

Vote Count Protection Project

At the end of election day, poll workers will go through a process of “Closing the Polls” – (See page 79 from Poll Worker Training Manual) – The EDT will primarily be responsible for printing, for each Voting Unit, two copies of what is called the “**Long Report**”, a long and skinny “cash-register-like” tape. We believe that the first copy will be wound into the printer canister (though it is not indicated here), and the second will be torn from the paper roll and put into an envelope.

We would like to capture, on a data-collection form, data from the TOP portion of the Long Report (*i.e.* the first 8 ½ pages): the election results for 4 races: **Governor, Attorney Gen’l, Sec’y of State, and U.S. Senator**, and, further down the tape, if possible, the total votes for/against State **Issue 2** – the Minimum Wage Initiative.

That data will then be entered into a web site, and will be used to help **verify the accuracy of the vote counts** processed in the Diebold Voting Units and Central Tabulator. We need volunteers with *INSIDE* access because the Cuyahoga Board of Elections will NOT be posting a 3rd copy of the Long Report on the *OUTSIDE* of the polling location.

Since you, as an EDT, will be permitted *INSIDE* the polling place for the “Closing procedures”, we are asking for your help—Would you be willing to write down, on a data-collection form(s) (and photograph, if possible), a small section of election results, and, later that evening, enter those results into a specified website?

We have provided, on our website: 1) a document, showing precisely where, on the “cash-register-like” Long Report, you can find these election results, 2) a sample data-collection form, showing where to write the election results, and 3) a blank data-collection form, which you can download, print and use. The election results we seek are located, primarily, within the top two feet of the Long Report. Issue 2 results, however, are located approximately 7 to 8 feet from the top.

www.ohiovigilance.org

Section 5: Closing the Polls

This section prepares and walks you through the closing of the polls. These procedures include the completion of reports and pack of the Supply Bag. The Poll Workers will also assist the Election Day Technicians in the removal of the printer module, securing the canisters in the Green Bag, removing the Visually Impaired Ballot Station and the taking down of the Electronic Voting Units.

Learning Outcomes

1. List of rules and procedures for closing the polls
2. Completing Certificate #1 with the appropriate information
3. Demonstrate how to remove the printer module
4. Remove the Visually Impaired Ballot Station from the unit
5. Demonstrate how to take down a Electronic Voting Unit

Equipment/Supplies

This section will guide the Poll Worker through how to properly pack the Precinct Supply Bag and complete the forms needed to close the polls. Also how to properly assist the Election Day Technician with taking down and removal of the memory cards.

Forms

The Long Report

The Long Report is printed at the end of the night by the EDT. A Long Report is printed at the end of the night because it is a record of the votes cast on the Electronic Voting Unit during Election Day. There will be two Long Reports printed which needs to be signed by Poll Workers, the Long Reports will be placed in the Large Envelope and returned to the Board of Elections at the end of the night.

Note: A “Summary Totals” section at the top of the Long Report is the section you will be taking your results from. The precinct-specific election results which follow the “Summary Totals” section, is not needed for the **Vote Count Protection Project**.

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If you are willing to write down these results, one set for every Voting Unit, please contact victoria.lovegren@case.edu or via 216-849-7470. We will provide you with additional information.

Thanks for helping us achieve fair and honest elections!

Victoria Lovegren, Ph.D. , Founder, Ohio Vigilance; CWRU Mathematics Lecturer

Gwen Dillingham, Ass't Director of Cuyahoga Board of Elections told me 11/3/06 that "Observers have every right to observe the election process, from opening through closing, as long as they don't interfere with the election process." And, there is nothing preventing Observers, and therefore EDT's and Poll Workers, from writing down what they observe.

If cameras are permitted, it would be especially useful to photograph the sections of the Long Report being transcribed.

On Monday, 11/6/06, we will know whether cameras and tape recorders will be permitted in the polling place, a decision being made by the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor. Blackwell told the counties that they could make that decision on their own.

It would also be helpful to have, not only your signature, but one additional person's signature on the data-collection form, verifying that the transcribed results are, indeed, those observed on the Long Report.

If you know of other people with INSIDE access during the Closing Procedures who are interested in helping us verify election vote counts, please have them contact me at victoria.lovegren@case.edu or 216-849-7470, or register at the following web-page: www.wecount2006.org/postvolunteers