere from 10 – 50 temporary employees are brought on and trained by the permanent staff.

Luanne came from the banking world prior to joining Washoe County. She earned an Associate's Degree from Reno Business College in Office Management in 1991. She has been married to Howard Cutler for 39 years and they are the proud parent of a firefighter (High Point, NC) and Captain in the Army National Guard. Howard and Luanne's son, Lance, is married and has two children. The only wish is that they lived closer. In addition to work and family, Howard and Luanne have recently taken up scuba diving and are thoroughly enjoying this new pastime.