

4:11 pm, Apr 27, 2026

Brian Cotta Clerk/Executive Officer  
By: AAdame

IN THE  
**COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
IN AND FOR THE  
**FIFTH APPELLATE DISTRICT**

CITY OF AVENAL et al.,

Petitioners,

v.

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF KINGS  
COUNTY,

Respondent;

LUPE VILLA, as County Registrar, etc. et al.,

Real Parties in Interest.

F091517

(Kings Super. Ct. No. 26CU0106)

**ORDER**

**BY THE COURT:\***

With respect to the “Petition for Peremptory Writ of Mandate or Other Appropriate Relief,” filed on behalf of petitioners on April 27, 2026, the court rules as follows:

1. Petitioners’ request that we order the immediate cancellation of the City of Avenal recall election to be held on April 28, 2026, is denied;
2. The Kings County Registrar of Voters is directed to sequester the ballots from that election, to refrain from tallying and canvassing the ballots, and to refrain from certifying the results of that election pending further order of this Court;
3. All remaining requests made by petitioners in their petition are denied;
4. Real parties in interest are directed to submit a brief to this court within seven days of this order, responding to the issues raised by petitioners on the question of the validity of the election held on April 28, 2026, and the potential remedies available to this court; and
5. Until further order of this court, proceedings in the trial court are stayed.

  
Detjen, A.P.J.

\* Before Detjen, A.P.J., Peña, J. and Harrell, J.