

Calif. June 2018 ballot starting to take shape

By Phil Willon, Los Angeles Times

While a bevy of political hopefuls have jumped into the 2018 races for governor and lieutenant governor, most of California's other premiere statewide political posts aren't exactly drawing a crowd.

Aside from governor, California has seven constitutional officers chosen by the statewide electorate – all of which will be on the 2018 ballot.

Two Democratic incumbents, Controller Betty Yee and Secretary of State Alex Padilla, have yet to get challengers. And the state treasurer and insurance commissioner posts, usually catnip to the politically ambitious, have just a single candidate apiece.

Most striking is the dearth of Republican candidates, a possible symptom of the party's decline in California and dismal prospects for victory. The last time a Republican won a statewide race was 2006.

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