

Citizens' Oversight Projects (COPs)

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May 15, 2014



Michael Vu

San Diego County Registrar of Voters

5600 Overland Ave

San Diego, CA. 92123

rovmail@sdcountry.ca.gov

Dear Mr. Vu:

In an effort to perform duty as citizens to provide oversight to our elections, we will be making very limited requests this year to minimize our impact on your time and your staff's time. By approaching you early, we hope you will be able to support our simple and limited requests for the upcoming election without any difficulty, and thus we can provide limited third party review to further assure the public that their votes have been counted correctly.

I. SNAPSHOT CD

We understand that the one-percent hand tally is performed on a subset of the votes counted prior to the finalization of the election, somewhat of a preliminary "snapshot" of the votes in those precincts.

Our request is for a complete snapshot (on CD or other media) of that subset of the votes in the election (all precincts and types of votes) prior to the "random" selection of precincts for the one-percent manual tally, with an understanding that the snapshot be directly comparable to the results of the one-percent manual tally. This snapshot should be in a processable text file format, probably a report directly from your central tabulator computer.

It is essential for our oversight procedure that we receive this snapshot prior to the "random" selection of the precincts for the one-percent manual tally, and that no further processing, or "fix-up" of the selected precincts is performed to allow them to be used in the manual tally procedure. Thus, any fix-up (like adding in votes from mail-in ballots) should be performed PRIOR TO the creation of the snapshot CD.

Thus, at the end of the one-percent manual tally, we should be able to compare the totals of the snapshot CD for those precincts with the results of the tally, and they "should" compare as an exact match.

We would appreciate for our records a letter from your office when we receive the CD testifying that:

1. It was created prior to the selection of the manual tally precincts
2. No additional "fix-up" have occurred or will occur to the precincts selected in the manual tally.
3. The CD contains all the precincts involved in the election.
4. An estimate of the completion state of your election processing like "X ballots were counted and

are included in this snapshot and approximately Y ballots remain uncounted."

II. WITNESS PRECINCT SELECTION

Our team would like to witness the selection of the 1% manual tally precincts. Please put my email on your notification list so we can make sure we attend this. We can provide an outside volunteer if you need someone to help randomize the selection.

III. WITNESS 1% MANUAL TALLY PROCESS

Our team will want to occasionally visit to witness the manual tally process. We can coordinate this viewing later.

IV. MANUAL TALLY REPORT

We request a copy of the 1% Manual Tally Report. We would appreciate it if you could include the following points in the report:

1. The actual vote count achieved in the 1% manual tally and the vote count used in your computer reports as your comparison (at the start of the procedure).
2. Any discrepancies between the two, and how they were resolved.
 1. Any re-runs of ballots through the scanners -- this is very important to us.
 2. Any manual re-tallies performed and changes in the results.
3. Any changes in the actual vote count resolved by this process.

V. POSSIBLE ACCESS TO MANUAL TALLY SHEETS, SCANNER PRINTOUTS, ETC.

There is a remote possibility that after you have completed your certification of the election, that we may want to review manual tally sheets, scanner printouts, and other documentation regarding the 1% manual tally precincts, but we don't anticipate this requirement to be necessary at this time.

We thank you very kindly for your help so we can perform our duty while staying out of your way. Please contact me immediately if there is any difficulty in meeting our needs for providing our oversight of your election processing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray Lutz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raymond Lutz
National Coordinator, Citizens' Oversight Projects