



November 10, 2021

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum # 21187

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update –November 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.

Helpful Updates and Reminders

Post-Election Reporting- After every election, California Elections Code, requires counties to submit the following Post-Election reports:

- One Percent Manual Tally report with submission of your official canvass. See [CCROV #21153](#) for the recommended 1% Manual Tally report form.
- Remote accessible vote by mail (RAVBM) system user report within 30 calendar days of certifying the election results. See [CCROV #21164](#) for the recommended reporting form.
- Voting technology incident report form to report any voting technology incidents that occurred during use. Voting technology incidents include, but are not limited to, issues such as paper jams, printing errors, or any defect, fault, or failure pursuant to Elections Code sections 19215 and 19290, and California Code of Regulations section 20161. See [CCROV #21164](#) for the recommended reporting form.

Please submit the RAVBM system user and voting technology incident reports for the to OVSTA via email at VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov . One percent manual tally reports are to be submitted to the Elections Division with your county's SOV.

Tint and Watermark Assignment Requests- The California Code of Regulations section 20280, requires any jurisdiction conducting an election in California to 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.

When submitting your tint and watermark requests, please provide the following information:

- 1) The name of the jurisdiction conducting the election.
- 2) The date of the election.
- 3) The title of the election.
- 4) The date of the close of candidate filing for the election, if applicable.
- 5) The date on which the ballot order designation will be determined by a randomized alphabet drawing for the election, if applicable.

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 6 months for state or local elections and 22 months for elections of federal offices. 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](#).

Further, pursuant to Elections Code section 15209, any magnetic or electronic storage medium used for the ballot tabulation program and any magnetic or electronic storage

medium containing election results shall be kept in a secure location and shall be retained for 6 months following any state or local election and 22 months following any federal election or so long thereafter as any contest involving the vote at the local, state or federal election remains undetermined.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

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.

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

On October 13, 2021, the EAC held a public virtual meeting with the EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC) to discuss the development of the VVSG 2.0 standards and lifecycle policy. More information on the public meeting is available [here](#).

Voting Technology Certification and Administrative Approval Requests

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

Applicant	System Version	Voting Technology	Submission Date	Type of Testing	Testing Phase
KNOWiNK	Pollpad v2.5.3	ePollBook	03/02/21	Full Certification	Pre-Test Planning
Hart	Verity Voting 3.1.1	Voting System	05/11/21	Admin Approval	Application Under Review
Dominion	Democracy Suite 5.10A	Voting System	08/25/21	Admin Approval	Approved On 10/21/2021
LA County	VSAP 3.0	Voting System	07/07/21	Full Certification	Application Under Review

Voting System Certification and Approval Requests

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. The application and supporting documentation are currently under review.

OVSTA has received an application for modification of the Dominion Democracy Suite 5.10A voting system. The application includes addition of SSD drives to the ImageCast Voter Activation (ICVA) laptops and replacement of components that are end-of-life and no longer available. An approval was granted on October 21, 2021.

OVSTA has received an application for testing and certification of Los Angeles County Voting Solutions for All People 3.0 voting system. The application and supporting documentation are currently under review.

A list containing certified voting system vendors can be found [here](#).

Remote Accessible Vote By Mail System Certification and Approval Requests

No remote accessible vote by mail system (RAVBMs) applications were submitted to OVSTA in October.

A list containing certified remote accessible vote by mail system (RAVBMs) vendors can be found [here](#).

Electronic Poll Book Certification and Approval Requests

OVSTA has received an application for approval of KNOWiNK's Pollpad v2.5.3 electronic poll book system. The system is currently in the pre-testing planning phase.

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

Ballot on Demand Printing Certification and Approval Requests

No ballot on demand applications were submitted to OVSTA in October.

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

Ballot Printing Certification and Approval Requests

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

OVSTA received an application from ES&S, requesting certification for printing of ES&S Electionware ballots. The application is currently under review.

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

Defects, Faults, Failures and Other Error Reporting

Voting Technology Incidents- As a reminder, California Elections Code, California Code of Regulations, and conditions of certification, require jurisdictions to submit the following reports regarding the defect, fault, or failure of any voting system, ePollbook or RAVBM system or ballot printer:

- Notification of any voting system defect, fault, or failure within 30 days of discovery (California Election Code [Section 19210](#)).
- Notification of any RAVBM defect, fault, or failure within 30 days of discovery (California Election Code [Section 19284](#)).
- Notification of any ePollBook breach, attempted breach, defect, failure or fault within 24 hours of discovery (California Code of Regulations [Section 20161](#)).
- Notification of any ballot card printing flaw or defect within 2 days of discovery (California Election Code [Section 13004](#)).

No defects, faults or failures were reported to OVSTA in October.