



October 14, 2021

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum # 21164

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update –October 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. Attached below is the recommended report 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. Attached below is the recommended report form.

Please submit the RAVBM system user and voting technology incident reports for the California Gubernatorial Recall Election to OVSTA on October 14, 2021, by close of business at 5:00PM, via email at [VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov](mailto:VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov) .

**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](mailto: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 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](#).

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 six months following any local election and 22 months following any federal election or so long thereafter as any contest involving the vote at the local 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 August 17, 2021, the EAC held a two-panel discussion regarding the lessons learned from the 2020 General Election and 2020 EAVS and Policy Survey. More information on the public meeting is available [here](#).

On September 8, 2021, the EAC met to discuss various aspects of the final stages of the VVSG 2.0 implementation. This discussion included the state of developing voting system equipment for VVSG 2.0 compliance, preparation for testing against the new requirements, and the need for VVSG 2.0 compliant systems. More information on the public meeting is available [here](#).

On October 13, 2021, the EAC will be holding 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:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>System Version</b>	<b>Voting Technology</b>	<b>Submission Date</b>	<b>Type of Testing</b>	<b>Testing Phase</b>
KNOWiNK	Pollpad v2.5.2.01b	ePollBook	09/23/21	Admin Approval	Approved 10/13/2021
KNOWiNK	Pollpad v2.5.2.01b	ePollBook	08/02/21	Admin Approval	Approved 8/16/2021
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	Documentation Review

Dominion	Democracy Suite 5.10A	Voting System	06/23/21	Admin Approval	Approved 8/24/2021
Dominion	Democracy Suite 5.10A	Voting System	08/25/21	Admin Approval	Application Under Review
LA County	VSAP 2.5.2	RAVBM	06/16/21	Admin Approval	Approved 8/21/2021
LA County	VSAP 3.0	Voting System	07/07/21	Full Certification	Application Under Review
Runbeck	Sentio Lite EVS 9.2	Ballot On Demand	04/13/2021	Full Certification	Approved 9/28/2021

**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. The application and supporting documentation are currently under review.

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

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

**Remote Accessible Vote By Mail System Certification and Approval Requests**

OVSTA received an application for the Los Angeles County Voting Solutions for All People Interactive Sample Ballot 2.5.2 remote accessible vote by mail system. The application includes modifications to the system to support the voter’s experience. An approval was granted on August 21, 2021.

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.

OVSTA has received an application for modification to KNOWiNK's Pollpad v2.5.2.01b. The application requests the addition of iOS 14.7 and iOS 14.7.1 to the approved system. An approval was granted on August 16, 2021.

OVSTA has received an application for modification to KNOWiNK's Pollpad v2.5.2.01b. The application requests the addition of iOS 14.8 to the approved system. An approval was granted on October 13, 2021.

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

### **Ballot on Demand Printing Certification and Approval Requests**

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. An approval was granted on September 28, 2021.

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 initial review phase.

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](#)).

Due to an error by the ballot printing vendor, some Tehama County Vote-By-Mail ballots for September's Gubernatorial Recall Election had a print error that caused the tabulator to not be able to read the ballots. This did not affect voters' vote from counting. The ballot printing vendor, ProVote, investigated the issue and discovered that due to human error, the static layer containing the ballot image was not removed prior to the vote by mail ballots being printed. ProVote stated that 30,512 of the mailed ballots were affected. Tehama County worked in four-person bi partisan teams to duplicate the affected ballots.

During preparation of Los Angeles County's electronic poll books for September's Gubernatorial Recall Election, the electronic poll book vendor KNOWiNK improperly loaded a batch of electronic poll books with the voter file of a previous election. Before the matter was identified and remediated, affected voters during a short period of early voting were required to vote provisionally as the improperly loaded electronic poll books identified voters as already voting in the election. Upon realizing the error during early voting, the affected electronic pollbooks were immediately replaced. KNOWiNK has developed and implemented additional processes to the quality control procedures to verify all pollbooks are assigned to the correct election and has revised and distributed documentation related to election imports. Additionally, KNOWiNK will conduct hands-on training with all applicable staff on the staging process prior to every election, limit the individuals which have access to assign elections within the ePulse System, and enhance the Poll Pad® application so that users will see an alert in the application if the Poll Pad is set to an invalid configuration which will be available for certification and use in 2022 elections.

Print Form



## Voting Technology Incident Reporting Form

Use the following form to report any voting technology incident 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 Election Code sections 19215 and 19290, and California Code of Regulations section 20161.

### A. Election Official:

Jurisdiction

Name

Title

Phone Number

Email

Reported to Vendor

Yes

No

### B. Product Description:

Vendor Name

Type of Voting Technology

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot Marking Device     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot on Demand   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Scanner/Tabulator | <input type="checkbox"/> Precinct Tabulator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RAVBM                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ePollbook          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other              |

System Model

Hardware & Software Versions

Unit Serial Numbers

### C. Description of Incident(s):

Date of Occurrence

Voting Location

Election Name

Date of Election

Description of Each Incident. Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary.



## Remote Accessible Vote by Mail (RAVBM) Reporting Form

Print Form

For any election that a California jurisdiction uses a remote accessible vote by mail system, the jurisdiction shall provide a report to the Secretary of State, within 30 calendar days of certifying the election results, listing the number of voters that used the system and all technical issues reported (if any), along with any mitigations.

### A. Election Official:

Jurisdiction

Name

Title

Contact Phone Number

Contact Email

### B. Product Description:

RAVBM URL or Online Address

Type of RAVBM

Democracy Live

LA County VSAP ISB

Dominion

Five Cedars Group

RAVBM Technical Assistance Telephone Number

Number of Voters that Registered to use RAVBM

Number of Voters that Voted using the RAVBM

### C. Description of RAVBM Usage:

Election Name

Dates RAVBM was Available

Date of Election

Description of Technical Issues and Mitigations if Any.  
Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary.