

2016 Post-Election Voting Equipment Audit Training and Information Q&A
November 16, 2016

Q. Where do I find the notice format for the post-election audit?

A. There is no template; you should use a public meeting notice.

Q. Will the materials from this webinar be posted on your website so we can print them off?

A. Yes, on the webinar page.

Q. Does the notice need to be published?

A. The notice needs to be published or posted according to how you publish or post any other notice for your municipality.

Q. When reviewing ballots on election night for write-ins, my election workers found 2 ballots that were missing the 2nd set of election worker initials. Our count was not off at the end of the night. Obviously our machine counted the votes on those ballots but do we count those in the audit?

A. Yes, the purpose of the audit is to make sure the equipment counted ballots correctly. Auditors should only count votes as the voting equipment would have counted them.

Q. What is scattering?

A. For the purposes of the audit, all write-ins (registered or otherwise) should be tallied under "scattering".

Q. Are all write-ins classified as "scattering"? Or do the registered write-ins needed to be counted individually?

A. All write-ins should be tallied under "scattering".

Q. How do you suggest we separate the 100 or stacks of 20 for the tapes from the Edge? Normally they do not want us to cut them apart for a recount, for instance.

A. Some municipalities use a ruler to draw a line on the tape after every ballot, or after every 20 ballots.

Q. Does the clerk/deputy clerk need to be present during the entire audit process or can we leave the auditors alone and check in periodically?

A. Yes, you can do that. The clerk, or deputy clerk, does not need to be present. Someone should be available to answer questions from the auditors and they should be instructed to keep detailed minutes of the proceedings.

Q. What do I do when we remade ballots because the ballot marking was not being read such as they used a pencil - how do we handle this?

A. You will count those remade ballots along with all other ballots cast on the machine.

Q. Are we going to look at each ExpressVote ballot?

A. Yes, those ballots were fed through the DS200 just like all other ballots and they are part of the audit process.

Q. Does each equipment type have their own Tally Totals or do the Edge and Eagle go on the same total sheet with the hand counts?

A. You should compare the hand count audit totals to the results tape from the machine that processed those votes. For example, all paper ballots should be counted and those totals should be compared to the results tape from the Eagle.

Q. If we are reviewing ballots off of a tape roll, do I assume we do not separate by 20 or 100 but just count the votes on the tape and after 100 votes for an office, we just continue onto a 2nd tally sheet?

A. Yes, you can do it that way or you can separate them into smaller segments.

Q. Do we just audit the paper ballots? Why would we audit the Edge machine?

A. It's an audit of the voting equipment so we are only looking at the votes that were cast on the voting equipment. Please note that this is not a recount, but an audit of the voting equipment.

Q. Is it assumed that December 1 will indeed be the date of the State Certification, for the purpose of setting dates for audits?

A. Yes, our deadline for completion will be December 15, 2016. Please contact the WEC if you will have trouble meeting this deadline.

Q. So there only needs to be 2 auditors to conduct the audit...not an odd number of auditors?

A. At least two, not an odd number and work in pairs.

Q. Our district attorney race was unopposed, do we still need to audit it?

A. Yes.

Q. For an Edge tape, do we need to split the votes down by 20 or can we just count the votes?

A. Count down the tape, but use the tally sheets.

Q. Reimbursement maximum is \$300 to include the \$10 pay per auditor?

A. Yes.

Q. Why do two people have to count the ballots if one person counts them and their results match the machine's results tape?

A. We need two independent tallies that are compared to each other before those totals are compared to the results from the electronic voting machine.

Q. We used two tabulators in each facility this election. The ballots were not kept separate when they boxed them up at the end of the night. Is that going to be an issue?

A. No, as long as all of the ballots from the reporting unit are included in the count for the audit.

Q. The municipal clerk can be one of the auditors and the County Clerk assist also – is that okay?

A. Yes.

Q. There are no "Overvotes" listed. Where do we record that?

A. They can be recorded in the field with the “undervotes”.

Q. What do we do if we have municipalities using the same machine?

A. All the ballots cast on the machine for the reporting unit that was selected for audit should be hand-counted during the audit process.

Q. Can we be reimbursed for meal expenses since it will take us awhile to do this?

A. No.