



January 7, 2016

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #16015

**TO:** All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

**RE:** Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – January 2016

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 latest draft of the proposed ballot printing regulations has been circulated via ElectNet. OVSTA requested feedback prior to beginning the formal rulemaking process. Comments were reviewed and OVSTA met with counties and ballot print vendors to make modifications and revisions. The draft that was circulated incorporates those comments. If there are any additional comments, questions or concerns regarding the latest draft proposed regulations, OVSTA has requested feedback on it to be submitted by January 31, 2016, prior to beginning the formal rulemaking process.

A draft of the Electronic Poll Book regulations and requirements has been circulated via ElectNet along with a survey to determine which counties are using or expect to use e-poll books in 2016. Further, OVSTA has requested feedback on the draft regulations and requirements to be submitted to it by January 31, 2016, prior to beginning the formal rulemaking process.

On January 7-8, 2016, members of OVSTA and Elections will be in Washington D.C. for the Joint Election Officials Liaison Committee session. A copy of the program can be located on the Election Center website [here](#).

The National Institute of Technology (NIST) and the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), through its Technical Development Guidelines Committee (TGDC), have embarked upon a public process to assist with the development of the next iteration of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines. There have been seven public working groups created as a public/private partnership to inform and define the guidelines. There are the following three Election Cycle Groups (1) Pre-Election, (2) Election, (3) Post-Election and the following four Constituency Groups (1) Cyber Security, 2) Human Factors, including Accessibility and Usability, (3) Interoperability, and (4) Testing & Certification. More information on the public working groups, including information on how to participate, may be found on the NIST Voting webpage [here](#).

### **Testing and Approval by the State of California**

- The Elections Systems and Software, Inc. (ES&S) Unity 3.4.1.0 voting system testing is underway. The source code review began on Monday, January 4, 2016, and the functional testing will begin Monday, January 11, 2016.

### **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](#).”

- Dominion has requested administrative approval for modifications to its Democracy Suite version 4.14-A.1 with Adjudication 2.4.1.14601 voting system. There are a total of seven engineering change orders (ECOs) under review for components that have reached end-of-life. OVSTA is awaiting documentation on one of the seven ECOs before proceeding forward on a determination. An eighth ECO has been submitted, but OVSTA is awaiting documentation and the completion of testing at the EAC before proceeding forward on a determination.
- Dominion has requested administrative approval for modifications to its Sequoia Insight/Insight Plus and AVC Edge components. There is a single ECO under review for each of the respective components. OVSTA is awaiting documentation and the completion of testing at the EAC before proceeding forward on a determination.

### **Testing and Certification at the EAC**

The EAC provides a [weekly update](#) of voting system testing. As of January 5, 2015, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

**ESS EVS 5.2.1.0.** EAC issued the Final Certification for this system on December 18, 2015. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

**ESS EVS 5.4.0.0.** System integration testing is complete. There was a discrepancy found during electrostatic discharge testing and ES&S is working on determining the root cause and mitigations for the issue. EAC expects to receive the draft Test Report in mid-January. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

**Everyone Counts eLect Quad Audit 4.3.0.** EAC is reviewing questions from the kick off meeting and working with the VSTL and manufacturer to prepare for testing. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

**Hart Verity Voting 2.0.** EAC received the draft Test Plan on December 22, 2015. EAC will provide comments on the draft Test Plan to SLI by January 20, 2016. SLI is working through document and code review for this modification. Testing is scheduled to begin in January. 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.

- UPDATE: On November 19, 2015, the Secretary of State received a problem report for the Dominion WinEDS 4.0 voting system stating that the problem reported is not used in the California configuration, as used in Alameda and San Francisco Counties. A revision to the product advisory notice was submitted on December 15, 2015, notifying OVSTA that the problem report does affect California jurisdictions. OVSTA and Dominion have notified both affected counties. For more information, please contact your vendor or OVSTA.

### **Ballot Printing Certification Requests**

#### Ballot Printing Pending Applications

- Runbeck Election Solutions has a pending application for Dominion Democracy Suite ImageCast ballots.

#### Ballot Manufacturer and Finisher Applications Approved

- Mailing Systems, Inc. (MSI) was approved to print ES&S M100, M650, and AutoMARK ballots at its facility located at 2431 Mercantile Drive, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, California.
- ProVote Solutions was approved to print Dominion Democracy Suite ImageCast ballots at its facility located at 90 West Poplar Avenue, Porterville, California.

#### Ballot On Demand Applications Approved

- Runbeck Election Solutions was approved to print Hart BallotNow ballots on its Sentio Ballot Print System using the OkiDATA C711 and B431 printers.

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