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February 9, 2021

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum # 21018

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – February 2021

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 technology.

Each update provides information on:

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

**Post-Election Reminder:**

As a reminder to all counties who have not submitted their pre or post election reports for the November 3, 2020, General Election, please submit the required reports to [votingsystems@sos.ca.gov](mailto:votingsystems@sos.ca.gov) asap.

Pre Election Report: Election Observer Panel Plan.

Post Election Reports:

- One Percent Manual Tally report with submission of your official canvass.
- Notification of any voting system defect, fault, or failure within 30 days of discovery.
- Remote accessible vote by mail (RAVBM) system user report within 30 calendar days of certifying the election results.
- Notification of any RAVBM defect, fault, or failure within 30 days of discovery.
- Notification of any ePollBook breach, attempted breach, defect, failure or fault within 24 hours of discovery.

### **Voting Technology Testing and Approvals**

OVSTA receives and reviews applications for certification and approval from voting technology vendors on a continuous basis. The status of current applications can be found below:

<b>System</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Submission</b>	<b>Testing Phase</b>
No applications are currently pending and no systems currently undergoing testing.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

### **Administrative Approval Requests and Approvals**

OVSTA received a request from Elections Systems & Software for a modification to the EVS 6.0.4.2 voting system. The modification upgraded the Expressvote Version 2.1 Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) Battery. The request was granted on January 27, 2021.

Information regarding administrative approval requests can be found [here](#).

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

The EAC has been collaborating with public working groups and hosting public hearings to discuss the development of the next iteration of the VVSG, called the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) 2.0 requirements. The meetings included presentations on NIST staff transitions, the RABET-V pilot program, and an open discussion on non-voting election technology approaches. More information on the VVSG 2.0 requirements are available [here](#).

The EAC provides [updates](#) on voting system testing. The latest update from the EAC was provided on June 25, 2020. However, based upon discussions with vendors, no systems currently undergoing testing and certification at the EAC are relevant to California.

Additional information regarding each voting system are available at: "[Voting Systems Under Test](#)" and "[Certified Voting Systems](#)".

### **Defects, Failures, and Faults**

No defects, faults or failures were reported in January.

### **Ballot Printing Certification Requests and Approvals**

OVSTA received an application from Toppan Merrill, requesting certification for printing of Dominion ImageCast ballots. The application is currently in the initial review phase.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found [here](#).

### **Ballot on Demand Printing Requests and Approvals**

No Ballot on Demand applications were submitted in January.

A list of certified ballot on demand systems can be found [here](#).

### **Electronic Poll Book Certification Requests and Approvals**

OVSTA received a request from KNOWiNK for a modification to the KNOWiNK Poll Pad 2.5.2.01b electronic poll book system. The modification added iOS Version 14.3 to the certified system. The request was granted on January 27, 2021. A list containing certified electronic poll book vendors can be found [here](#).

### **Notes and Reminders**

**Election Record Retention-** As a reminder, pursuant to California Elections Code sections 17301-17306, the retention and preservation of election records, which includes digital ballot images is 22 months. Several voting system tabulation components are capable of producing digital ballot images. Additional information regarding how to backup, retain, and preserve the digital ballot images, and whether or not your jurisdiction's voting system has this capability, can be found in the respective Use Procedures, [here](#).

**Disposal or Sale of Equipment-** Regarding the disposal or sale of equipment:

- In 2012, the California Secretary of State issued guidance regarding the disposition or sale of equipment purchased with HAVA and/or VMB funding. See Secretary of State (SOS) County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #12219 - Handling the Sale and Funds from the Sale of Voting Systems or Voting Equipment. The document outlines proper disposal or sale procedures of voting systems or voting equipment purchased with HAVA and/or VMB funding. The document also highlights that all equipment must be void of any software or firmware and returned to a condition of a non-functioning piece of hardware prior to its disposal or sale.
- See also the US-CERT issued [Security Tip \(ST18-005\)](#) outlining proper disposal procedures for electronic devices.