March 6, 2015

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #15019

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – March 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

The recently adopted Voting System Certification regulations have been posted on the Secretary of State's website at http://www.sos.ca.gov/administration/regulations/current-regulations/elections/voting-system-certification-regulations/. Included in that page are links to the California Voting System Standards (October 2014). The regulations and standards will become effective on April 1, 2015.

The Future of California Elections held its 2015 Annual Conference on February 18-19, 2015. The conference was well attended and lots of great ideas and information were shared. Information related to the symposium is located at http://futureofcaelections.org/.

OVSTA staff has been asked to speak at the Election Verification Network (EVN) Annual Conference on a panel entitled "Voting System Standards: A State-by-State Approach." The EVN Conference is taking place March 4-6.

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On February 10, 2015, the Secretary of State received an incomplete 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 has not provided the California Use Procedures, source code, executables, necessary software, or funds to cover the associated costs in order to deem the application complete.

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 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."

- Dominion submitted an application for a modification to its conditionally approved Democracy Suite 4.14-A.1 voting system. This application only includes a modified Adjudication version 2.4.1.14601 component and leaves the remainder of the recently conditionally approved Democracy Suite 4.14.A.1 unchanged. Testing of the Adjudication version 2.4.1.14601 was completed on February 3, 2015. The Staff Report is located on the Secretary of State's website at http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/oversight/dominion-voting/. A decision on the administrative approval of the Adjudication version 2.4.1.14601 will follow.

- Dominion submitted an application for a 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 conditionally approved 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 February 24, 2015, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

ES&S EVS 5.4.0.0. EAC approved the application for the ES&S EVS 5.4.0.0 test campaign on February 23, 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.

Hart InterCivic Verity 1.0. The EAC received the draft Test Report and will have all comments or an approval of the Test Report to the testing lab by March 19, 2015. 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 problem reports during the month of February.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

- The Secretary of State does not have any pending ballot printing certification requests.

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