August 20, 2025

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #25065

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Rodney Rodriguez
              Information Technology Supervisor II, OVSTA

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – August 2025

Each month, the Office of Voting Systems Technology Assessment (OVSTA) provides an update on the Secretary of State's (SOS) activities related to voting technology. This includes relevant voting technology events, administrative approval requests/denials, voting technology testing/approvals, ballot printing certification requests/denials, and various reports.

Helpful Updates and Reminders

Update to the California Voting System Standards – The California Voting System Standards (CVSS) were officially adopted by the Secretary of State in November of 2014. The standards have been used in the evaluation and testing of all voting technology, including remote accessible vote by mail systems, certified for use in California. The Secretary of State's Office is currently in the process of updating these standards. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact OVSTA at VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov.

Tint and Watermark Assignment Requests –The California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 7, Chapter 4, Article 9, section 20280 requires any jurisdiction conducting an election in California to request a ballot tint and watermark from the Secretary of State's Office. Requests may be submitted to VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov with the following information:
1) Jurisdiction name.
2) Election Date.
3) Election Title.

4) Close of candidate filing date, if applicable.
5) Randomized alphabet drawing date, if applicable.

Ballot Release Forms – Any jurisdiction wishing to purchase ballot cards from a ballot printer shall request in writing a ballot release from the Secretary of State per the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 7, Chapter 4, Article 4, sections 20233 and 20234. To request a ballot release number, email the Secretary of State's office at BallotRelease@sos.ca.gov for the Ballot Release Form.

Disposal or Sale of Equipment - County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #12219 outlines procedures for disposing of or selling voting equipment purchased with Help America Vote Act (HAVA) or Voting Modernization Bond Act (VMB) funds and 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 California Elections Code section 17603 and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agencies (CISA) guidelines outlining proper disposal procedures for electronic devices.

Election Record Retention - California Elections Code sections 17301-17306 and 15209 provide the retention and preservation periods of various voting technology records. Jurisdictions should also refer to CCROV #22216 and CCROV #24220 for detailed guidance regarding election record retention.

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
Tenex Software Solutions	Precinct Central 6.1.2	Electronic Poll Book	09/25/2024	Administrative Approval	Approved 07/31/2025
Hart	Verity 3.2.2	Voting System	12/04/2024	Full Certification	Pre-Testing
KNOWiNK	Poll Pad 4.0.1	Electronic Poll Book	06/27/2025	Full Certification	Testing
Los Angeles County	VSAP 4.0	Voting System	01/30/2025	Full Certification	Pre-Testing

Los Angeles County	ISB 4.0	RAVBM System	02/03/2025	Full Certification	Pre-Testing
Election Systems & Software	EVS 6.5.2.0	Voting System	04/09/2025	Full Certification	Application Review
Runbeck	Sentio Lite 9.4	Ballot-on-Demand System	05/15/2025	Full Certification	Application Review
Tenex Software Solutions	Precinct Central 6.1.2	Electronic Poll Book	06/06/2025	Administrative Approval	Post-Testing
Dominion	Democracy Suite 5.19	Voting System	06/23/2025	Administrative Approval	Application Review
Democracy Live	Secure Select 1.2.6	RAVBM	07/31/2025	Full Certification	Application Review
Los Angeles County	VSAP 3.0	Voting System	07/30/2025	Administrative Approval	Application Review

Voting System Certification and Approval Requests

OVSTA received an application for testing and certification of the Hart Verity 3.2.2 voting system. The system is currently in the pre-testing phase.

OVSTA received an application for testing and certification of the Los Angeles County VSAP 4.0 voting system. The system is currently in the pre-testing phase.

OVSTA received an application for testing and certification of the Election Systems & Software EVS 6.5.2.0 voting system. The system is currently in the application review phase.

OVSTA received an application for administrative approval of the Dominion Democracy Suite 5.19 voting system to add updated Commercial-off-the-Shelf (COTS) components. The system is currently in the application review phase.

OVSTA received an application for administrative approval of the Los Angeles County VSAP 3.0 voting system to add updated Commercial-off-the-Shelf (COTS) components. The system is currently in the application review phase.

A list containing certified voting technology vendors can be found at: https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/voting-technology-vendors.

Remote Accessible Vote by Mail (RAVBM) System Certification and Approval Requests

OVSTA received an application for testing and certification of the Democracy Live Secure Select 1.2.6 RAVBM system. The system is currently in the application review phase.

OVSTA received an application for testing and certification of the Los Angeles County ISB 4.0 RAVBM system. The system is currently in the pre-testing phase.

A list containing certified RAVBM system vendors can be found at https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/voting-technology-vendors/.

Electronic Poll Book (ePollbook) Certification and Approval Requests

OVSTA received an application for administrative approval of the Tenex Software Solutions Precinct Central 6.1.2 electronic poll book to add 11th Gen iPads. The system is currently in the post-testing phase.

OVSTA received an application for administrative approval of the Tenex Software Solutions Precinct Central 6.0.1 electronic poll book to update the EPB Touchpad app, the Precinct Central Console backend website, and the iOS operating system to iOS 18.3.1. Administrative approval was granted on 07/31/2025.

OVSTA received an updated application for certification of the KNOWiNK Poll Pad 4.0.1 (Previously KNOWiNK Poll Pad 3.9) electronic poll book. The system is currently in the testing phase.

A list containing certified ePollbook vendors can be found at: https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/voting-technology-vendors/.

Ballot-on-Demand Printing Certification and Approval Requests

OVSTA received an application for the ballot printing certification of the Runbeck Sentio Lite 9.4 Ballot-on-Demand system to print Dominion ImageCast, ES&S ElectionWare, Hart InterCivic Verity, and VSAP Tally ballots. The system is currently in the application review phase.

A list of certified ballot-on-demand systems can be found at: https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/certification-and-approval/ballot-printerballot-demand-bod-certification/.

Ballot Printing Certification and Approval Requests

OVSTA received an application from ProVote Solutions, requesting certification for a new printing press and printing of ES&S Electionware ballots. The application is currently in the review phase.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at:
https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/certification-and-approval/ballot-printerballot-demand-bod-certification/.

Defects, Faults, Failures, and Other Error Reporting

Voting Technology Incidents –The California Elections Code, California Code of Regulations, and conditions of certification require jurisdictions to submit the following reports regarding any of the following:

- Notification of any voting system defect, fault, or failure within 30 days of discovery (California Elections Code section 19210).
- Notification of any RAVBM defect, fault, or failure within 30 days of discovery (California Elections 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 24 hours of discovery (California Elections Code section 13004).
- Notification of any ballot on demand system flaw or defect within 24 hours of discovery (California Elections Code section 13004.5).
- Notification of any part or component of certified voting technology for which the chain of custody has been compromised or the security or information has been breached or attempted to be breached within 24 hours of discovery (California Elections Code, section 17603(b)).

Please note that the following forms are required to be submitted after every statewide and local elections:

- 1% Manual Tally Report
- RAVBM Report – Only required if RAVBM is used for the election
- Voting Technology Incident Report

To request the reporting forms for Voting Technology Incidents, RAVBM Usage, or the One Percent Manual Tally, email OVSTA at VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov .