August 17, 2015

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #15095

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Susan Lapsley
              Deputy Secretary of State and Counsel

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – August 2015

Each month, the Office of Voting Systems Technology Assessment (OVSTA) provides an update on Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and Secretary of State (SOS) activities related to voting systems.

Each update provides information on:

- Voting system related events that may be of interest.
- Administrative approvals and denials since the prior month's update.
- Administrative approval requests since the prior month's update.
- Voting system testing and approval at the SOS office.
- Voting system testing and certification at the EAC.
- Defect, failure and fault reports issued since the prior month's update.
- Ballot printing certification requests since the prior month's update.

Recent and Upcoming Events

A draft of the ballot printing regulation amendments have been created and circulated to: 1) jurisdictions using ballot on demand systems; 2) ballot printers; and 3) voting system vendors. OVSTA requested feedback prior to beginning the formal rulemaking process in mid-September. Comments on the draft were requested by August 14, 2015. For more information contact OVSTA.

OVSTA participated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Voting System Standards Workshop. The Commonwealth is beginning to update and write new voting systems standards. It invited the Elections Assistance Commission, State of New York Board of Elections, Carnegie Melon University and California Secretary of State to hold a one day workshop on best practices for developing and writing voting systems standards. Additionally, the Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is a member of the federal Standards Board and the Standards Board's Voluntary Voting Systems

Guidelines (VVSG) sub-committee, where she will use the information provided to assist with the next iteration of VVSG development.

EAC hosted an election data summit to discuss how good data can help elections run better. The summit took place on August 12-13 at American University in Washington, DC. Attendees included a broad spectrum of election researchers, state and local government election officials, including three California elections officials, and representatives from leading non-profit election organizations. Information on the EAC Election Data Summit can be found on the EAC website.

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On February 10, 2015, the Secretary of State received an application and technical data package for the testing and approval of the Elections Systems and Software, Inc. (ES&S) Unity 3.4.1.0 voting system. ES&S provided the Secretary of State with the updated Use Procedures on July 23, 2015. Discussions on the test plan and test schedule are currently underway.

Administrative Approval Requests

California Elections Code section 19216 precludes a voting system or part of a voting system that has been approved by the Secretary of State from being changed or modified until the Secretary of State has determined the change "does not impair its accuracy and efficiency. . . ."

Information on submitting an administrative approval request is in "Requesting Administrative Approval of a Change or Modification to an Approved Voting System."

- On July 20, 2015, Kern County requested administrative approval for use of a blended voting system comprised of the Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14-A.1 with Adjudication 2.4.1.14601 voting system blended with the GEMS 1.18.24 voting system. The requested configuration is to use the Democracy Suite Election Management System, ImageCast Central and Adjudication components, as certified, with the GEMS 1.18.24 and AccuVote-TSx 4.6.4.

- Dominion submitted an application for the modification to its conditionally approved Democracy Suite 4.14-A.1 voting system. The application only includes a modification to the central count optical scan (CCOS) hardware component and leaves the remainder of the recently certified Democracy Suite 4.14.A.1 unchanged. Dominion is requesting the addition of the Canon DR-G1130 commercial off the shelf scanner as a secondary CCOS to work in conjunction with its currently approved ImageCast Central software version 4.14.4.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides a weekly update of voting system testing. As of August 4, 2015, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14-E. The EAC issued a Certificate of Conformance and Final Decision Granting Certification on July 2, 2015. Related documents can be found on the EAC website**.**

ES&S EVS 5.2.0.3. The EAC is working on final certification paperwork. Related documents can be found on the EAC website**.**

ES&S EVS 5.4.0.0. Test Plan Rev. A was received on July 27, 2015, and the EAC provided comments to NTS on July 31, 2015. Related documents can be found on the EAC website**.**

Everyone Counts eLect Voting Solution 4.0. The EAC is waiting for additional information related to the system. Related documents can be found on the EAC website**.**

The EAC's "Voting Systems Under Test" and "Certified Voting Systems" pages provide more specifics on each voting system.

Defects, Failures and Faults

Defects, failures and faults (problem reports) of (1) voting system hardware and software and (2) ballot printing manufacturing and finishing are reported to the Secretary of State.

- The Secretary of State did not receive any defect reports in the month of July.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

Ballot Manufacturer and Finisher Applications Under Review:

- K&H Printers has requested approval to use the Canon/Océ Color Stream 3900 (CS3900) inkjet printer to print Sequoia Optech ballots at its Everett, Washington facility. OVSTA received a letter of confirmation from Dominion that K&H successfully produced Optech test ballots using the CS3900.

- Runbeck Election Solutions has requested approval for its on-screen ballot marking, duplication software entitled "Novus".

- Dominion provided a letter of confirmation that Integrated Voting Solutions (IVS) successfully produced test ballots for the Dominion Democracy Suite voting system from its currently certified Fresno facility. OVSTA is awaiting a formal application from IVS before proceeding.

- Times Printing has requested certification to print Hart BallotNow ballots at its new facility located at 106 T Street, Eureka, California.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/certification-and-approval/ballot-printer-certification/.