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OFFICE OF VOTING SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT
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January 8, 2020

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #20008

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters
FROM: /s/ Susan Lapsley
Deputy Secretary of State and Counsel
RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – January 2020

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 approval requests and denials since the prior month's update.
- Voting technology testing and approval at the SOS office.
- 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

As a reminder, counties are required to make remote accessible vote by mail (RAVBM) systems available to voters ([AB 1013](#)). Disability Rights California and the state Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) have created a remote accessible vote by mail FAQ as a resource for counties to use for their voters that are interested in using an RAVBM. The FAQ contains information about what RAVBMs are, how they work, requirements for receiving a ballot, and more. It can be located [here](#).

For the upcoming March 3, 2020, Presidential Primary Election, please submit to the Secretary of State by 5 P.M., February 21, 2020, the following:

1. Election Observer Panel Plan (EOPP). Please email your EOPP to: VotingSystems@sos.ca.gov.
2. A copy of your election computer vote count program, containing the ballot definition, for the March 3, 2020, Presidential Primary Election (Elections Code section 15001).

For information regarding tint and watermark for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election, please refer to [CCROVs 19138 and 19140](#).

Counties upgrading or implementing a ballot on demand solution for the upcoming election must submit their application to OVSTA by January 24, 2020 so that OVSTA is able to review the application and documentation in advance of the election. The application can be located [here](#).

Voting System and RAVBM Testing and Approvals

The Secretary of State approved the Hart InterCivic Verity Voting 3.1 Voting System on December 27, 2019.

OVSTA is holding a public hearing of Los Angeles County's Voting Solutions for All People 2.0 (VSAP) voting system on January 10, 2020. The public comment period ends January 20, 2020.

OVSTA is holding a public hearing of Los Angeles County's Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) Interactive Sample Ballot (ISB) Remote Accessible Vote by Mail (RAVBM) system on January 10, 2020. The public comment period ends January 20, 2020.

OVSTA held a public hearing of Dominion's ImageCast Remote 5.10 remote accessible vote by mail system on December 16, 2019. The public comment period ended on December 20, 2019.

Voting technology application status is as follows:

System	Type	Applicant	Submission Date	Testing Phase
VSAP Tally Version 2.0	Voting System	Los Angeles County	11/6/2018	Public Hearing January 10, 2020
Verity Voting 3.1	Voting System	Hart InterCivic	5/3/2019	Approved December 27, 2019
ImageCast Remote 5.10	RAVBM	Dominion Voting	10/24/2018	Approved January 7, 2020
VSAP Interactive Sample Ballot	RAVBM	Los Angeles County	11/6/2018	Public Hearing January 10, 2020

NOVUS 5.1	Ballot Duplicating System	Runbeck Election Services	10/14/2019	Application Received
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Administrative Approval Requests and Approvals

OVSTA approved Tenex Software Solution's Precinct Central 4.1 ePollBook system on December 16, 2019.

OVSTA received an application for approval of Runbeck Election Services' NOVUS 5.1 ballot duplication system on October 14, 2019. The application is currently under review.

ES&S submitted an administrative approval application requesting modification of their EVS 6.0.4.2 voting system. The modifications are as follows: collapsible ballot bin improvements, ExpressVote booth improvements, update COTS embedded controller settings on ExpressVote XL, and add ballot bag to DS200 ballot box. The application is currently under review.

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 November 22, 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

No defects, faults, or failures were reported in December.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests and Approvals

No ballot printing requests were received in December.

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

Ballot on Demand Printing Requests and Approvals

OVSTA received an application from Runbeck for their Sentio 9.2 ballot on demand system. Testing is in progress.

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

Electronic Poll Book Certification Requests and Approvals

OVSTA received an application for KNOWiNK's PollPad 3 2.5.0 ePollBook on December 26, 2019.

KNOWiNK's PollPad 3 2.4.8.01 ePollBook was approved on November 2, 2019.

Tenex Software Solutions' Precinct Central ePollBook System 4.1 was approved on December 16, 2019.

A list containing certified electronic poll book vendors can be found [here](#).

Electronic poll book application status is as follows:

System	Type	Applicant	Submission Date	Testing Phase
AskED 3.4.130.0	ePollBook	Robis Elections	02/23/2019	Testing (Functional)
Precinct Central 4.1	ePollBook	Tenex	11/22/2019	Approved 12/16/2019
PollPad 3 2.5.0	ePollBook	KNOWiNK Inc.	12/26/2019	Application Received

Notes and Reminders

California Air-Gap Requirements – All certified voting systems in California must be utilized in an air-gapped configuration. The certifications state: The system shall be utilized in a configuration of parallel central election management systems separated by an "air-gap" where (1) a permanent central system known to be running unaltered, certified software and firmware is used solely to define elections and program voting equipment and memory cards, (2) a physically-isolated duplicate system, reformatted after every election to guard against the possibility of infection, is used solely to read memory cards containing vote results, accumulate - and tabulate those results and produce reports, and (3) a separate computer dedicated solely to this purpose is used to reformat all memory devices before they are connected to the permanent system again.

Ballot Card Releases- Per [California Code of Regulations Section 20233](#), jurisdictions wishing to purchase ballot cards directly from a ballot printer or wishing to have unfinished ballot cards removed from a warehouse for finishing, shall request and receive a release from the Secretary of State. No ballot cards or unfinished ballot cards shall be manufactured, and no unfinished ballot cards shall be removed from the warehouse for finishing, prior to issuance of a specific release. The [Request for Ballot Card Release](#) is available on the Secretary of State website. Requests should be submitted to the Secretary of State at ballotrelease@sos.ca.gov.

Election Record Retention- 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, [here](#).

Disposal or Sale of Equipment- 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. 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.
- See also the US-CERT issued [Security Tip \(ST18-005\)](#) outlining proper disposal procedures for electronic devices.

RAVBM Systems Required- 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 and the voting system replacement contracts allow for reimbursement of costs associated with the acquisition or deployment of an RAVBM system. The following systems are either certified or are navigating the testing and certification process in California:

- Democracy Live Secure Select 1.2.1 (Certified).
- Dominion ImageCast Remote 5.2 (Certified).
- Five Cedars Group Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) 5.2.1 (Certified).
- Dominion ImageCast Remote 5.10 (Testing Completed. Hearing December 16, 2019).
- Los Angeles VSAP Interactive Sample Ballot (Testing Completed. Hearing January 10, 2020).