June 7, 2013

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #13046

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – June 2013

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 will provide 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

The proposed Ballot Card Manufacturing and Finishing regulations were submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), the state agency responsible for reviewing and approving state regulations. OAL approved the regulations on March 26, 2013. The regulations take effect on July 1, 2013.

OVSTA will be attending the third annual "State Certification Testing of Voting Systems National Conference," in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, June 20-21. The conference is a forum for state voting system certification staff to work together, to share best practices in each state and to create coalitions that can reuse test data to reduce redundant testing, speed up certification, and reduce the cost of certification.

Administrative Approval Requests

California Elections Code section 19213 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 that 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](#)."

Recently Approved
- Sonoma County, on behalf of the three county elections offices that use DFM Mark-A-Vote, was administratively approved to change the incandescent bulb in the optical scan card reader for its Mark-A-Vote voting system with an infrared bulb.

Under Review – Continuing
- Dominion is requesting administrative approval of a new SQL script, which allows the Vote Validation functionality on its WinEDS 4.0.116B voting system to be turned off in tally type "Recount." This will allow jurisdictions using the WinEDS 4.0.116B voting system to conduct an electronic recount where not all contest are included in the recount (i.e. a single contest recount). The Voting System Testing Laboratory (VSTL) and OVSTA have finalized the test plan and functional testing is scheduled for the week of June 24th.

- Dominion is requesting administrative approval to add a jumper cable to the Insight MemoryPacks to create a constant, known voltage. This is designed to repair the defect in the MemoryPacks that can require election officials to rerun ballots on Election Night. The VSTL and OVSTA have finalized the test plan and functional testing is scheduled for the week of June 24th.

- Dominion is requesting administrative approval of a new SQL script, which identifies 400-C and Insight loads in WinEDS that lack the corresponding preference vote data for jurisdictions using the WinEDS 4.0.116B Voting System to run Ranked Choice Voting contests. A previous SQL script, which only identified 400-C loads, was previously approved in September 2012. The VSTL and OVSTA have finalized the test plan and functional testing is scheduled for the week of June 24th.

- Hart is requesting administrative approval of a new operating system, Windows 7, for its System 6.2.1 voting system. OVSTA participated in the testing for this administrative approval at the VSTL May 13-16. OVSTA is awaiting updated documentation from Hart before the Secretary of State can make decision on this administrative approval request.

- Hart is requesting administrative approval of a new central count ballot scanner, the Canon DC-X10C, to be used with its System 6.2.1 voting system. The new scanner will run on the Windows 7 operating system platform. The Ballot Now software needed very minor modifications to the source code to allow for the Canon DC-X10C to be used, creating the new Ballot Now version 3.3.12. OVSTA participated in the testing for this administrative approval at the VSTL during the week of May 27th. OVSTA is awaiting the test reports, functional and source code review, before the Secretary of State can make a decision on this request for administrative approval.

- ES&S is requesting administrative approval to use the Dell PowerEdge T310 tower as a backup server for jurisdictions using the GEMS 1.18.24 voting system. OVSTA is currently reviewing the documentation submitted for this administrative approval.

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On January, 10, 2013, the Secretary of State received an application for the testing and approval of the ES&S Unity 3.4.0.0 Voting System. The items submitted do not constitute a complete application and therefore the Secretary of State considers the application "pending" until all of the necessary documentation has been received.

- On October, 26, 2012, the Secretary of State received an application and deposit for the testing and approval of the Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14 Voting System. The items submitted do not constitute a complete application and therefore the Secretary of State considers the application "pending" until all of the necessary documentation, including an EAC qualification number, has been received.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides a weekly update of voting system testing. As of June 4, 2013, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14. The VSTL, Wyle Laboratories, will be submitting the draft Test Report to the EAC. Once submitted to the EAC, the EAC has up to 20 business days to review the report. Related documents can be found on the EAC website.

Hart InterCivic. At the request of Hart, the EAC moved the in person kick off meeting from the week of June 10, 2013, to the week of July 8, 2013. Hart requested the change due to delays in development and building of the system. Hart continues to work on development and building of the voting system.

Unisyn OpenElect 1.2. Unisyn's application was approved on May 23, 2013. More information will be available on the EAC website after the manufacturer and VSTL are ready to begin Test Plan development and testing.

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 voting system hardware and software are reported to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State in turn provides the reports to the EAC which provides them to the public on the EAC Voting System Reports clearinghouse webpage.

In May, the Secretary of State did not receive any problem reports. For more information contact the voting system vendor, or OVSTA, or go to the EAC website, at EAC Voting System Reports.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

Ballot Manufacturers and Finishers Certified:
- Santa Cruz County has been certified as a manufacturer and finisher of Sequoia Optech ballots using the Runbeck Sentio Ballot Print System.

Ballot on Demand Systems Under Review:
- ES&S is requesting that the Balotar ballot on demand system be certified to be connected to the DFM EIMS voter registration system.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at www.sos.ca.gov/voting-systems/cert-and-approval/ballots.htm.