

EL DORADO COUNTY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Oath of Office</i>	<i>CAA President</i>	<i>Retired</i>	<i>Deceased</i> *
John Clark	1850				*
W.F. Stewart	1851				*
D.C. McKinney	1852				*
James Mc Knight H.W. Merrett	1855 1855				* *
Lewis Foster	1858				*
G.M. McDonald	1862				*
J.W.B. Dickson	1864				*
Thomas W. Breeze	1870				*
Thomas A. Galt	1874				*
Richard Doncaster	1876				*
Thomas A. Galt	1878				*
E.F.M. Mortensen	1884				*
C.E. Merrill	1887				*
F.N. Spencer	1891				*
George Hofmeister	1899				*
J.F. Owen	1903				*
George Rieber	1911				*
A. Kramp	1919				*
Elmer L. Scott	1923				*
T.J. Sigwart, Jr.	1951				
John H. Thorne	06/04/1974	01/06/1975		12/09/1992	
John A. Winner	12/09/1992	01/19/1993	2001	12/2002	
Timothy Holcomb	03/05/2002				
Karl Wieland					

El Dorado County was created on February 18, 1850. This was one of the original twenty-seven counties of the State of California. Francis Orellana, a companion of the adventurer Pizarro, wrote a fictitious account of a wonderful province in South America, of a fabulous region abounding in gold and precious stones, where wine gushed forth from never-ceasing springs, and wheat fields grew ready-baked loaves of bread, and birds already roasted flew among the trees, and nature was filled with harmony and sweetness. From this description, a gold-bearing belt was called El Dorado, as in later days it has been called Klondike. So when the discovery of gold by James W. Marshall at Coloma in January 1848 became known to the world, California, and particularly that part where gold was discovered, was called "El Dorado", and it was from this that the county was given its name. *

El Dorado - the far-famed fabulous region of genial clime and never-fading verdure, where gold and precious stones are as common as rocks and pebbles, where wines gently flow from fountains. The name, meaning "The gilded one" in Spanish, appears at the beginning of the 16th century as that of a mythical Indian chief who was said to have been covered with gold dust during the performance of religious rites. **

* H.M. Moreno, Moreno's Dictionary of Spanish-Named California Cities and Towns, (San Luis Obispo, CA, 1916)

** California State Association of Counties, The Creation of California Counties