March 11, 2019

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #19023

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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


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 approvals and denials since the prior month’s update.
- Administrative approval requests since the prior month’s update.
- Voting technology 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**

CCROV #19015 issued on February 27, 2019, gave notice that, effective August 27, 2019, voting systems not certified under the California Voting Systems Standards (CVSS) are subject to withdrawal of certification and conditional approval. The memorandum also provided that, should circumstances prevent a jurisdiction from implementing a CVSS certified voting system by February 27, 2020, a written request for extension of use may be submitted to OVSTA by April 5, 2019. Key dates are:

- February 27, 2019 to March 28, 2019 – Written public comment period.
- March 19, 2019 – Public Hearing
- April 5, 2019 - Request for Conditional Approval for Extension of Use deadline.
- August 27, 2019 – Withdrawal Effective
- August 27, 2019 to February 27, 2020 – Jurisdictions may continue to use voting systems not tested and certified to CVSS.
- February 28, 2020 – Voting systems not tested and certified to CVSS may no longer be used, unless an extension of use has been granted to the jurisdiction.
Regarding upcoming local elections, jurisdictions are required to request ballot tint and watermark from the Secretary of State in accordance with California Elections Code section 13002 and California Code of Regulations section 20280. The Secretary of State’s Office issues County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandums containing ballot tint and watermark for statewide elections only. Requests should be submitted to the Secretary of State @ votingsystems@sos.ca.gov.

Governor Brown signed **AB 2125** into law, authorizing the use of risk-limiting audits in lieu of the 1% manual tally beginning with the March 3, 2020, primary election.

Governor Brown signed **AB 1013** into law, requiring a county elections official to permit a voter with a disability, or a military or overseas voter, to cast his or her ballot using a certified RAVBM system. As a reminder, the county accessibility contracts allow for reimbursement of costs associated with the acquisition or deployment of a RAVBM system. The following systems are either certified or are navigating the testing and certification process in California:

- Democracy Live Secure Select 1.0 (Certified)
- Dominion ImageCast 5.2 (Certified)
- Five Cedars Group Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) 4.3 (Certified)
- Dominion ImageCast 5.10 (Pre-Testing, Request for Proposal)
- Los Angeles VSAP Interactive Sample Ballot (Pre-Testing, Request for Proposal)

**Voting System and RAVBM Testing and Approvals**

There was no voting system or RAVBM testing or approvals in February.

Voting technology application status is available online [here](#).
Administrative Approval Requests and Approvals

Five Cedars Group Inc. submitted a request for Administrative Approval of four (4) new features, one (1) minor bug fix and four (4) cosmetic changes to the Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) v4.3 remote accessible vote by mail system. In accordance with California Elections Code section 19291, OVSTA determined the request to be non-satisfactory for Administrative Approval, as the changes submitted introduced new features and lines of code that require thorough software and security testing. The Five Cedars Group was encouraged to submit an Application for Approval as soon as reasonable to do so.

Information regarding administrative approval requests can be found [here](#).

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides [updates](#) on voting system testing. The latest update from the EAC was provided on February 8, 2019. However, based upon discussions with vendors, no systems currently undergoing testing and certification at the EAC are relevant to California.

Additional specifics regarding each voting system are available at: "Voting Systems Under Test" and "Certified Voting Systems".

Defects, Failures, and Faults

There were no defects, failures, or faults in February.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests and Approvals

Integrated Voting Systems, Inc., doing business as Integrated Voting Solutions, was approved to function as a printer of ES&S Unity and ES&S Electionware ballots on their Kodak 500 Ink Jet printer on February 21, 2019.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found [here](#).

Ballot on Demand Printing Requests and Approvals

There were no Ballot on Demand Printing requests or approvals in February.

A list of certified ballot on demand systems and jurisdictions can be found [here](#).

Electronic Poll Book Certification Requests and Approvals

DemTech Voting Systems, Inc. has submitted an application requesting certification of their Advocate Precinct Management System 3.2.

Robis Elections submitted an administrative approval requesting to the addition of a Microsoft Surface Pro tablet to their AskED ePollbook 3.4.

Tenex Software Solutions submitted an administrative approval requesting to update their iOS on their Precinct Central ePollbook 4.1.
KNOWiNK has submitted an application requesting certification of their Poll Pad 2.3.7 system.

Electronic poll book application status is available online [here](#).

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**Notes and Reminders**

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, on our website at: [https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/](https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/).

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](https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/). 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.
- The EAC issued [Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Funding Advisory Opinion FAO-08-007](https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/). The document outlines proper disposal or sale account procedures for original or replacement equipment acquired with HAVA funding.