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County Issues RFP for Risk Limiting Audit Services

PITTSBURGH – On Thursday, August 29, 2019, the county issued a request for proposal (RFP) for risk limiting audit services beginning with the 2020 Primary Election. The county desires to implement a pilot program and is inviting suppliers to submit a proposal for equipment, software, training, professional services, and staffing augmentation. Responses from vendors are due Wednesday, September 25, 2019.

Specifically, risk limiting audits (RLAs) provide statistical assurance that election outcomes are correct by manually examining portions of the audit trail – paper ballots or voter-verifiable paper records. The county believes such audits are valuable because they are efficient and can detect problems with election outcomes, whether caused by bad actors, system misconfiguration, or voter intent. Further, the outcomes from RLAs can enhance voter confidence that votes are correctly counted and tabulated.

Because computer software cannot be guaranteed to be perfect, any software used during the county’s RLAs must be independent of its primary vendor of elections system. In addition, workers performing the audit must not be employed by the primary election vendor.

The full RFP can be found online at: http://bit.ly/RFPRiskLimitingAudit. Vendors seeking to submit proposals must become a registered supplier with Public Purchase: http://bit.ly/ACSupplierRegistration. It is free to register and proposals may only be submitted online through Public Purchase.

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