



May 19, 2021

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum # 21059

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – May 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.

Reminders

Voting System Replacement Funds- If county election officials have remaining voting system replacement funds, they can submit the county's purchases that have occurred between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 without the 25% match requirement. See [CCROV #20153](#) for details on how to submit reimbursement requests.

Tint and Watermark Assignment Requests- Per the California Code of Regulations section 20280, any jurisdiction conducting an election in California, shall request a ballot tint and watermark from the Secretary of State's Office. Jurisdictions may submit tint and watermark requests to votingsystems@sos.ca.gov.

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.
- **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](#).

Voting Technology Certification Testing and Administrative 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
Pollpad v2.5.3	ePollBook	KNOWink	03/02/21	Pre-Testing Request for Proposal Review
Verity Voting 3.1.1	Voting System	Hart	03/14/21	Application Received

OVSTA received an application for KNOWink's Pollpad v2.5.3 for certification. The application is currently in the pre-testing and request for proposal review stage.

A list containing certified electronic poll book vendors can be found [here](#).

OVSTA has received an application for modification of the Hart Verity Voting 3.1.1 voting system. The modifications include replacement of workstations, tablets and printers that are end-of-life and no longer available.

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

Defects, Failures, and Faults

No defects, faults or failures were reported in April.

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

OVSTA received an application in April from Runbeck Election Services, requesting certification for the Sentio Ballot Printing System version 9.2 for printing of Dominion ImageCast ballots, Election Systems & Software Electionware ballots, and Hart InterCivic Verity ballots. The application is currently in the post-testing phase.

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

Testing and Certification at the EAC

On February 10, 2021, the EAC adopted the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) 2.0. More information on the VVSG 2.0 requirements and the EAC's implementation timeline are available [here](#).

The EAC provides [updates](#) on voting system testing. The latest update from the EAC was provided on March 19, 2021. However, based upon discussions with vendors, no systems currently undergoing testing and certification at the EAC are relevant to California.

On February 17, 2021, the EAC held a public roundtable discussion on accessibility for voters with disabilities during the 2020 elections, with subject matter experts and election officials sharing their challenges and successes with regards to serving voters. More information on the public roundtable are available [here](#).

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