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Post-Certified Election Voting System Audit Manual v. Independent

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Post-Election Certification Audit

- » **Law/Rule: s. 101.591, Fla. Stat./R1S-5.026, Fla. Admin. Code**
- » **Why: To ensure that the voting system deployed in the election tabulated votes properly**
- » **When: After election results are certified**
- » **Exception: Not required in any election in which:**
 - > **A manual recount is done under s. 102.166, F.S.**
 - > **Only paper ballots are used and are not tabulated by a voting system**

What it is...

Manual Audit (current law)

A manual audit of a random sample of one contest on the cast ballots, and a random sample of a minimum of 1%, but no more than 2%, of the available precincts

Automated Independent Verified Audit (s. 101.591, F.S., eff 1/1/2014) (new option)

A method to independently verify cast paper ballots

What it measures...

Manual Audit (current law)

Compares the manual audit results to the voting systems results to report and determine the overall accuracy of the audit

Automated Independent Verified Audit (s. 101.591, F.S., eff 1/1/2014) (new option)

Identifies the degree to which the primary voting system agrees with an independent count of ballots and votes

Methodology Involved

Manual Audit (current law)

- » Randomly samples a contest & randomly samples a determined number of precincts
- » Manually counts the ballots in those precincts including EV, ED, AB, overseas and provisional ballots
- » Visually inspects the votes or vote interpretation in the selected race and compares with the voting systems election results

Automated Independent Verified Audit

(s. 101.591, F.S., eff 1/1/2014)

(new option)

- » An automated method that assists an election official with verifying, independent from the voting system's election results, that the results were accurately reported

Sample Size

Manual Audit
(current law)

**Fixed-percentage of
randomly selected precincts**

**Automated Independent
Verified Audit**
(s. 101.591, F.S., eff 1/1/2014)
(new option)

**Fixed-percentage of
randomly selected precincts
or full-rescan of ballots**

Example of a Potential Pilot Prototype of an Automated Independent Audit System (Pending Further Review)

- » **Clear Ballot – Election Verification System (CB-EVS)**
 - > An emerging technology which provides an innovative visual tool that enables one to “see” the voter marks on an electronic ballot image
 - > A diagnostic tool that independently verifies voted ballots and compares the results to the voting system’s election results; and an automated scanning system to audit all or a sample of cast election ballots

Example of a Potential Pilot Prototype of an Automated Independent Audit System (Pending Further Review)

- » **Clear Ballot – Election Verification System (CB-EVS)**
 - > **Capable of verifying valid votes, overvotes, undervotes, write-ins, non-votes, and comparison of votes cast**
 - ▶ **Identifies a definite vote, definite no-vote, and marginally marked votes**
 - > **Prototype/pilot program still under development and does not currently meet statutory requirements to be an automated independent audit system**

Automated Independent Audit System Requirements for Approval

- » In order to be approved for use as an independent automatic audit system:
 - > Must comply with the vote counting segment in accordance with section 101.5605(2)(a), F.S.
 - > Must be capable of auditing sampled ballots within 7 days after election certification
 - > Must be completely independent of the county's primary voting system

(s. 101.591, Fla. Stat., effective Jan. 1, 2014)



Automated Independent Audit System Requirements for Approval (cont.)

- > **Must satisfactorily meet standards as defined by the Florida Department of State Administrative Rule (TBD)**
- > **Must consistently show that results collected from the system can be correctly verified against results from the county voting system, for both the number of ballots and the number of votes**
- > **Must provide the capability for a jurisdiction to use the system without vendor support**

Comments / Questions

