



January 12, 2021

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum # 21005

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters
FROM: /s/ Susan Lapsley
 Deputy Secretary of State, HAVA and Counsel
RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – January 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.

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:

System	Type	Applicant	Submission Date	Testing Phase
Verity Voting 3.1.1	Voting System	Hart InterCivic	7/14/2020	Approved 12/14/2020

Administrative Approval Requests and Approvals

Hart InterCivic has requested administrative approval for modifications to the Verity Voting 3.1 voting system. The modifications include the addition of new languages to meet current California Elections Code section 14201 requirements, and a bug fix for a staging issue. The modified system is named Verity Voting 3.1.1. and it was approved in December.

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

Testing and Certification at the EAC

On December 1, 2020, the EAC opened the submission period for the fifth annual national Clearinghouse Awards. The Clearinghouse Awards honor the enterprising spirit and hard work of election officials across the country. More details regarding the Clearinghouse Awards and submission deadlines can be found [here](#).

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 requirement 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 December.

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 December.

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

Electronic Poll Book Certification Requests and Approvals

No Electronic Poll Book applications were submitted in December.

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.