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October 4, 2013

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #13084

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – October 2013

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 systems.

Each update provides information on:

- Voting system related events that may be of interest.
- Administrative approvals and denials since the prior month's update.
- Administrative approval requests since the prior month's update.
- Voting system testing and approval at the SOS office.
- Voting system testing and certification at the EAC.
- Defect, failure and fault reports issued since the prior month's update.
- Ballot printing certification requests since the prior month's update.

Recent and Upcoming Events

The SOS released a second Request for Quote (RFQ) to provide test support services related to the Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14 Voting System. The final date for submission is Friday, October 11, 2013.

Administrative Approval Requests

California Elections Code section 19213 precludes a voting system or part of a voting system that has been approved by the Secretary of State from being changed or modified until the Secretary of State has determined that the change “does not impair its accuracy and efficiency. . . .”

Information on submitting an administrative approval request is in [“Requesting Administrative Approval of a Change or Modification to an Approved Voting System.”](#)

Under Review – Continuing

- In April, ES&S requested administrative approval to use the Dell PowerEdge T310 tower as a backup server for jurisdictions using the GEMS 1.18.24 voting system. OVSTA informed ES&S that it must receive a VSTL determination on the equivalency, pursuant to the EAC Notice of Clarification #2012-01, of the Dell PowerEdge T310 tower to the currently approved GEMS server. ES&S is working with the VSTL and hopes to have something submitted to the VSTL by the end of October.

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On September 24, 2013, the Secretary of State received a revised application and technical data package for the testing and approval of the Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14 Voting System. Dominion has not provided the source code, executables, and necessary software to deem the application complete. OVSTA is reviewing all of the submitted documentation.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC has been affected by the shutdown of the federal government and will not be proceeding on voting system testing and certification until the government re-opens. OVSTA has been notified that the EAC website will also be taken down November 1, 2013, absent a resolution to a federal budget discussion.

The EAC provides a [weekly update](#) of voting system testing. As of September 24, 2013, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14.A The EAC issued a Grant of Certification for this system on September 20, 2013. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

ES&S Unity 3.4.1.0. EAC approved the ES&S Unity 3.4.1.0 application. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Hart InterCivic Verity 1.0. Hart continues to work on development and building of the voting system and expects to finish coding and internal hardware testing by the end of September. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Unisyn OpenElect 1.2. Testing is currently under way at Wyle. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

The EAC's "[Voting Systems Under Test](#)" and "[Certified Voting Systems](#)" pages provide more specifics on each voting system.

Defects, Failures and Faults

Defects, failures and faults (problem reports) of voting system hardware and software are reported to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State in turn provides the reports to the EAC which provides them to the public on the [EAC Voting System Reports](#) clearinghouse webpage.

In September, the Secretary of State did not receive any problem reports. For more information contact the voting system vendor, or OVSTA, or go to the EAC website, at [EAC Voting System Reports](#).

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

Ballot Manufacturers and Finishers

Ballot on Demand Systems under review:

- San Joaquin County requested to be certified to be a manufacturer of Premier AccuVote-OS ballots using the ES&S Balotar Ballot on Demand Print System.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at www.sos.ca.gov/voting-systems/cert-and-approval/ballots.htm.