



Kitsap County Auditor Elections Division

Political Party Observer Training

Daryl Daugs
Chief Deputy Auditor

Regina McRay
Elections Manager

Steve Gardner
Public Information Officer



Agenda

Introductions

Observer Guidelines

Equipment Testing

Process Overview

Random Batch Audit

Canvass Board

Q and A



Observers Guidelines

All aspects of the elections process is open to observation by political party observers and the general public.

Official party observers should be appointed by the major party chairperson

Direct all questions or concerns to the:

- Chief Deputy Auditor – Daryl Daugs
- Elections Manager – Regina McRay
- Public Information Officer – Steve Gardner
- Other permanent staff member



Observers Guidelines

Observers must not:

- Touch ballots, ballot containers or election equipment
- Disrupt the process
- Divulge counts before 8:00 p.m. election night



Observers Guidelines

What to observe?

- 3 Vote Centers (Bremerton, Poulsbo & Port Orchard)
- Processing Rooms (Port Orchard)
- Signature Verification (Port Orchard)
- Ballot Scanning (Port Orchard)
- L & A (Port Orchard-completed on 6/30, video online)
- Random batch audit (Port Orchard)



Statewide Voter Intent Standards

Whenever the Voter's intent is not clear we will consult the Statewide Standards for Voter Intent

- Write-in questions
- Marks not consistent with instructions
- Voter notes
- Etc.





Ballot Program and Testing

- Ballot layout, programming, testing and tabulation are completed by county staff
- Software and hardware federally and state certified
 - Includes hash testing of all tabulation computers and touchwriters (electronic marking device only)
- Several days of testing and staff training prior to logic and accuracy tests



Logic and Accuracy Tests

Testing for **November** General (date to be determined)

- Test ballots are marked in a pattern as required by state law
- Matrix shows the number of precincts/splits for each contest in the election
- Counting system report and matrix totals are matched
- Any discrepancy is researched, and the test is re-run
- Open for observation.
- Livestreamed at Kitsap County Auditor YouTube page



Initial Ballot Processing

Starting Monday July 18 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Staff retrieve ballots from the Post Office/Drop boxes

- Sorter captures the signature
- Files are transferred into the election system
- Signatures are verified
- Ballots are sorted by precinct group or challenged
- Ballot tracking slips and pre-inspection
- Questionable ballots to further review
- Ballot security always maintained




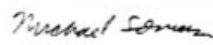
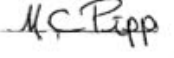




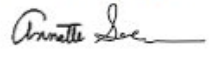
Signature Verification

Washington State Law (RCW 29A.40.110)

- All workers assigned to verify signatures receive signature verification training
- Same style and general appearance
 - Proportions of letters - height to width
 - Irregular spacing, slants and size
 - Style, slope, placement, alignment
- Distinctive or unusual traits
- Natural variations exist
- A single trait is insufficient for validation

Signature Verification

299 Ballots Update All

Signature Verification	Signature Verification	Signature Verification	Signature Verification
<p>Name: MICHAEL BID: 68028423 Voter ID: DOB:</p> <p>Envelope Signature </p>  <p>VoteWA Signatures </p>  <p>Return Status: Review Update</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Voter Information</p> <p>Ballot Information</p> <p>Residential Address</p> <p>Mailing Address</p>	<p>Name: LYNN BID: 68007457 Voter ID: DOB:</p> <p>Envelope Signature </p>  <p>VoteWA Signatures </p>  <p>Return Status: Accepted Update</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Voter Information</p> <p>Ballot Information</p> <p>Residential Address</p> <p>Mailing Address</p>	<p>Name: IVAN BID: 68062565 Voter ID: DOB:</p> <p>Envelope Signature </p>  <p>VoteWA Signatures </p>  <p>Return Status: Accepted Update</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Voter Information</p> <p>Ballot Information</p> <p>Residential Address</p> <p>Mailing Address</p>	<p>Name: ANNETTE BID: 68027731 Voter ID: DOB:</p> <p>Envelope Signature </p>  <p>VoteWA Signatures </p>  <p>Return Status: Accepted Update</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Voter Information</p> <p>Ballot Information</p> <p>Residential Address</p> <p>Mailing Address</p>



Opening Batches

- Ballots are sorted into batches by consolidated precinct
- Batches are assigned a tracking number
- Election workers check out batches
- Ballots and secrecy sleeves are separated from the return envelopes
- Ballots are reviewed to determine if they are ready to scan or if they require further review

Examples: damaged, pencil, corrections, overvotes, white-out, stray marks, barcode issues, etc.



Ballot Duplication

Any ballot that cannot be scanned by tabulation system

- Damaged, sample ballot, online ballot, irregular ballot

A ballot can be duplicated only if the voter's intent can be clearly determined (Canvass Board makes the final determination)

- Two people work together
- An audit log of all duplicated ballots is kept
- The audit number and worker initials are recorded on both ballots
- Separate team of two audits all duplicated ballots



Return Statistics and Result Reporting

Return statistics

- Started on 7/15 and updating every weekday by 5pm until election day.
- Return statistics counts only the number of “Accepted” ballots received.

Results Reporting

- Starting 8:15pm 8/2 (Election Day)
- Subsequent results are posted to the website by 5:00 p.m. each weekday (unless otherwise stated)



Random Audit (RCW 29A.60.170 (3))

We are required by law to perform a random audit of our tabulation equipment

- We randomly select 6 batches from those ready to scan on Election Day.
- A single race is then randomly selected from all countywide races on the batches selected.
- The random batches are scanned and secured separate from other batches.
- Within 48 hours after Election Day a manual count of the actual paper ballots is performed and compared to the tabulated results.



Canvassing Board

County Commissioner, Prosecuting Attorney and the Auditor (designees may be assigned)

- Only entity with the authority to reject a ballot
- Determines if challenged ballots can count
- Certifies the final election results

Canvass/certification of the election:

- 8/15 and 8/16

Sets the date and time for recounts, if any



Recounts

Only after the election is certified

- Machine – difference less than 2,000 votes and $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1%
- Manual – difference less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1% and
 - Local races less than 150 votes
 - Statewide – less than 1,000 votes

Written request no later than two days after certification



Questions?



Kitsap County Auditor



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