



# Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.

## California Secretary of State

### Office of Voting Systems Technology Assessment

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May 11, 2026

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #26132

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Danielle Dawson  
Analyst II, OVSTA

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – May 2026

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.

#### **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          |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Hart                        | Verity 3.2.2    | Voting System           | 12/04/2024      | Full Certification | Post-Testing           |
| Election Systems & Software | EVS 6.5.2.0     | Voting System           | 04/09/2025      | Full Certification | Pre-Testing            |
| Runbeck                     | Sentio Lite 9.4 | Ballot-on-Demand System | 05/15/2025      | Full Certification | Approved<br>04/08/2026 |

|                |                                     |                         |            |                         |                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Democracy Live | Secure Select 1.2.6                 | RAVBM System            | 07/31/2025 | Full Certification      | Pre-Testing         |
| KNOWiNK        | PollPrint 4.0.2                     | Ballot-on-Demand System | 11/06/2025 | Full Certification      | Testing             |
| Liberty Vote   | Mobile Ballot Production (MBP) 5.19 | Ballot-on-Demand System | 03/12/2026 | Administrative Approval | Approved 04/29/2026 |
| KNOWiNK        | PollPad 3.4.8                       | Electronic Poll Book    | 04/06/2026 | Administrative Approval | Approved 04/21/2026 |
| KNOWiNK        | PollPad 4.0.2                       | Electronic Poll Book    | 04/06/2026 | Administrative Approval | Approved 04/21/2026 |
| KNOWiNK        | PollPad 3.4.8                       | Electronic Poll Book    | 05/05/2026 | Administrative Approval | Testing             |
| KNOWiNK        | PollPad 4.0.2                       | Electronic Poll Book    | 05/05/2026 | Administrative Approval | Testing             |

Information regarding certified vendors for voting technology systems, RAVBM systems, and ePollbook systems can be found at: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/voting-technology-vendors>.

Information regarding certified ballot-on-demand systems and certified ballot printers can be found at: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ovsta/certification-and-approval/ballot-printerballot-demand-bod-certification/>.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### **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](#)).

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- 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](#)
- [Voting Technology Incident Report](#)

If you have any questions regarding the Voting Technology Incidents, RAVBM Usage, or the One Percent Manual Tally forms, please email OVSTA at [VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov](mailto:VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov).