

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

173



**FROM:** Registrar of Voters

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
January 12, 2007

**SUBJECT:** 2006 Consolidated General Election Review Report

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors receive and file the 2006 Consolidated General Election Review Report

**BACKGROUND:** On November 12, 2006, the Board of Supervisors posed questions to the Registrar of Voters regarding the conduct of the November 7, 2006 Consolidated General Election. Particular concern was expressed regarding voters waiting in line to vote and post-election absentee ballot counting. Working solutions are presented in the subject report to address these issues in future elections. In addition, the report highlights newly-implemented procedures that enhanced transparency and provides detail on other aspects of the election.

Departmental Concurrence

Attachment: 2006 Consolidated General Election Review Report

*Barbara Dunmore*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Dunmore, Registrar of Voters

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ N/A	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ N/A	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ N/A	For Fiscal Year:	N/A

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**  
  
**APPROVE**

County Executive Office Signature \_\_\_\_\_ *Jennifer August*

- Dep't Recomm.:  Consent  Policy
- Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent  Policy

2007 JAN 13 PM 1:28  
RECEIVED BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE CALIFORNIA

## Executive Summary

On December 2, 2006, Riverside County was the 29<sup>th</sup> county—and the largest county in the state to that point—to certify election results for the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Consolidated General Election. Over 230,000 of the County's registered voters went to the polls on Election Day and nearly 160,000 cast an absentee ballot. While both methods of voting presented challenges, the Registrar of Voters' dedicated staff worked diligently to accurately count every ballot cast.

At many polling places across the county, voters waited in line on Election Day to vote—some up to one and one half hours—as voters spent more time in the booth to make selections on an exceptionally long and complicated ballot and printers ran out of paper reducing the number of available voting units. In addition, an influx of voters between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. resulted in range inspectors being unable to change printer paper quickly enough to meet the demand.

In future elections, the Registrar of Voters will hire and train technicians to exclusively change printer paper on Election Day. Grant funding will be sought for up to 500 additional printers. The extra printers will be allocated among the technicians for replacing exhausted printers so voting units are back in operation as soon as possible. Range inspectors will provide back up when necessary, but will concentrate on their primary duty of overseeing a group of polling places. City clerks have also expressed an interest in being trained to change printer paper in their jurisdictions and can serve as an additional resource.

Riverside County had more absentee ballots to count post-Election Day than any California county. Approximately 60,000 absentee ballots were received Election Day as postal carriers across the county picked up ballots from voters' mailboxes and dropped them in ballot boxes at precincts along their routes. The county's 25-year old absentee ballot counting system requires a 4 to 6 hour halt of all processes to generate an update—delaying continued counting and making daily updates unviable.

The Registrar proposes soliciting for a new absentee system with the flexibility to post hourly and/or daily updates—coupled with implementation of recently-enacted legislation permitting absentee ballots to be counted sooner—post-Election Day wait for absentee ballots results should be dramatically reduced.

Riverside County was among approximately twenty California counties faced with the challenge of voters waiting in lines on Election Day and receiving an influx of last minute voted absentee ballots. This 2006 Consolidated General Election Review analyzes polling place problems and post-election absentee counting issues. In addition, it highlights newly-implemented election procedures that enhanced transparency and provides detail on other aspects of the Consolidated General Election.

## **GENERAL ELECTION**

The 2006 Consolidated General Election was held on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Nearly 52% of the county's 755,000 registered voters participated in the election—just slightly less than the 56% voter turnout statewide. Fifty-nine percent (59%) of the County's participating voters cast their ballots at a polling place while 41% opted for absentee ballots. County voters selected among 412 candidates in 133 contests arranged on 318 different ballot types.

Problems experienced at polling places resulted in waiting lines --some up to one and one-half hours--as the length of the ballot required voters spend more time in the voting booth and voting unit printers ran out of paper. The Election Day surge of returned absentee ballots posed challenges for a rapid count and updated post-election results.

This 2006 Consolidated General Election Review analyzes polling place problems and post-election absentee counting challenges. In addition, it highlights newly-implemented election procedures and provides detail on other aspects of the Consolidated General Election.

## **POLLING PLACE VOTING**

Across the county, 605 polling places were opened on Election Day for voting. Each polling place was equipped with 5 or 10 voting units with 6 or 12 printers, respectively. Some polling places housed two separate voting precincts or polling places in the same location. Voting units are programmed with the specific ballot for the assigned precinct. Since VeriVote printers are generic they can be used on any voting unit.

### Range Inspectors

Eighty-one range inspectors were assigned from 4 to 9 polling places (most commonly 8 polling places were assigned) Election Day to ensure polling places are operating correctly, trouble-shoot issues and change printer paper. State procedures prohibit a poll worker from changing printer paper containing paper record copies of voters' ballots. This function must be performed by a "trained technician" (range inspector) and the voted roll placed in a single-use tamper-evident bag to be opened later by the election official.

### Printers

Analysis of hourly voting patterns on Election Day shows that voting peaked in the "after work hours" between 4 and 8 p.m. (see Chart 1). The influx of voters quickly exhausted remaining printer paper causing the voting unit(s) to be taken out of service until a range inspector could arrive and change the paper. This resulted in lines of voters waiting to use the remaining units. Range inspectors attempted to remedy the situations as quickly as possible, but most polling places ran out of paper around the same time and in multiple units increasing the time the range inspector had to spend at each polling place. Polling places were

provided with 50 paper ballots. Some voters opted for paper ballots in lieu of waiting for an available voting unit (see Table 1). Overall, 4,297 paper ballots and 882 paper provisional ballots were cast at the polls.

Chart 1: Votes Cast by Hour on Election Day

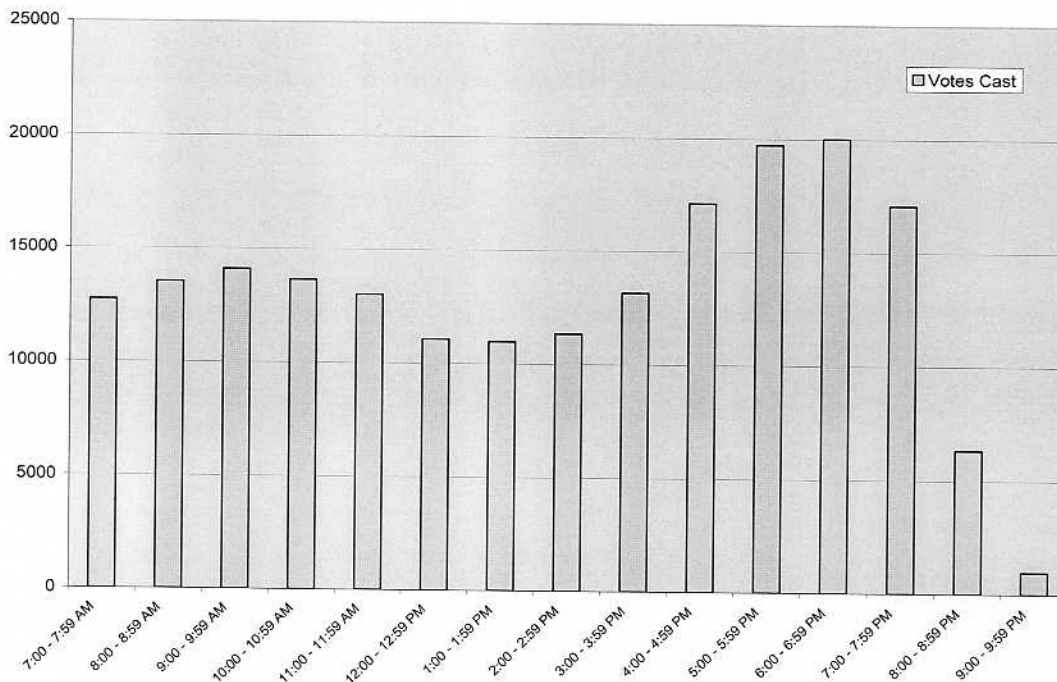


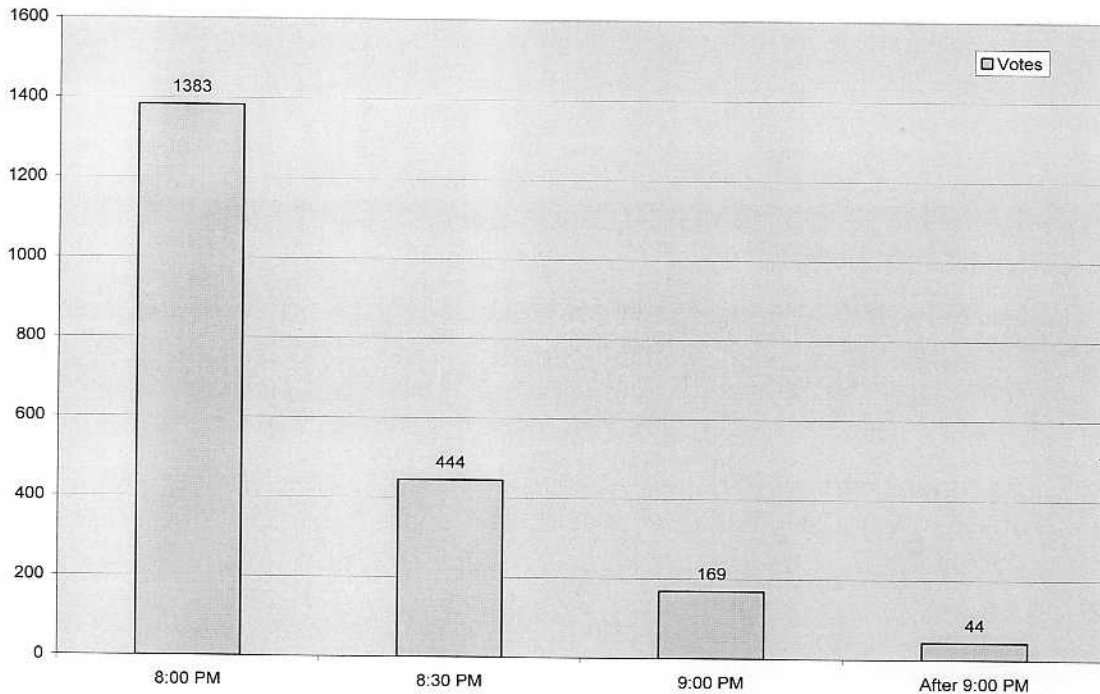
Table 1: Number of paper ballots issued by polling places

Number of Paper Ballots Issued	Percent of Polling Places	Cumulative
1-5	51.0%	51.0%
6-10	10.0%	61.0%
11-15	8.0%	69.0%
16-20	4.2%	73.2%
21-25	19.3%	92.5%
26-55	6.5%	99.0%
56-93	<1.0%	100.00%

At the close of polls (8 p.m.) voters were still waiting in line to vote. State law provides that polls must be kept open a sufficient time to enable all voters in line at 8 p.m. to vote. There were 2,040 votes cast after 8 p.m. (see Chart 2)—over one-third (714) of which were cast before between 8:00 and 8:10 p.m. In an effort not to discourage voters or influence their selections, the first posting of

semi-official results were suppressed until the last voter in the county cast his or her ballot around 9:15 p.m. The first posting of results appeared on the county website at 9:20 p.m.

Chart 2: Votes Cast After 8 PM on Election Day



### Analysis

Based on the length of the ballot, it was estimated that each VeriVote printer roll could record 65 accepted ballots on its 300 feet of paper. The estimate took into account the paper needed for the zero-report and voided ballots. Each polling place received an extra printer to replace an exhausted or inoperable printer. The extra printer was also to be reserved later in the day for posting precinct results. Therefore, polling places with 5 voting units and 6 printers could record up to 390 ballots and twice that amount for polling places with 10 voting units. Some poll workers were hesitant to use the sixth printer fearing they might not have a "fresh" printer to post precinct results after polls closed. ROV instructions that the sixth printer can be used to swap out an exhausted or inoperable printer need to be clarified in future poll worker trainings.

Prior to the election, the above estimate and a projected 40% voter turnout at the polls were used and 105 polling places were identified that might need the printer paper replaced during Election Day to record copies of all the ballots (see Appendix A). Information Sheets (see Appendix B) were developed for range inspectors to show where shortages might occur and identified precincts projected to have surplus printers that could be used as replacements.

Inspectors were instructed to change the printer paper when the votes cast reached 50. A benchmark to change paper was necessary because the amount of unused paper in the printer cannot be seen unless the printer is removed from the unit, the seal broken and the case opened. For the most part, range inspectors who changed the printer paper mid-afternoon averted any exhausted printers in the peak voting hours. Range inspector notes indicating the time printer paper was changed reveal that at least 93 printers had their paper changed after 7 p.m. and of those 21 were changed after 8 p.m.

Nineteen percent (19%) of polling places (115) had over 20 votes cast in the precinct after 8 p.m.--ranging from 21 to 76 with an average of 35 votes. The problem appeared evenly spread across the county (see Table 2). Table 3 displays the twelve polling places with over 50 votes cast after the polls closed. The areas with the greatest number of precincts recording votes after the polls closed were Moreno Valley (16), Riverside (15), Corona (12), and Temecula (11). This data suggests that commuters may have represented a large percentage of the peak hour voters.

Table 2: Number of precincts with votes cast after 8 p.m. by Supervisorial District

Supervisorial District	Number of Precincts with Votes Cast After 8 p.m.
1	23
2	26
3	26
4	17
5	23

Table 3: Polling Places where 50 or more votes were cast after 8 p.m.

Number of Votes	Precinct Number	Area Name
76	38-044	Temecula
75	11-430	Riverside/WD 4
74	11-705	Riverside/WD 7
72	42-900	Del Webb
60	22-075	Corona
59	33-005	Canyon Lake
57	22-020	Corona
54	22-857	Home Gardens
53	22-013	Corona
53	42-904	Del Web
50	14-009	Lake Elsinore
50	38-017	Temecula

**Working Solutions**

- 1) Hire and train technicians to exclusively change printer paper on Election Day. This will allow the range inspector to perform their primary duties of assistance and trouble-shooting at polling places and provide back up to technicians when needed.
- 2) Train interested city clerks to change printer paper. During a meeting on January 11, 2007, many city clerks expressed a desire to become trained to change printer paper. As their city's election official, city clerks visit polling places in their city on Election Day. With training they could be equipped to address printer issues.
- 3) Establish scheduled timeframes for changing paper to avoid exhausted printers in peak voting hours.
- 4) Seek state approval to modify the VeriVote printer's outer case to provide a slot for viewing the paper supply.
- 5) Seek grant funding for up to 500 additional VeriVote printers (\$500,000) to provide each technician with 5 replacement printers to expedite paper changes.

**POST-ELECTION ABSENTEE COUNTING**

Nearly 160,000 voters voted by absentee ballot and approximately 100,000 of those ballots remained to be counted after Election Day. State law (EC §3019) requires that the signature on every returned absentee ballot envelope be compared with the voter's signature on their original voter affidavit. If the signatures compare, the ballot is filed in precinct order and staged for public opening. Absentee ballots can be opened and processed up to 7 days prior to the election. State law also provides election officials up to 28-days after the election to complete the ballot tally and official audit of the election, known as the canvass. In order to ensure ballots in the processing stream are counted by Election Night, ballots received after November 3<sup>rd</sup> were set aside to be processed and counted during the canvass.

**Postal Partnership**

Over the years, the ROV has established a partnership with the regional mail processing center in Redlands. The Post Office sorts returned absentee ballots into precinct order before they are delivered to the ROV. ROV staff travel to the post office on Election Night to pick up ballots in the mail stream so they are in the election official's custody before the close of polls and can be included in the official tally.

Mid-day November 7, the ROV was informed by the San Bernardino postal representative that carriers in Riverside County were reporting they were picking

up substantially more return absentee ballots from voters mailboxes than in past elections; moreover, the post office would not be able to sort them from the rest of the mail and put them into precinct order before 8 p.m. The post office agreed to instruct their carriers to go by polling places on their route and deposit the absentee ballots in a ballot box. Thousands of ballots mailed by voters on Election Day were in the Registrar's custody by the close of polls as a result of this excellent partnership.

The Election Day mailing by absentee voters occurred despite notices in the Sample Ballot and on the return ballot envelope that ballots must be received by the Registrar of Voters office by the close of polls in order to be counted. The length of the ballot contributed to some voters holding onto their ballot longer to make selections, but a last minute push by the political parties to absentee voters to mail their ballots is also believed to have added to the last minute mailings.


#### Absentee Counting

Once the ballot boxes were emptied (November 8 -10), the ballots needed to be returned to the post office to be sorted into precinct order. However, due to the backlog of mail from the Veterans' Day holiday, the post office could not accommodate our job until the early morning of November 14<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, staff verified signatures on ballot envelopes and a few staff were assigned to prepare the ballots for return to the post office.

Absentee ballots were opened and counted on November 16, 17, 18, and 20. Before results are updated, a card count audit is performed to ensure the accuracy of the count (the number of ballots counted in each precinct matches the number of ballots returned for the precinct). The audit takes from 4 to 8 hours to complete during which time ballots cannot be signature verified, scanned, or added to the count. This halt in procedures does not make daily updates viable. A calendar of the absentee counting process is presented as Table 4.

Typically, ballots are counted in precinct order. The first number in precinct indicates the supervisorial district in which the precinct is located. For close elections, the order of counting can be dictated, but an audit would need to be performed before the release of any results; thus, delaying results for contests located in other areas.

Table 4: Calendar of Post-Election Canvass Activities

November 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Absentees received after today not included in Election Night Results	4
5	6	7 <b>ELECTION DAY</b> 	8 Ballot boxes emptied  Randomly Draw 1% precincts	9	10 Veterans' Day	11 Absentee Signature Verification
12 Signature verification cont.	13  Roster Audit	14 Post Office sorting of absentee ballots into precinct order	15 Stage ballots to be opened and counted	16 Absentee	17 ballots opened	18 and counted
19  Continue Roster Audit	20 Card audit. Absentee Update  Provisional Research	21 Begin 1% manual audit	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24 County Holiday	25
26	27 Continue 1% manual audit  Continue Provisional Research	28 Apply Provisionals	29	30	1	2  Election Certified

**Working solutions**

- 1) As permitted by newly-enacted Senate Bill 1276 (Ch. 372, 2006), the ROV will begin processing absentee ballots 7 business days prior to the election gaining up to an additional four days of processing. This will allow more ballots to be counted and included in the semi-official Election Night results.
- 2) Develop an effective education campaign to educate absentee voters that ballots must be in the Registrar of Voters' custody by 8 p.m. on Election Day to be counted. Postmarks are not accepted.

- 3) Solicit bid proposals to replace the county's 25-year old absentee ballot system. Most new systems provide the flexibility to post hourly updates and accommodate the postal service's "planet code" that enables absentee ballots to be tracked to the voter's mailbox.

## **NEWLY-IMPLEMENTED PROCEDURES**

### Precinct Posting

Precinct results were posted outside polling places (with the exception of schools and residences) at the close of polls. This was accomplished by having a reserve printer at each polling place that was sequentially attached to each voting unit at the close of polls. In some precincts the reserve printer was used for voting. If the printer contained copies of voters' ballots, the poll worker could not open it to post results. In those instances, poll workers were instructed to write down the number of votes cast on each voting unit and post it outside the precinct, in lieu of results.

Schools and residences were instructed to return their precinct results reports to the ROV on Election Night to be posted in the ROV lobby. The postings remained in the lobby for ten days.

### Virtual Posting

In addition to precinct posting, the ROV posts the results by precinct and voting unit on its website at the conclusion of vote counting on Election Night. This enables observers to compare precinct results posted at the polls with those counted by the tally system. To date, no reports have been received that precinct result postings did not match virtual posting produced by the tally system.

Riverside County is the only county in the state performing virtual posting. To make look up easier, the ROV will add the polling place and area name to the precinct number in future elections.

### Voting Opportunity Offered to Fire Victims

The ROV used its mobile voting vehicle (R.O.V.E.R.) to make voting available to residents affected by the Esperanza fire area on Election Day. The area has 1200 registered voters and is comprised solely of mail ballot precincts, but few ballots had been returned. Most residents had not been allowed back to their homes and had sought refuge in the Silent Valley R.V. Park. The voting vehicle was parked at the R.V. Park from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for voting.

### Tally Monitor

A tally monitor that displayed the status of cartridges as they were processed on Election Night was placed in the ballot counting window facing the community room. This allowed observers to see the same information that election staff monitor as cartridges are processed. The monitor was not labeled and most

observers appeared puzzled as to what they were viewing. In the future an informational diagram will be placed near the terminal to educate observers.

#### Bar Coding of Election Inventory

The ROV implemented bar coding to track voting units and vote results cartridges deployed during the election. Bar codes on voting units were scanned when the units were picked up and returned by the transfer company. Vote result cartridges were scanned as they were returned to the central counting center or remote transmission site. The limited implementation was a success and will be expanded in future elections.

#### Enhanced Viewing of One-Percent Manual Tally

On October 3, 2006, the Board approved purchase of five overhead cameras to project the ballot records on the printer tapes used during the one-percent manual tally. Four of the cameras were projected onto a single large screen and the fifth was projected onto a stand alone monitor. Although the cameras vibrate when the room's cooling system is on, their images remains readable. The best image, and least disturbed by the vibration, was that projected on the stand alone monitor.

The tally room was assembled with stanchions around each counting table that permitted observers viewing from all sides. A video and photography area was designated and a gallery of chairs was provided for extended observation. Blank tally sheets were provided upon request for observers to perform their own audit.

### **PRE-ELECTION**

#### Sample Ballots

September 28<sup>th</sup> was the first day the Sample Ballot and Information Pamphlets could be mailed to voters for the General Election.

During August 2006, the Registrar of Voters reviewed proposals from vendors to produce the county's sample ballot. Merrill Communications of LaMirada was selected and their subcontractor World Marketing-Los Angeles (WM) would label and mail the sample ballots. The production and quality of the sample ballots met expectations. However, labeling and mailing of the sample ballots needs improvement.

Merrill overlooked that the back cover of our sample ballot requires printing in a 6-inch area—the polling place location and handicap accessible information at the top and the voter's address on the bottom. This resulted in only one of WM's printers being able to address our sample ballots. In addition, each book had to be fed through the printer twice adding more processing time before mailing.

The Registrar has informed Merrill that the county will no longer use WM for sample ballot mailings and will instead use a local mailing house for future elections equipped with multiple printers that accommodate a 6-inch address area.

#### Absentee Ballots

The first day absentee ballots could be mailed out was October 10<sup>th</sup>. Forty-one percent (41%) of participating voters cast an absentee ballot in the election. Of those, 70% are permanent absentee voters and 22% requested an absentee ballot just for the Consolidated General Election. Over 65,000 voters were mailed absentee ballots and did not return them.

Sequoia Printing Services printed the 318 different ballot types for the November 2006 General Election. Only four printers are certified by the State to print Mark-A-Vote ballots. Delivery and quality concerns experienced in the June Primary prompted the Registrar to contact the other three vendors, but none were equipped to assume Riverside's volume. Discussions with Sequoia resulted in improved quality and performance in November. One error was discovered that required a separate mailing of an "F" card to 180 Hemet voters because the card was omitted from the ballot pads printed by Sequoia.

#### Absentee Ballot Postage

The length of the ballot required 5 or 6 Mark-A-Vote cards to accommodate all contests. Because the optical scanners can only read No. 2 pencil marks, one is enclosed with the ballot and secured by a secrecy sleeve to prevent the pencil from moving around and making unintended marks. Although the weight of 6 cards in the return envelope was less than one ounce, most voters return their ballot in the secrecy sleeve increasing the weight to slightly over an ounce and requiring 63 cents return postage. In addition, many voters also return the pencil. Therefore, the Registrar issued a press release on October 10 informing voters that 63 cents postage or two 39-cent stamps would be required to return the ballot by mail. An insert was immediately developed and placed in outgoing ballots. About 40,000 ballots previously mailed did not include the insert.

The Registrar of Voters established a fund with the U.S. Post Office to cover any insufficient postage on returned ballots. The Registrar has not received any information that a voter's ballot was returned to the sender for insufficient postage.

#### Early Voting

Early voting is conducted in the Registrar of Voters (ROV) office, regional malls, and R.O.V.E.R. (the county's mobile voting vehicle).

#### *Registrar of Voters Office*

Early voting at the ROV coincides with the start of the absentee period (October 10) and runs through the close of polls on Election Day. The ROV's Saturday

opening immediately proceeding Election Day to offer early voting proved extremely successful. Over 3,300 ballots were cast at the ROV for the General Election.

#### *Regional Malls*

October 21 - 29 voters were offered the opportunity to vote early at three regional malls: the Galleria at Tyler in Riverside, the Promenade in Temecula, and Westfield's Shopping Town in Palm Desert. Just fewer than 7,000 ballots were cast at the malls over the nine day period.

#### *R.O.V.E.R*

October 19 – November 4, the county's mobile voting vehicle was available at 10 sites throughout the county for early voting. Inclusion of the schedule on the Sample Ballot increased voting on R.O.V.E.R. by 300% over the Primary Election.

The ROV partnered with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) to have the mobile voting vehicle available at Metrolink stations on scheduled evenings to offer returning commuters the convenience of voting early. Although advertised in the Sample Ballot, the schedule was not available prior to printing. RCTC advertised the service through seat flyers and banners at each station.

Table 5: Ballots cast at early voting sites

<b>Early Voting Site</b>	<b>Ballots Cast</b>
ROV Lobby (East Riverside)	3,318
Galleria (Riverside)	2,087
Promenade (Temecula)	2,434
Westfield (Palm Desert)	2,370
R.O.V.E.R (excluding Metrolink)	296
R.O.V.E.R. at Metrolink Stations	123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,628</b>

#### Logic and Accuracy Testing

Public logic and accuracy testing is conducted on a sample of voting units and the paper ballot optical scanners prior to each election.

#### *Electronic Voting Units*

Public logic and accuracy testing is conducted on early voting units that contain all ballots types, contests and candidates. Three voting units were used—one for English, one for Spanish, and one for audio/manual voting.

An automated vote simulation script was initiated on the English and Spanish units to cast a pattern of votes in every contest and for every candidate. A total of 1,414 ballots were cast (707 on each unit).

Observers are provided facsimile ballots and asked to mark the ballots. The observers' selections are then entered into the third (audio/manual) unit by making selections on the touch screen or using the audio function to cast the ballot. Ballots (audio and manual) are cast in both English and Spanish.

Logic and accuracy testing of the electronic voting units was conducted on October 6<sup>th</sup> and was estimated to take 6 to 7 hours to complete. However, the test did not conclude until Monday, October 9. The original estimate did not consider the time that would be consumed printing out a paper record copy of every ballot cast (3 feet each in length) and changing the VeriVote printers when the paper was exhausted. In addition, loading the audio files for 318 different ballot types onto the audio/manual unit took the greater part of the first testing day. The test on the units running the script concluded on Saturday, October 7. On October 9, the manual entry of the voted facsimile ballots was concluded. Tallies of the votes cast verified the county's electronic voting system performed with 100 percent accuracy in the test.

All voting units used in an election are subjected to logic and accuracy testing before deployment. Testing on precinct voting units takes 15 to 20 minutes per unit because they are programmed with only one ballot type.

#### *Paper/Absentee System*

Public logic and accuracy testing of the absentee system utilizes a test deck of ballots pre-marked according to a script. The script insures that every contest and every candidate receives votes and produces a patterned outcome. On October 18<sup>th</sup>, the test decks were read by the optical scanners in view of observers and results mirrored the expected outcome.

#### Voting Unit and Printer Delivery

A total of 3,525 voting units were delivered to 605 polling places throughout the county before Election Day. The ROV contracts with four transfer companies to deliver the voting units and the VeriVote printers. Each polling place receives 5 or 10 voting units and 6 or 12 printers, respectively. The polling place stores the voting units and printers until Election Day. Some polling places store and/or lock them out of sight while others leave them in common areas and/or in the open. Both practices have advantages and disadvantages.

Voting units locked and stored out of sight provide the opportunity for someone gaining access to the units to spend unlimited time with minimal fear of being observed. Voting units stored in common areas are more accessible, but are also viewed by many people increasing the likelihood that manipulation or intrusion into the units would be noticed. Some units are stored at residences

being used as polling places. In these instances, the residents are typically not the poll workers and the card activation unit is issued to the precinct inspector. Any tampering with voting units prior to Election morning would compromise the tamper-evident seals and the unit(s) would not be placed into service on Election Day.

#### *Voting Units*

Each voting unit is equipped with serialized tamper-evident seals. During Election-eve set up of the units, poll workers verify that the seals have not been compromised and confirm the recorded serial numbers. An identical inspection is performed Election morning.

The unit remains in the "Polls Closed" position until Election morning when the unit is placed in the "Polls Open" mode and a zero report is produced to confirm that no votes have been cast on the unit prior to polls opening. When the unit is returned to the "Polls Closed" position the unit will not accept any further voting even if it is returned to the "Polls Open" mode. This prevents a unit from being placed into service that may have been compromised.

#### *Printers*

During the June Primary, printers were distributed to lead poll workers during training. They were responsible for transporting them to the polling place on Election Day and to the collection center at the close of polls. Poll workers commented that the printers were extremely heavy (weighing 10 lbs each and 60 or 120 pounds collectively) especially for women and senior-age poll workers (see Appendix C). They requested tubs of printers be delivered to polling places along with the voting units.

For the General Election, the printers were delivered to polling places in tubs with two seals in place and two replacement seals. The printers remained at the polling place with the paper inside until returned to the ROV by the transfer company. According to State procedures, poll workers are prohibited from opening printers containing paper record copies of ballots. Although 63%% of voting units and printers were returned to the ROV within 48 hours of the election, units from the desert took up to seven days to be returned.

### **ELECTION DAY**

All 605 polling places opened timely on Election Day. A total of 2,602 poll workers were recruited to work the polls including 280 students (a marked increase from 42 in June 2006). Three-hundred eighteen (318) ballot types, consisting of 133 contests and 412 candidates (plus one write-in), were required to conduct the election. Each Edge II unit was programmed with an English and Spanish ballot specific to its assigned voting precinct. One voting unit for each polling place was also programmed with an audio ballot in English and Spanish.

Voters showing up at other than their home precinct, and wanting to vote, were offered provisional ballots.

#### Paper Ballots

On October 3, 2006, the Secretary of State required county election officials to have paper ballots at polling places in an amount determined adequate by the election official. Based on the declining requests for paper ballots (3,973 in 11/04, 296 in 11/05, and 198 in 6/06) fifty paper ballots were provided to each polling place. Of the 30,250 paper ballots available, 5,179 were issued (or 17%). Two hundred eighteen (218) polling places (36%) did not issue or receive any voter requests for paper ballots. As Table 2 (above) demonstrates, the majority of polling places issuing paper ballots issued 5 or less.

#### Voting Unit Interface

Post-election analyses verify that no voting unit used on Election Day was placed into the manual mode using the voting unit interface function. This function was highly publicized prior to Election Day by voting integrity advocates as an avenue for (nefarious) voters to cast multiple ballots that may not be detected until the close of polls. The Secretary of State issued additional security measures that duplicated the measures already in place in Riverside County to prevent manual activation by voters.

The interface function was used throughout Election Day to eject cards with bad encryption, inserted backwards, or stuck in the unit (81%), calibrate the touch screen (15%), cancel activation (2.5%), eject a card after a voter exited the booth without casting a ballot (<1%), place the unit in audio mode (<1%).

#### Voting Unit Performance

Few voting unit issues were reported on Election Day. Most units replaced or taken out of service on Election Day were the result of voter activation cards stuck in the insertion slot. Diagnostic tests revealed that some of the card activator cables became disconnected during transport to the polling place. The cable will be secured during post-election maintenance and is not anticipated to be a problem in future elections.

#### Undervote Prompt

The Consolidated General Election ballot had several contests where voters could select more than one candidate. In instances where the voter chooses to select fewer than the maximum allowable selections (known as an "undervote"), the review screen prompts the voter with "No Selection Made" in red letters in place of a candidate's name. This prompt allows the voter to return to the contest and make further selections, if desired. Many voters misinterpreted the undervote prompt as referring to the entire contest and expressed concern that their selection(s) would not be counted. In future elections, the ROV will dedicate a page in the Sample Ballot to educate voters on this federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requirement.

### Precinct Posting

As described in the section titled "Newly-Implemented Procedures," precinct results were posted outside polling places at the close of polls, with the exception of schools and residences. Precinct results from schools and residences were posted in the Registrar of Voters lobby.

## **ELECTION NIGHT VOTE COUNTING**

### Remote Transmission

The ROV again used the Indio remote transmission site to transmit vote data from 100 polling places in the desert. County IT restricted traffic on CORNET and monitored the transmission. The data was received in a timely fashion and included in semi-official result updates throughout the night.

### Semi-Official Results Posting

The first semi-official results posting on the county's website was delayed until 9:20 p.m. to allow all voters in line at the polls at 8 p.m. to cast a ballot. The ROV posted a total of eight updates—the final at posting of the night was at 1:47 a.m.

Election Night the ROV was informed that the county's website was offline 10 -15 minutes. However, reports throughout the county indicate that some observers were unable to access results for extended time periods. Some reports indicate that results were accessible by going directly to the ROV website [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net), but were inaccessible when navigating through the county's homepage.

As in past elections, IT restricted access to CORNET to permit the remote transmission of vote data from Indio. The restrictions may have inadvertently prohibited users outside CORNET from seeing updates when accessed through certain URLs. To ensure that there are no future reoccurrences of this problem, IT will be updating the Election Night network security procedure to include web site monitoring and ensure the updates are received and applied for viewing on the web site.

## **POST-ELECTION CANVASS**

### Absentee Ballots

A detailed discussion of absentee ballot counting is discussed above in "Post-Election Absentee Counting."

### Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots are offered to voters whose names do not appear on the roster at the polling place where they show up to vote. Provisional voters voting electronically are provided an ID tag to check the ROV website or call the ROV office 30 days after the election to find out if their ballot was counted.

A provisional ballot is held in a pending state until the election officer verifies: the voter is registered in the county; the signature matches the original voter affidavit; the voter has not previously voted in the election; and, a determination is made on the voter's correct precinct. When verified, the election officer manually inputs the ID tag and enters a command to reject the ballot, accept the ballot, or accept the ballot with modifications (the system automatically culls off the contests a voter is not entitled to vote in if voting in other than their home precinct). The actual ballot is never viewed by the election officer. In the General Election, 14,443 electronic provisional ballots were issued.

Paper provisional ballots require the same research as electronic provisionals, except that they are manually duplicated onto the correct ballot type (to cull off erroneous contests) when the voter does not vote in their home precinct. Eight hundred eighty-two (882) paper provisional ballots were issued in November 2006.

#### One-Percent Manual Tally

Seven (7) precincts were randomly selected on November 9 representing one percent of polling place precincts to be manually tallied. An additional 26 precincts were selected for inclusion in the manual tally to cover all contests and all candidates on the 318 different ballot types. Electronic and absentee ballots are included in the tally. The one-percent manual tally commenced November 21 and concluded on December 2.

#### Certification

Riverside County's election results were certified on December 2, 2006. The county was the 29<sup>th</sup> county in the state to certify election results before the December 5 deadline. Riverside was the first large county to certify results; Sacramento, a county with 300 fewer polling places and 100,000 fewer registered voters, certified results on November 30.

#### **RECOUNT**

A recount for the Coachella Valley Unified School District Trustee Area 1 was called by a candidate. The recount was conducted on November 13 and was stopped by the candidate in the afternoon. The December 2, 2006 certified results remain the official results for this and all contests.

VP	Area Name	Polling Place	Expected Turnout @ 40%	VVPATs Issued	Possible # of Votes on VVPATs issued	Possible Shortage of Paper (Votes)	Shortage of VVPATs
11-111	RIVERSIDE/WD 1	Gethsemane Lutheran Church	438.8	6	390	49	1
11-115	RIVERSIDE/WD 1	Brothers Residence	437.6	6	390	48	1
11-225	RIVERSIDE/WD 2	St Andrew's Orthodox Christian Church	444.4	6	390	54	1
11-307	RIVERSIDE/WD 3	Temple Beth El	454.8	6	390	65	1
11-409	RIVERSIDE/WD 4	Cardey Residence	459.6	6	390	70	1
11-422	RIVERSIDE/WD 4	Anderson Residence	460.4	6	390	70	1
11-430	RIVERSIDE/WD 4	Killian Residence	509.6	6	390	120	2
11-510	RIVERSIDE/WD 5	Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church	460	6	390	70	1
11-602	RIVERSIDE/WD 6	Faith Community Church	424.8	6	390	35	1
11-611	RIVERSIDE/WD 6	Castle Park	432.4	6	390	42	1
11-705	RIVERSIDE/WD 7	Divine Word Seminary	453.2	6	390	63	1
11-870	MOCKINGBIRD CYN	Massey Residence	436.8	6	390	47	1
12-601	TEMESCAL CYN	Temescal Valley Elementary School	516.8	6	390	127	2
14-009	LAKE ELSINORE	Terra Cotta Middle School	465.2	6	390	75	1
14-019	LAKE ELSINORE	Lake Elsinore Public Library	444.4	6	390	54	1
14-037	LAKE ELSINORE	Tuscany Hills Clubhouse	424.8	6	390	35	1
14-705	SEDCO HILLS	Saldana Residence	448.4	6	390	58	1
14-750	THE FARM	Farm Clubhouse	473.2	6	390	83	1
14-804	LAKELAND VLG	Butterfield Elementary School	483.6	6	390	94	2
21-108	RIVERSIDE/WD 1	American Legion	440	6	390	50	1
21-301	RIVERSIDE/WD 3	Riverside Community Church	431.6	6	390	42	1
21-311	RIVERSIDE/WD 3	Janet Goeske Senior Center	426.4	6	390	36	1
21-817	MIRA LOMA	Sky Country Elementary School	471.2	6	390	81	1
21-880	INDIAN HILLS	Indian Hills Golf Club	436.4	6	390	46	1
21-901	JURUPA	Jurupa Hills Country Club	426.4	6	390	36	1
22-004	CORONA	YMCA	492.4	6	390	102	2
22-013	CORONA	Mc Kinley Elementary School	451.2	6	390	61	1
22-020	CORONA	Fielder Residence	516	6	390	126	2
22-028	CORONA	Prado View Elementary School	436	6	390	46	1
22-032	CORONA	Bradburn Residence	521.6	6	390	132	2
22-034	CORONA	Corona Christian Center	441.2	6	390	51	1
22-048	CORONA	Corona High School	435.2	6	390	45	1
22-065	CORONA	Evangelical Free Church	441.6	6	390	52	1
22-075	CORONA	Citrus Hills Intermediate School	434	6	390	44	1
22-857	HOME GARDENS	Corpus Christi Catholic Church	476.4	6	390	86	1
22-905	EL CERRITO	Olive Branch Community Church	452.8	6	390	63	1
23-002	NORCO	Norco Public Library	422.8	6	390	33	1
23-016	NORCO	Norco Intermediate School	421.6	6	390	32	1
23-020	NORCO	Bethany Lutheran Church	435.6	6	390	46	1
30-006	MURRIETA	Cole Canyon Elementary School	427.2	6	390	37	1
30-011	MURRIETA	Thompson Middle School	430.8	6	390	41	1
30-077	MURRIETA	Murrieta Church of Christ	424.8	6	390	35	1
30-079	MURRIETA	Avaxat Elementary School	453.2	6	390	63	1
30-099	MURRIETA	Alta Murrieta Elementary School	486	6	390	96	2
30-102	MURRIETA	Golf Knolls Rec Center	449.2	6	390	59	1
30-114	MURRIETA	Fire Station # 3	439.2	6	390	49	1
33-005	CANYON LAKE	Riverside County Fire Station # 60	429.2	6	390	39	1
33-901	QUAIL VALLEY	Quail Valley Volunteer Fire Department	433.2	6	390	43	1
35-705	MENIFEE	Palmilla H.O.A. Community Center	438.4	6	390	48	1
35-876	SUN CITY	North Town Hall	433.6	6	390	44	1
35-894	SUN CITY	Poublon Residence	504	6	390	114	2
36-005	SAN JACINTO	Sunrise Unit 1 Clubhouse	436	6	390	46	1
37-028	HEMET	Simpson Center	440.4	6	390	50	1
37-040	HEMET	Hemet West Mobile Estates	433.6	6	390	44	1
37-044	HEMET	Golden Coach Manor	453.2	6	390	63	1
38-004	TEMECULA	Fountain Glen	425.2	6	390	35	1
38-012	TEMECULA	Christ the Vine Church	446.4	6	390	56	1
38-017	TEMECULA	Calvary Baptist Church	422.8	6	390	33	1
38-025	TEMECULA	Rancho Elementary School	442	6	390	52	1
38-036	TEMECULA	Mountain View Community Church	453.6	6	390	64	1
38-065	TEMECULA	Red Hawk Elementary School	433.6	6	390	44	1
38-070	TEMECULA	Fox Residence	431.2	6	390	41	1
40-005	CATHEDRAL CITY	Fire Station # 413	424	6	390	34	1
40-017	CATHEDRAL CITY	Cathedral Palms Apartments	434	6	390	44	1
41-003	RANCHO MIRAGE	Wellington Place of Rancho Mirage	438.4	6	390	48	1
41-027	RANCHO MIRAGE	Lake Mirage H.O.A.	427.2	6	390	37	1
42-021	PALM DESERT	Woodhaven Country Club	440.8	6	390	51	1
42-025	PALM DESERT	Woodhaven Country Club	428.4	6	390	38	1
42-031	PALM DESERT	Palm Desert High School	451.2	6	390	61	1
42-046	PALM DESERT	Indian Springs Mobile Home Park	445.2	6	390	55	1
42-810	THOUSAND PALMS	Tri-Palm Estates	430	6	390	40	1
43-005	INDIAN WELLS	Hutton Residence	422	6	390	32	1
44-007	LA QUINTA	First Interstate Mortgage	430.8	6	390	41	1
44-014	LA QUINTA	La Quinta Senior Center	430	6	390	40	1
44-017	LA QUINTA	La Quinta Civic Center	448.4	6	390	58	1

VP	Area Name	Polling Place	Expected Turnout @ 40%	VVPATs Issued	Possible # of Votes on VVPATS issued	Possible Shortage of Paper (Votes)	Shortage of VVPATS
44-026	LA QUINTA	Riverside County Fire Station # 70	426.4	6	390	36	1
45-005	INDIO	Victory Outreach Church	468.8	6	390	79	1
45-029	INDIO	James Madison Elementary School	442	6	390	52	1
45-037	INDIO	St Andrew Presbyterian Church	434.4	6	390	44	1
46-021	COACHELLA	Bagdouma Park District	452	6	390	62	1
46-031	COACHELLA	Our Lady of Soledad	423.6	6	390	34	1
50-825	CHERRY VALLEY	Cherry Valley Grange Hall	434.4	6	390	44	1
51-011	BANNING	Clubhouse	429.2	6	390	39	1
51-014	BANNING	Banning Fire Services	454.4	6	390	64	1
51-018	BANNING	Grace Lutheran Church	448.8	6	390	59	1
51-025	BANNING	Grace Lutheran Church	453.6	6	390	64	1
51-026	BANNING	Banning City Hall	458	6	390	68	1
52-100	MORENO VALLEY/1	Lighthouse Baptist Church	465.2	6	390	75	1
52-109	MORENO VALLEY/1	Ramona Elementary School	476.8	6	390	87	1
52-116	MORENO VALLEY/1	Butterfield Elementary School	452.8	6	390	63	1
52-204	MORENO VALLEY/2	Moreno Valley United Methodist Church	423.6	6	390	34	1
52-212	MORENO VALLEY/2	Sugarhill Elementary School	446.8	6	390	57	1
52-217	MORENO VALLEY/2	Foothill Baptist Church	457.2	6	390	67	1
52-313	MORENO VALLEY/3	Bear Valley Elementary School	477.2	6	390	87	1
52-319	MORENO VALLEY/3	Robertson Residence	448.8	6	390	59	1
52-328	MORENO VALLEY/3	Landmark Middle School	478.8	6	390	89	1
52-403	MORENO VALLEY/4	Ridgeview Apartment Homes	502	6	390	112	2
52-406	MORENO VALLEY/4	Paso De Lago Homeowners Association	434.8	6	390	45	1
55-001	PERRIS	Camper Resorts of America	462	6	390	72	1
55-004	PERRIS	Advance America	428	6	390	38	1
55-014	PERRIS	California Military Institute	436.4	6	390	46	1
55-018	PERRIS	Temple Baptist Church	454.4	6	390	64	1
59-018	PALM SPRINGS	California Nursing & Rehab. Center	468	6	390	78	1
59-020	PALM SPRINGS	Vista Dei Monte Elementary School	441.6	6	390	52	1



County of Riverside  
Registrar of Voters

## Range Inspector Information Sheet

### Range Inspector: *B of A1*

#### VVPAT Printer Status:

Precinct	Registration	Estimated Turnout (40%)	VVPATs Needed	VVPATs Assigned	VVPAT Difference	Vote Difference
11-705 Divine Word Seminary	1133	453	7	6	-1	-63
11-706 Twinhill Elementary School	1020	408	7	6	-1	-18
11-716 La Sierra Community Center	1016	406	7	6	-1	-16
11-707 Fire Station # 7	988	395	7	6	-1	-5
11-718 La Sierra Community Center	927	371	6	6	0	19
11-700 Seasons at Riverside	754	302	5	6	1	88
11-703 Crest Avenue Baptist Church	1291	516	8	12	4	264
11-702 Crest Avenue Baptist Church	1265	506	8	12	4	274

#### Possible Strategies:

- In the event of a broken/malfunctioning VVPAT, replace it with one from a polling site that has extra.
- Monitor Edge vote counts and stagger voters so all VVPATs don't run out of paper at the same time.
- Change VVPAT paper when vote count is above 50 votes.
- If you have a VVPAT shortage, replace it with a VVPAT from a polling place with extra.

For this election, a VVPAT can hold anywhere from 65 to 85 votes per roll. The numbers above are based on a VVPAT holding 65 votes. Numbers highlighted in red indicate a possible shortage of VVPATs in the event of a high voter turnout.

**Selected Election Officer Comments  
from the June 6, 2006 Primary Election**

<b>Precinct</b>	<b>Comment</b>
11307	"Printers are too slow. Printers should be delivered to polling place."
11404	"Printers weigh too much (60lbs)."
11406	"Printers should be delivered to polling place."
11424	"Gray tub with printers should be delivered to site. Extremely heavy."
11905	"Printer tub needs to be delivered to polling place."
11961	"Printer should be delivered with equipment. Too heavy."
21309	"The tub with the printers is way too heavy."
21311	"Deliver printers with the voting machines ahead of time."
33014	"Put wheels and handle on VeriVote tote containers...too heavy to carry."
33021	"Please find a way to include paper printers with voting units. Too heavy to carry."
35863	"Would like printers delivered with the voting cart."
35871	"Deliver printers to polling place along with voting machines."
37035	"VeriVote tub too heavy for the ladies to haul around. Needs wheels on box. Deliver to polling place."
37044	"Equipment is much too heavy for women to carry and set-up."
37047	"Printers weight is definitely a problem."
40017	"Tub for VeriVote too heavy."
42904	"VeriVote tub needs wheels. Too heavy for seniors."
51004	"Need to deliver printers with cart."