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February 12, 2015

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #15010

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – February 2015

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 recently adopted Voting System Certification regulations have been posted on the Secretary of State's website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/administration/regulations/current-regulations/elections/voting-system-certification-regulations/>. Included in that page are links to the California Voting System Standards (October 2014). The regulations and standards will become effective on April 1, 2015.

The Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) sponsored the Future of Voting Systems Symposium II on February 8-9, 2015, to explore emerging trends in voting with the diverse election community at large. OVSTA staff attended and participated in the symposium. Information related to the symposium is located on the NIST website at <http://www.nist.gov/itl/ssd/is/future-of-voting-systems-symposium-ii.cfm>.

The Future of California Elections (FocE) is holding its 2015 Annual Conference at the Sacramento Convention Center on February 18-19, 2015. Information related to the symposium is located on the FoCE website at <http://futureofcaelections.org/>.

OVSTA staff participated in the "Usability and Accessibility Roadmap Workshop" at the University of Baltimore on Friday, January 9, 2015. This workshop was sponsored by NIST in collaboration with the Center for Civic Design to create a roadmap to guide future work. This roadmap will outline an infrastructure, topics and a process for NIST to develop guidance to improve the usability and accessibility of voting systems and election processes. The roadmap was presented at the Future of Voting Systems Symposium II.

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On February 10, 2015, the Secretary of State received an application and technical data package for the testing and approval of the Elections Systems and Software, Inc. (ES&S) Unity 3.4.1.0 voting system. ES&S has not provided the California Use Procedures, source code, executables, and necessary software to deem the application complete. Further, it has yet to submit the necessary funds to cover the associated costs with the testing and certification process, as required by the California Elections Code and the Secretary of State's Testing and Certification Process Application Instructions.

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 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.](#)"

- Dominion submitted an application for the modification to its conditionally approved Democracy Suite 4.14-A.1 voting system. This application only includes a modified Adjudication version 2.4.1.14601 component and leaves the remainder of the recently certified Democracy Suite 4.14.A.1 unchanged. Testing of the Adjudication version 2.4.1.14601 was completed on Tuesday, February 3, 2015. A report is currently being written and a decision on the administrative approval of the Adjudication version 2.4.1.14601 will follow.
- Dominion submitted an application for the modification to its conditionally approved Democracy Suite 4.14-A.1 voting system. The application only includes a modification to central count optical scan (CCOS) hardware component and leaves the remainder of the recently certified Democracy Suite 4.14.A.1 unchanged. Dominion is requesting the addition of the Canon DR-G1130 commercial off the shelf scanner as a secondary CCOS to work in conjunction with its currently approved ImageCast Central software version 4.14.4.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides a [weekly update](#) of voting system testing. As of February 3, 2015, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Everyone Counts eLect Voting Solution 4.0. The EAC is waiting for additional information related to the system. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Hart InterCivic Verity 1.0. Hart is working through discrepancies that occurred during testing and preparing for regression testing. The EAC expects to receive the draft Test Report from SLI in February 2015. 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 (1) voting system hardware and software and (2) ballot printing manufacturing and finishing are reported to the Secretary of State.

- The Secretary of State did not receive any problem reports during the month of January.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

- The Secretary of State does not have any pending ballot printing certification requests.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/certification-and-approval/ballot-printer-certification/>.