From:

Elizabeth Conway <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 2:57 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Help Needed to Clean-up Allegheny Co Voter Rolls

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicki**ng** on links a**nd/**or **opening** attachments.

Before every election, and once again, it is time I send reminder notices to my family, friends, and other contacts to remember to complete this form:

"Cancellation of Voter Registration Due to Death of Voter"

As members of the Board of Elections, are you aware this form is required by the Allegheny County Elections Division in order to remove someone from the voter rolls due to death? Otherwise, deceased loved ones remain on the Allegheny County Voter Registration list for years. The subject form <u>must</u> be completed by an immediate family member or the Executor of the deceased person's estate. The completed form is mailed directly to Allegheny County Election Division, 609 County Office Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, or the form may also be completed and submitted to the Judge of Elections at the polling place on Election Day. Click here to review more details about the form:

https://www.alleghenycounty.us/uploadedFiles/Allegheny_Home/Dept-Content/Elections/Docs/Cancellation%20of%20Voter%20Due%20to%20Death%201-21-2016.pdf

Upon death, death certificates are required to be submitted to various agencies and institutions to include the Department of Health, social security, banks, estate settlements, life insurance, 401k, etc. The intended purpose is notification.

The county's "Cancellation of Voter Registration Due to Death" form is an added step of which most citizens are "totally" unaware. This extra step has been a source of contention with me, because if the "Election Registration Information Center" (ERIC) group would be held accountable to perform the election integrity service they're contracted to perform (with our taxpayer money), our rolls should be clean of anomalies. ERIC is under contact and tasked by 30+ states to keep the election integrity of the SURE system current and accurate. Each state pays an annual \$25,000 membership fee.

In this day of modern technology and services, I question the use of the county form and the competency and accuracy of ERIC's process and procedure. I kindly request the BOE's help to work with the State to streamline what seems to be a duplication of effort, yet inaccurate voter rolls continue to be a problem. Why not hold agencies and ERIC accountable to follow a standard operating procedure? Why not run nightly system backups to merge and purge county, state, and federal databases to line-up correctly. We the Taxpayers in Allegheny County fund the annual bill to contract ERIC as the middleman to ensure election integrity. Its time to research ERIC's effectiveness.

Beth Conway Kennedy Township

From:

Cheryl Banner <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 2:22 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Election Integrity

Attachments:

B.O.E. doc.docx

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Sincerely submitted Cheryl Banner

Sent from Mail for Windows

Like many voters in Allegheny County, I have great concern about election integrity not only in the 2020 election but also going forward. My concern begins with voter rolls and how this is affecting mail in ballots. When will the voter rolls be purged of deceased persons and those that have moved out of the county and state? How often is this reviewed? What is the process for doing this? Is there a flow chart that can be reviewed for this process? Should these practices be reviewed?

I've always believed that "garbage in = garbage out".

Which leads me to mail in ballots. How can we be certain that the rightful voter is actually completing the mail in ballot? Voter fraud is real, what's to stop activists from signing a name on the ballot and completing the mail in ballot for the candidate that they want to win? I've heard of ballot harvesting and would like to know how this is being controlled, especially in nursing homes and assisted living?

If we the residents of Allegheny County aren't confident about the mail in ballots how can we be confident in the outcome of the election since this is being pushed so heavily?

Another concern is with early voting. Votes are being cast before candidates even debate. How can this be good? Also what is the cut off date to receive votes by mail. Should it be the day of the election or even a day or two earlier?

From:

Shirley Ewart <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 1:03 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Intention to Spead at Board of Election Meeting 9/20/22

Attachments:

6 Reasons Voting Machines Must Go.docx

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

All,

Please accept this as notification that I plan to speak at the meeting tomorrow.

As requested, here's my information:

Shirley Ewart

Monroeville, PA. 15146

For the record I have attached the information that I plan on sharing.

Sincerely,

Shirley

From a presentation by DR. WALTER DAUGHERITY

Dr. Walter C. Daugherity is a computer consultant and also Senior Lecturer Emeritus in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University.

- 1. Voting machines must go because they are not transparent compared to counting paper ballots. With paper ballots one ballot at a time is removed from the box, examined by the clerk in the present of observers and election judges from both parties and the counts are recorded but with voting machines the votes go in and numbers come out and you have no idea what happened in between. Was the vote counted, ignored, flipped, deleted, but numbers do come out of the machine. That's not transparent, so VM must go because they are not transparent.
- 2. Voting machines must go because they are not accurate. Over and over again we have seen voting machines accept and count counterfeit ballots. In Maricopa AZ it was ballots that were not on the required special paper, the 80-100 pound stock from Rolland printer in Canada called voting secure paper with an embedded ghost tag in it, but even ballots that were not on this required special paper were accepted and counted anyway. In AL it was machines just like those in AZ that accepted and counted the xerox copies, so voting machines are not really accurate.
- 3. Voting machines must go because they are not accountable. It is my understanding there has never been an independent review of voting machine source code in this country. The Libertarian party in North Carolina did exercise their right to have their computer expert review the voting machine source code but to date, the State Board of Elections there has not made it possible for them to do it, so voting machines must go because they are not accountable.
- 4. Voting machines must go because their hardware is vulnerable. Voting machines are basically computers and most, if not all, computer hardware is made in China. The Dept. of Defense has found hard ware spying devices on PC mother boards, key boards, network connectors, etc. So Voting Machines must go because their hardware is vulnerable.
- 5. Voting machines must go because their software is vulnerable. AZ voting machines uses Windows 10 but minus all the critical security patches and other patches which Microsoft issues monthly. Also, AZ voting machines also do not have up to date anti-virus definitions. So, again, voting machines must go because their software is vulnerable.
- 6. Voting machines must go because their networks are vulnerable because CIS requires that they be required to connect from the internet through the fire wall into the local network. The voting machine on the local network are vulnerable. Also, many voting machines contain wi fi or Bluetooth or wireless modems which connect to outside networks so voting machines must go because their networks are vulnerable.

From:

Ron Bandes <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 1:49 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Cc:

board of Elections

Subject:

I wish to speak at the Board of Elections meeting on 2022/9/20

Attachments:

Public Comment to the Board of Elections of Allegheny County 2022-09-20.pdf

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Board of Elections:

It is my intention to make a public comment at the Board of Elections meeting on September 20, 2022. Please include me in the list of public speakers.

I have attached my comment for your convenience, but I will read it aloud myself at the meeting. Thank you.

Ron Bandes

Public Comment to the Board of Elections of Allegheny County

Ron Bandes 2022-09-20

I am Ron Bandes. I vote in Pittsburgh election district 14-4 and I am the Judge of Election in Pgh 14-1, a post I've held for twelve years.

The Pennsylvania constitution guarantees the secrecy of every voter's ballot. It does not say that the ballot is to be kept secret only from some people and not others. Officials have no more right to know how I voted than anyone else.

The Election Division's latest contract for printing and mailing of absentee and mail-in ballots calls for the printing of barcodes on absentee and mail-in ballots for the purpose of quality control. This is acceptable as long as the barcode is not unique to the voter, or is otherwise able to be de-anonymized. For example, a barcode encoding the ballot style is acceptable.

I request that the Board vote today to issue a directive to the Elections Division, instructing them never (including the upcoming November 2022 election) to put any mark, including a barcode, that is uniquely assigned to an individual voter.

Two more measures to improve the secrecy of the ballot are warranted. First, when a set of secrecy envelopes is removed from a set of declaration envelopes, the secrecy envelopes should be shuffled so that their order no longer has any correspondence to the order of the declaration envelopes which identify voters. We used to do this when absentee ballots were processed at polling places.

Second, the secrecy envelopes should be actual security envelopes, with hash printing on the inside of the envelope to make it more difficult to see the ballot inside the envelope. I am providing samples of such envelopes, readily purchased at stationery stores.

Thank you for your consideration of these important privacy measures. I look forward to your vote on the directive today, and would like to hear the reasoning behind any opposing votes.

From:

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 1:35 PM

To: # Board of Elections

Subject:

Re: Comments for Sept. 20 meeting

Attachments:

BoE comments 22-09-20.pdf

Dear Board of Elections,

Attached are my comments for your Sept. 20, 2022 meeting.

Thank you, William Towne

Comments to the Board of Elections for the Sept. 20, 2022 meeting

From William Towne

Greetings! I come before you today with continued concerns about honesty of answers that you get from the Elections Division, including around ballot secrecy and transparency as required by law.

You got lies from the Elections Division (per direct quote from Atty. Opsitnick) that "Any meeting we have, it's never limited to one subject" at your packed meeting following the primary as part of the Division's efforts to dismiss efforts from Ms. Hallam and Mr. DeMarco to proactively address public concerns about insufficient ballot printing. These two Board members wisely ignored the false statement from the Elections Division, passing a motion helping the Division prepare for what would become state law (Act 66 of 2022), with more time to prepare than if they had simply waited for that law to be passed through. Thank you for doing that. Please schedule monthly open-agenda meetings.

As noted in prior public comments, I continue to be concerned by the County expending taxpayer resources (and putting a potentially **much** larger amount of taxpayer resources at risk) refusing to comply with transparency laws and maximizing barriers to citizens attempting to learn about how elections are administered from official sources. The County's refusals further put voters' privacy at risk through exposure of the drivers' license numbers and last four digits of Social Security numbers primarily because the County doesn't want to do records-compilation work as required by law. Please pass a motion requiring prompt compliance with those laws and transparency of records.

I am especially concerned about Allegheny County's practice of uniquely numbering postal ballots. This practice was admitted to again in ¶ 16 of the "Response to June Written Public Comment" posted on your website (the first response to any of my comments since the start of the pandemic, though it was not actually sent to commenters). This also contains further false assertions material to the questions being raised, such as the extent to which hand counting is permitted and to which voters are asked if the ballot they are tendering and the signature on the declaration envelope is theirs. The County holds that their violation of voters' Constitutional right to ballot secrecy is perfectly fine because they use that violation as a basis for also refusing to comply with important transparency laws, when the Constitution holds that not even election officials should be able to officially determine who voted for who.

Following up on public comments for the last meeting, questions from Ms. Hallam and Mr. DeMarco helpfully explored the issue a bit but were met with more lies from the Elections Division, including a false assertion that all the vendors we've used have the same processes uniquely identifying specific voters' postal ballots. The County also demonstrated its willingness to lie in Court about the extent to which it has contacted vendors to secure records responsive to transparency requests and respond to questions from Ms. Hallam at the last meeting. In response to a related question, the County also didn't make any effort to search for additional cases similar to Ms. Cellio's ballot where her name was printed on the ballot along with an identifying barcode, despite having had an obligation to do so for response to a public records request prior to your questions, in addition to any obligations they may have had for answering your questions or for proactively investigating a quality control issue after an example instance they didn't catch was brought to their attention.

Mr. Voye also swore under penalty of perjury that these voter-identifying numbers were random numbers, when they are in fact sequential, which also demonstrates lack of concern for the truth and/or for understanding the most basic concepts in quality control. Other public comments earlier this year have identified further instances where the County does not tell the truth at Board of Elections meetings in response to direct questions, even specifically on the topic of the County's relationship with the vendor applying these codes.

At the last meeting, Mr. Voye also asserted that the purpose of uniquely identifying postal voters' ballots is to avoid a situation of mailing the wrong ballots to ~29K voters, but the same system was in use when that happened, demonstrating that it isn't actually being used to prevent that outcome. PA got away from this practice with a 1901 Constitutional amendment and the Board should not allow the Division to take Allegheny County back to the 1800s in a way that could lead to a short-notice election do-over under a national microscope and give people who don't want to accept election outcomes grounds for their position, which is too often expressed in violence (e.g. Jan. 6 Capitol riot).

I exhort you to pass a motion at this meeting showing County voters that you care about the ballot secrecy already nominally guaranteed by the PA Constitution. This motion should apply to all future elections and require that:

- Ballots in the same municipality, ward, precinct, precinct split (if applicable), party (in a primary), and method (e.g. mail-in vs. absentee) must not be otherwise distinguishable before being marked by voters,
- 2. No voter-specific or voter-identifying markings shall be added to ballots by anyone other than the voter at any time (and though out of the County's control, the voter shouldn't either),
- 3. Privacy envelopes (with the hash markings inside, commonly used in personal and business correspondence) shall be used for ballot secrecy envelopes, and
- 4. The County should have and follow written procedures requiring ballot-containing secrecy envelopes to be mixed up in large batches before being opened, after they have been removed from declaration envelopes and inspected for any voter-specific markings.

This motion should be passed regardless of what claims or assurances of voluntary compliance you might receive from the Division regarding this next election. The County strongly asserted in a July 9, 2022 Court filing that it was already too late then for the County to make any changes to its secrecy-undermining practices for the November 2022 election. I believe they were lying to the Court in that assertion, but this observation should be further grounds for the Board to ignore any possible contrary claims the Division might now make about voluntary compliance for this next election and pass the motion providing some degree of public assurance. The Division has repeatedly lied in response to your questions and has a record of only getting away from these bad practices/vendors for a short time to satisfy Board questions and then going right back to them when they think the dust has settled, including on this practice of using an unlicensed vendor with a strong partisan preference, no respect for the PA Constitution, and insufficient quality control (through a middleman to help disguise the facts). Having a permanent directive would also help the County improve its future Invitations For Bid.

I also ask that you contact the Department of State seeking a statewide declaration for these items in the event that other counties are using the same vendor and/or practices based on the validation of Allegheny County having repeatedly violated the secret ballot in opposition to those four items. Thank you for your work.

From:

ellen mccracken <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 2:02 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Comments to be read at Board of Election Meeting

Attachments:

Cheating Culture.docx

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Hello,

Attached is a file regarding voting machines named Cheating Culture that I hope to read at the Tues., Sept. 20, 2022, Election Board meeting. My details are:

Ellen McCracken

Monroeville, PA 15146

Please let me know if there is anything else required or recommended.

Sept. 19, 2022, from Ellen McCracken at

My AARP magazine regularly features articles every year warning seniors of computer fraud that destroys your finances. <u>Voting machines are computers</u>. Why wouldn't I believe the voting machines were corrupted?

We've witnessed corporate scandals, doping athletes, plagiarizing journalists. Why wouldn't I believe voting machines were corrupted.

I quote a well-researched book, the Cheating Culture, by David Callaham.

"Cheating is everywhere...Americans who wouldn't shoplift a pack of chewing gum are committing felonies at tax time, betraying trust of their patients, misleading investors, ripping off their insurance company, or lying to their clients...Americans seem to be using two moral compasses." Why wouldn't I believe voting machines were corrupted.

He continues: "Students are cheating more now that getting a good education is a matter of economic life and death. Lawyers are overbilling as they been pushed to bring in more money for the firm. Doctors are accepting bribes from drug-makers, as HMO have squeezed their incomes. Why wouldn't I believe voting machines were corrupted.

"The principle of equal opportunity is subverted when those who play by the rules are outted by cheaters as happens every day in academics, sports, business and other arenas." We've been complaining about it informally to each other for years. Why wouldn't I believe voting machines were corrupted.

What is really heart breaking here is that it may not be your neighbors or the senior citizens manning the polls. You start to look at them suspiciously, but maybe it's not them. I don't want to mistrust my neighbors, the people I see at Giant Eagle and the Mall or at church or bingo. I believe it is not them. It is occurring at a much higher technical level that requires knowledge and finances beyond our common scope. It is the global technocrats with vested interest in controlling economies and citizens with access to algorithms and finances beyond our scope.

But there is a simple solution that doesn't require costly voting machines, networks and expensive technical support and unending validations. It's paper ballots counted by hand under camera scrutiny. People loose trust in what they can't confirm. In the whole scheme of things, it is cheaper, more reliable, more accountable, more transparent and we'd all be happier not being suspicious of each other.

I want to include a reference to a 2008 NY Times expose for the average citizen entitled, Can You Count on Voting Machines https://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/06/magazine/06Vote-t.html, which cautions: "the elections director (suddenly) becomes the head of the largest IT department in their entire government in charge of hundreds or thousands of new computer systems." I don't know whether to say, that puts it in perspective or that's just really scaary...

September 20, 2022 Allegheny County Board of Elections **Public Comment**

Re: Poll Worker Recruitment

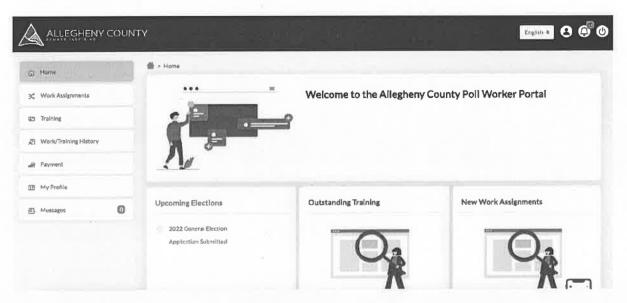
My name is Alexander Gray. I worked as the administrative assistant of the Elections Division from October until June of this year.

I want to express my concern about how the Division is handling poll worker recruitment.

There are only 49 days until the November 8th Election and still no training schedule has been given to poll workers.

Likewise, polling place assignments have not been made on the new "Poll Chief" portal.

Nevertheless, the Division has sent out emails on two different occasions asking that poll workers confirm their interest. There is no way to do this on the "Poll Chief" portal, so the emails seem completely nonsensical. (Please see the attached screenshot.)



The County has spent money on TV spots and pre-roll advertisements on YouTube, but none of this will matter if applications aren't being processed by the Division.

As Division management has falsified data regarding poll worker recruitment in the past, I would like to request that the Board carry out a hands-on investigation of the true state of things.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

From:

Christine Cain <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 11:47 AM

To: Subject: # Board of Elections scheduled to speak

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Please add my name to the Sept 20th meeting roster for allotted speaking time.

Thank you,

Christine Cain

Pittsburgh, PA. 15226

From:

Christine Cain <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 3:05 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Christine Cain

Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Re: BoE submission of comments

September 19, 2022

How are votes collected and tabulated? What does Chain of Custody look like after the Judge of Elections personally delivers the ballots? Where does the JoE deliver the duffle bag full of ballots, thumbdrives, and paperwork, and what does that process look like? Who counts/tabulates our votes?

If you respond by telling me the answers can be found on the County's or Commonwealth's website, you'd be wrong. In fact, even Siri and Alexa can't find the answers. There is nothing that explains to the public the protocol and procedures used in collecting and tabulating the votes which have been casted from American Citizens who have learned since elementary school that it is their duty as an American Citizen to vote. Their Duty...but wait...what about the Board of Elections duty? 47 days remain until the Midterm election and nothing has been solved to elicit best practices in our sacred elections that our forefathers and veterans have given up their lives for. Every board of election meeting since the debacles from 2020 up to and including the primaries have produced no countermeasures or assurances of an ethical and honest election. Had it not been for Bethany Hallem speaking up on behalf of voters, some important topics, such as making sure we actually have enough ballots for November's election, would still be tabled and put in the good ole parking lot for another day. Sitting As an observer in the Board of Election meeting while watching everyone, except Ms. Hallem, dodging the pertinent issue of running out of ballots and then to hear our Board grapple about the cost of paper, was beyond insulting to every voter in our county. If the concern of killing a tree or the cost of paper was truly sincere, an easy fix to that would be SAME DAY VOTING WITH ONE PAPER BALLOT. That would eliminate the carbon emissions from the excessive amounts of cars driving all over the county during election week and even worse on election day and night. That would eliminate the excessive electricity and gas being used. That would eliminate the ridiculous and ludicrous volumes of paper used in mailers promoting mail in votes and the wasted mail in votes that are either not used or surrendered. Trying to convince the citizens of Allegheny County that you don't want to "over order" the paper ballots for the REAL ELECTION DAY, due to the cost and waste, is simply an insult to us all. 50 ballots are packaged tightly in shrink wrap. If they're not needed, they do not get opened- and its pretty easy math to count the unused ballots at the end of the night. I know this because I am also an elected Majority Inspector.

How did we get here? Without having accountability, we have no one to point the finger to whether it's for kudos or whether it's a demand for answers. Without having integrity, we have no honesty.

Let me ask the Board an even simpler question. What happens to the duffle bag once it has been delivered in that chaotic scene of "dump and go"? YOU have no concise and coherent plan of protocols and procedures that can be explained to the voters when it comes to CHAIN OF CUSTODY.

CHAIN OF CUSTODY: What is CHAIN OF CUSTODY? According to <u>CSRC.NIST.GOV</u> (Computer Security Resource Center) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Dept of Commerce (NIST), CHAIN OF CUSTODY is a process that tracks the movement of evidence through its collection, safeguarding, and analysis life cycle by documenting each person who handled the evidence, the date/time it was collected or transferred, and the purpose for any transfer.

Did you know that a defense lawyer who successfully challenges the CHAIN OF CUSTODY can ask to have evidence declared inadmissible? Justcriminallaw.com

This implies that any time evidence is examined by a FORENSIC TECHNICIAN, the examiner MUST list everyone who came in CONTACT with the evidence and everything that was done to the evidence. Justcriminallaw.com

My research has found that Allegheny County Board of Elections drops the ball when it comes to transparency and especially when it comes to CHAIN OF CUSTODY. The Chain of Custody is BROKEN the minute that duffle bag is taken from the JoE, tossed and thrown. To be clear, there is a lack of credibility if anyone certifies our county's election process. It doesn't matter what party wins, a certification of an election should not occur based on the CHAIN OF CUSTODY. Once a CHAIN OF CUSTODY has been BROKEN, EVERYTHING after that becomes instantly UNRELIABLE and INVALID, WHICH MEANS NO CERTIFICATION UNTIL A FORENSIC AUDIT HAS OCCURRED.

The BOARD has 47 days to fix all of this, which is probably not enough time to backtrack and correct the atrocities that have occurred and that will one hundred percent occur AGAIN. I expect better from the county that I have lived in my entire life. I look forward to seeing a well written and cohesive CHAIN OF CUSTODY for our Midterms, along with a signature of every person who has had access to our ballots.

Yours in Christ,

Christine Cain

Christine

From:

Sent: To: Monday, September 19, 2022 1:02 PM

Board of Elections

Subject:

Board Public Written Comment

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Hello Board,

I would like to submit this for a written comment and would like the county to respond.

I was listening to a live stream and heard about a cloud program called Konnech and found out they make a program also called PollChief. I kind of blew it off and ignored it for the most part. Then the other day someone alerted me to the fact that we use PollChief in Allegheny County. I then stared asking around for more information and started doing some research. Here are some comments and key questions that I have on Konnech and PollChief:

- *Has the FBI or other gov agency alerted the county on the company Konnech and/or software PollChief data breach? If so what was the response provide and how did the county respond? If the county has not already, they should look into this.
- *Did the county work with the vendor to determine what data was compromised?
- *Has the county alerted the poll workers that there was a data breach, and if so, what of poll workers information could have been leaked?
- *What information was leaked? Just pole workers or family?
- *The Mongo database, was it really default creds and open. This has happened with other apps in the past and Mongo where it was wide open to public internet. This could allow a bad actor to change data in the database.
- *Has the data been manipulated? Example people were complaining about registering but then find out they were not.
 *Is there a verification process for the pole workers now that is compromised? Can people be inserted into the database

that should not be poll workers?

- *Is this app on our county or contractor devices... This would tie back to my observations reports sent to the board in the past. A concern like where they had/have passwords in email, could this app grab election passwords, were they were or they are stored by the county. Or could this app get to any other election information that it should not have access to.
- *This software connects to the SURE system that handles voter registration, does it have read only or full/change access to SURE? If it was any of these was there a investigation on what was pulled from SURE or modified on SURE?
- *Did the county do a risk assessment on this vendor before implementing it into our systems? If so we would like that to be provided. If not, then why not?
- *Is it really or was it owned/run in China or by a Chinese citizen(s)? I have done some research on the websites and there does appear to be Chinese involvement in the sites in the past.

This is very important and the county should look into this matter.

Thanks, Matthew Van Bibber

From:

Diane Schmitt <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 1:42 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Request to speak at the BoE mtg of 9/20/22

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

I wish to speak in-person at the BoE mtg of 9/20/22

Thank You-Diane Schmitt

McKees Rocks, PA 15136

From:

Diane Schmitt <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 2:27 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Comments for the BoE mtg of 9/20/22

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

After reviewing the Allegheny Elections Tabulation Center Observation Reports, which were in the record of the June 23rd Board of Elections meeting, I am concerned with the many issues identified in the reports.

The most pertinent of these is the apparent lack of protocol for password management, USB drive management, and the proximity of critical equipment used during the tabulation of ballots.

 Does the Election Division have a protocols & procedures manual &/or training to guide its workers through the tabulation process? Are protocols in place to insure cyber security?

It is standard in the private sector to have cyber security protocols & guidance for continuity of operations. The same should apply for the conduct of our elections.

Thank You-Diane Schmitt

McKees Rocks, PA 15136

From:

Rosalind Daily <

Sent:

Saturday, September 10, 2022 3:02 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

I plan to speak at BOE meeting

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Hello,

I plan to speak in person at the next BOE meeting Tuesday, September 20th.

Thank you,

Rosalind Daily Monroeville

From:

Debbie Hadfield <

Sent:

Sunday, September 18, 2022 4:16 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Requesting to speak at the BOE meeting

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Please accept my request to speak at the BOE meeting on Tuesday, September 20 on the topic of passwords, usage, storage and length.

Debbie Hadfield
Thornburg Republican Committee Chair of Allegheny County

SILENCE IS ACCEPTANCE: ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

How secure are the passwords??

- Passwords should not be the same or shared.
 How many people had the Nov 21 password BEFORE the election?
- 2. There should be more than one common master password on machines to run the election. How is the password determined? Does the password change at each election?
- 3. The election password was delivered on an email and the machine operator punched-in the password while in front of an Observer at the warehouse.
- 4. Contractors have the passcodes, and they also have override passcode for the entire election.
- 5. Dave Voye said he would take the action required to resolve this issue. Did Dave follow-through? What is the status?
- 6. This is critical infrastructure that must be taken seriously. A best practice procedure must be adopted. Bad actors target certain people for passwords.
- 7. Default credentials are the really simple and extremely common way to get initial access to a system. Many devices (especially in the Internet of Things) come with default non-random passwords that are often left unchanged. Below is a list of very common credentials:

Username Password
Admin admin
Admin password
Admin leave it blank

From:

William Jasper <

Sent:

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 3:59 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Public Comment

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

I would appreciate time for public comment in person at the September 20the meeting of the Board of Elections.

William B Jasper

Leetsdale, PA 15056

From:

jasper william <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 9:13 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Sept 20 BOE Meeting - Public Comment

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Sirs,

Here is my comment. I will attend the meeting in person to read this comment.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 PUBLIC COMMENT

I have lived and voted in Allegheny County for 33 years. I have always taken election integrity for granted, assuming:

- voter rolls would be cleansed of ineligible voters
- votes would be cast only by verified, eligible voters
- vote counting would be honest

I knew there was some fraud in the election process, but the 2020 general election taught me I was very naïve. Fraud was rampant and, in my opinion, skewed the results. What we are enduring today -- inflation, human misery, and threats to our national sovereignty -- are the direct consequence of a failed, election integrity process.

At 78 years of age, I decided to quit complaining and do something about it. I applied for, and am hoping to be accepted as, a Poll Worker in the upcoming general election. This will be the first time I have participated in the political process. I said I would go anywhere, including the toughest of precincts where the election process could be and has been abused.

However, much to my chagrin, I learned the software (PollChief) Allegheny County uses to manage the poll worker process is owned by Konnech, that was allegedly caught hosting 1.8 million American poll worker records on a Chinese server, one that was readily accessible by the Chinese Community Party ("CCP").

There are valid reasons to suspect Konnech is a CCP front. I am sure you know that Konnech is, or was, under investigation by the FBI. Konnech's published rebuttal to the accusation of its ties to the CCP is reminiscent of the statements made by the owners of the ES&S, Dominion, and other vote tabulating machines. Pure shock and disbelief! And,

just like them, Konnech is attempting to "shoot the messenger" and squelch public debate by using "lawfare" as a weapon.

I just wish I had more confidence in the FBI but it, along with the Department of Justice, has become politicized and biased in the application of the law. There is now a two-tier system of justice. "G-Men" were my heroes when I grew up. Now, I see the FBI as being part of the election integrity problem, not acting a reliable partner for the American voter.

You can and should do something about election integrity. Please make sure:

- Only verified, eligible ballots are counted
- Tabulating machine data is preserved and not destroyed by the vendor, and
- Ballots and the counting process are open to an independent, "forensic" audit.

I just can't believe we have been so stupid as a people to allow the CCP to "honey pot" or otherwise compromise our nation's leaders, institutions, economy, and the political process. It's time to turn this around and regain our independence.

Please find verifiable, American vendors, without suspected or real ties to the CCP, to help manage our election process.

Sincerely,

William B Jasper

Leetsdale, PA

See links to:

FBI Conceals Chinese Infiltration of US Election Software

KONNECH'S REBUTTAL - "THE TRUTH ABOUT KONNECH"

From:

iasper william

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 12:46 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Re: Sept 20 BOE Meeting - Public Comment

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 PUBLIC COMMENT

Please add this link to my previous comment.

Anomalies in .PDF 2020 Ballot Scans

It supports the need for independent, "forensic" audits, with access to the original ballots. Sunshine is the best guarantee of election integrity.

Sincerely,

William B Jasper

Leetsdale, PA 15056

On Monday, September 19, 2022, 09:12:55 AM EDT, jasper william <

> wrote:

Dear Sirs,

Here is my comment. I will attend the meeting in person to read this comment.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
PUBLIC COMMENT

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- voter rolls would be cleansed of ineligible voters
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However, much to my chagrin, I learned the software (PollChief) Allegheny County uses to manage the poll worker process is owned by Konnech, that was allegedly caught hosting 1.8 million American poll worker records on a Chinese server, one that was readily accessible by the Chinese Community Party ("CCP").

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Sincerely,

William B Jasper

Leetsdale, PA

See links to:

FBI Conceals Chinese Infiltration of US Election Software

KONNECH'S REBUTTAL - "THE TRUTH ABOUT KONNECH"

From:

Janet Redwing <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 12:19 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Time to Speak at BOE Meeting

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Hello I would like to ask for time to speak.

Janet Sidor

Sewickley, PA 15143

I would like to present some questions regarding the Nov 8th 2022 process in the polling locations.

Thank you,

Janet

From:

Thomas Ryan <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 1:06 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Cc:

Subject:

BOARD OF ELECTIONS COMMENTS

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

DEAR BOARD MEMBERS,

As a life long resident of Allegheny County I want to notify you of my concern that the County maintains a high degree of integrity regarding the upcoming November elections. Our residents must be confident that the elections are safe, secure and accurately reflect the will of the people. I hope you are taking this solemn responsibility seriously and take every step to ensure the public confidence in the election process.

Thank you.

Thomas J Ryan

From:

Vicki Yann <

Sent:

Friday, September 16, 2022 11:10 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Comment

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links a**nd/**or o**pe**ning attachments.

I am a County employee who has worked as a rover/Polling Place Coordinator for 5 out of the last 6 elections. I am a vocal advocate on my social media accounts (especially Facebook) for volunteering to be a poll worker. I have had conversations with my neighbors on my neighborhood FB group regarding being a poll worker and they have asked that I propose the following ideas.

Proposed idea 1: Allow poll workers to do 6 am - 1:30 pm or 1:30 pm - 9 pm shifts.

Rational: Poll workers are at the site for 15 hours. While they are getting a stipend, that doesn't change how long day is. My neighbors said they would work the polls as volunteers (i.e. for free) if they could do a half day. I know this would be a scheduling challenge, but would it be any worse than scrambling to cover when people don't show? Many people who are retired and would work the election can't do a long day like that (the reason why my next door neighbor won't work again).

Proposed idea 2: I think we could get more poll workers if local corporations would allow employees to volunteer to work the polls and not have to take a vacation day to do so. Can we work with local corporations to promote volunteering as a poll worker? We could provide them with a document that said they participated as a poll worker to document their volunteering.

Rational: While I agree it should be one's civic duty to volunteer, many people need their benefit time and are reluctant to take a vacation day in the event that they would need it or want it. By having local corporations allow for a "volunteer" day with pay for employees who work the election, the employer shows their commitment to supporting democracy, the employee can volunteer without taking benefit time, and the County recruits more poll workers.

Vicki

From:

Brandi Fisher <

Sent:

Thursday, September 15, 2022 1:15 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Protect the freedom to vote in Allegheny

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Board of Elections,

Today, I'm urging you to adopt a pro-voter agenda for current and future elections that ensures every eligible voter can participate in an inclusive democracy in Allegheny County. The freedom to vote must be safeguarded — no exceptions. That's why I'm calling the election board to adopt common sense pro-voter policies, which protect and strengthen the freedom to vote in Allegheny County, including:

- Purchasing and equitably distributing secure ballot drop boxes in outdoor locations with 24-hour access
- Creating and using multiple permanent early voting sites with weekend and evening hours and voter registration options
- Fully staffing polling places with trained election workers at least two weeks before every election
- Providing widely accessible language access materials in all polling places and early voting sites
- Mailing election information about drop box locations, polling places, and early voting sites to all voters
- Establishing a permanent public election board meeting schedule that meets at least twice per quarter
- Continuing to advocate for increased resources from state and county officials to fund elections and meet the needs of voters

As a member of the Allegheny County Election Board, you have the opportunity to be a leader in how elections are run in the commonwealth. I'm asking you to commit to implementing consistent policies and procedures designed to minimize voter confusion, maximize voter access, and engender voter trust for each and every election.

Moreover, it's the duty of the Allegheny County Elections Board to listen to your community. Please do that now by implementing the pro-voter agenda into current and future election plans that protect the freedom to vote.

Thank you, Brandi Fisher

From:

Brenda Forman <

Sent:

Friday, September 16, 2022 10:54 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Comments: 1 of 2 for Sept 20, 2022 BOEs meeting

Attachments:

Image.jpeg

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Allegheny County Board of Elections:

I DO NOT CONSENT

To RocktheVote.org having my personally identifiable voter registration information (see attached). How did RocktheVote.org get my personally identifiable information? Who authorized this? The SOS? The BOE? Any

branch of government?

Because this is identity theft, I have filed a report with identitytheft.org over this breach as I DO NOT CONSENT to this sharing of my personally identifiable voter registration.

I would appreciate any input this Board of Elections can provide.

Thank you, Brenda Forman Allegheny County, PA

From:

Brenda Forman <

Sent:

Friday, September 16, 2022 11:32 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

2 of 2 for Sept 20, 2022 BOE Meeting

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Allegheny County Board of Elections:

I DO NOT CONSENT

To using electronic machines to cast or count my ballot.

As a resident of Pennsylvania, and Allegheny County, I DO NOT CONSENT to using ANY voting machines.

I DO NOT CONSENT to using ballot drop boxes.

I DO NOT CONSENT to mass mail-in balloting.

I DO NOT CONSENT to no excuse mail-in balloting.

I DO NOT CONSENT to electronic poll books.

I DO NOT CONSENT to the use of ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center).

I DO NOT CONSENT to automatic voter registration when applying for a driver's license.

I DO NOT CONSENT to Governor Wolf's expanded voter registration that requires materials and information be available to the public through agencies within the Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, Corrections, Education, Labor and Industry, Military and Veterans Affairs and State departments.

I DO NOT CONSENT to early voting, or votes being counted after Election Day.

I DO NOT CONSENT to my vote being warehoused and/or counted outside of my precinct.

I DO NOT CONSENT to dead people and illegal immigrants voting.

What would I like to see with our elections?

- -Voter ID Required
- -1 day in person voting, locally, in small precincts, like we had in the past...within walking distance from our homes.
- -Clean voter rolls
- -No party affiliation on ballot
- -Ballot option: "NONE OF THE ABOVE" If "NONE OF THE ABOVE" wins the majority of votes, then we don't fill that seat until an electable person is selected.
- -No ballot drop boxes or satellite voting locations.
- -Mail in ballots only to the medically unable to vote in person, and the military.
- -this is just a start.

The last several years have awakened me to a system that cannot be trusted. I want my vote, my voice to count. One verifiably identifiable US citizen, One vote. I do not want to be disenfranchised any longer. I want to return to "Elections", NOT "SELECTIONS".

I DO NOT CONSENT TO THE USE OF ANY VOTING MACHINES.

The world is watching.

From:

Anna Thomas <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 12:17 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or **open**ing attachments.

At the August 10th BOE meeting, Jessica Garafola stated that a ballot drop box will be placed outside of the County Bldg from October 29th thru November 8th, Election Day. What security will be used to guard against any issues / problems at the box? Will cameras, including reverse angle cameras, be filming the drop box 24/7? A publicly accessible live feed of surveillance while the drop box is available for use would be advantageous to gain confidence of our elections.

From:

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 12:09 AM

То:

Board of Elections

Subject:

BOE Question

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

From: Deb Spirko, Kennedy Twp

Ballot boxes will be used inside of the County Bldg during the early voting period this fall. When the ballot boxes are full and are taken out of service, will the full ballot boxes at early voting for the November General Election be sealed & secured until they are transported to the Tabulation Center?

From:

Lynne Shine <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 11:59 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Ouestion

Warning! This émail was sent from an external source. Please bé suré you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or **opening** attachments.

To whom it May Concern,

I am a resident of Robinson Township.

I applied to be a poll worker for the General Election 2022 quite some time ago. The process to complete that task took over three weeks and many phone calls to the County office. I was told that I was in the system, then was told I was not in the system, then was told that prior years workers were being canvassed for availability, then told that Poll Chief was down, then was told that I had received an email (when I had not), then was told that I had put in my email address wrong and set up a password (when I had MOST DEFINITELY NOT). Finally, I was told I could send the person in charge a snail mail letter concerning my complaints as I was not allowed to talk with her directly, nor even send an email. I persevered and got all of this resolved.

Then I was told that there do not appear to be any openings for me to work - yet at the last meeting of this Board it was distinctly reported that the number of currently available poll workers is not sufficient to meet the need and entreaties will be made to the local colleges to try to solicit college students to work. I'm nonplussed - how could there not be enough workers, yet I have been told on the phone that I will not be needed?

I have checked the Poll Chief website on numerous occasions as we have gotten closer to Nov. 8 and still have not received any assignment. What is the delay? Surely the County is not going to wait until the last minute to assign people, and then say they can't be used because they don't have time to get their training completed?

I don't mean to come across in a negative manner, but none of this is being handled in an effective or efficient manner and that is not acceptable. It appears that matters are being handled haphazardly which will only serve to increase the likelihood of error or unprepared workers.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Lynne Shine

From:

Kathy Jameson <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 11:48 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Election Integrity

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

About 2020...Between the manually manipulatable machines, the lack of regulation and bipartisan oversight of mail in ballots, denial of certain healthy - qualified - law abiding - election judges to train volunteers and participate, and finally blocking the meaningful view of poll watchers if allowed in the building at all... We The People saw that. Trust status in the negatives. What do you intend to do about fixing that?

Sincerely,

K. Jameson- recently former Democrat

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 12:24 PM

To: Subject: # Board of Elections Election Integrity

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Pléase be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Board of Elections,

This seems like it would be a simple thing to do, that may help to restore some trust, eliminate doubt, confusion, reduce human errors and foul play.

Verification receipts of individual votes cast — paper trail — to confirm for the elector that his or her cast vote was counted for the candidate or question that he or she casted the actual vote for, whether in person, absentee, mail in or provisional. It would serve as a check and balance for election security and integrity safeguards.

Thank you,

Darlaine Taylor

Bethel Park, PA 15102

From:

Sandy Mrazik <

Sent:,

Monday, September 19, 2022 12:30 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Election

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Stop mail in ballots. Voter identification needed.

From:

Rick Raszewski <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 11:15 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Election Integrity

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Election Integrity is a non-partisan topic, and every American should want a true result more than just wanting our candidates to win. That would reflect true patriotism, honesty, and traditional meritorious character. The way to Election Integrity, and faith in voting, which is integral to a surviving representative democracy, is transparency. This transparency requires the counting of votes in Allegheny County to be open, accessible, recordable, and representative of all involved parties. Counting by a single party, and employees who are essentially 100% of a single involved party in the election, is inherently conducive to dishonesty, fraud, and the darkness of deception and doubt in today's highly partisan environment. This isn't behind a wall of pizza boxes, or some randomly chosen distance, this is right at the table. Creating fictitious anxieties, or mythical inabilities to 'walk and chew gum' are poor excuses to defend the same institutions doubted, and proven to be fraudulent. Finally paper ballots counted, tallied locally, prevents this central counting of votes that once leaving the precinct, that have long lost the custodial security, and prevents all the above, and is the ultimate correct solution.

Richard Raszewski

Sent from my iPad

From:

Rosalind Daily <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 11:03 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

For the record

Attachments:

BOEmtg20Sept2022.docx

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Good morning,

Please add this document to the record for tomorrow's BOE meeting.

Thank you,

Rosalind Daily

County Election Board Officials, prior submissions by an IT expert to the county-record cited many concerns still unanswered regarding the integrity of election-machine operations here in Allegheny County of which I only have time to briefly recite a few:

- 1) There was no clear evidence of a critical security measure known as an "air gap".
- 2) The unofficial server has a VPN that connects to 7 locations throughout the county. But why have a VPN if you have an airgapped system?
- 3) By the way, isn't it illegal to have an unofficial election system connected to the internet?
- 4) There is a worm called STUXSNET which took down nuclear systems in Iran with USB drives. This illustrates the serious risk of USB drives on connected systems getting infected. Yet our present system takes USB drives from the official system (unconnected), plugs them into the unofficial servers (connected), reformats them, and reuses them in the official machines that count the votes on the tabulators. So, if one of the drives gets infected the entire voting system could get compromised because you have remote connection on the unofficial system.
- 5) While there is no proof that the ds200s have wireless cards, there are no FCC required stickers on the machines. Now, the machine configuration report prints out a receipt saying, "no modem detected". While the machines are capable of them being added, ES&S (the manufacturer) has claimed the code is not there for wireless modems, but if that's the case, how does it know to print it out on the receipt? This is contradictory!

Ladies and gentlemen, these still unaddressed concerns exhibit a gross lack of quality control! Rather, it appears you have overseen the creation of a system which offers an enemy, to borrow Chuck Schumer's expression, "six ways from Sunday" to violate the People's vote! These concerns must be addressed and dealt with!

The people of this county want to rely on you officials. We want to believe in you and support you. But we cannot simply take your word, like children, without question. Only Jesus merits that kind of blind trust! You must exhibit your trustworthiness by attending to these potential breaches, else we are forced to see you as part of the problem and to seek other means to rectify these serious concerns. Time is of the essence as the next election is just seven weeks away. Please act quickly to mitigate these concerns.

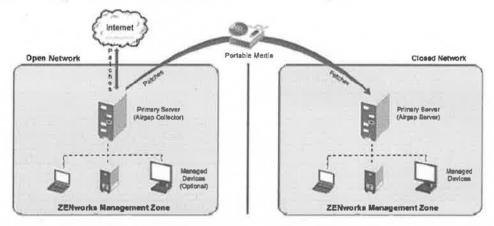
Thank you.

AIR-GAPPED NETWORK / WIRELESS CONNECTIONS

Issues

Correct the VPN setup between the County Server and the County Tabulation Center scanner to increase cyber security. The DS850 Tabulation system area is located at the Warehouse on the northside of Pittsburgh, but the server is located at the County office.

- 1. If there's a VPN, there is an internet connection between them.
- 2. It is suspect an internet connection is shared between the Warehouse and County and possibly with other groups (ex: Dept of Health, Comcast). Wireless devices were used at the warehouse (cell phones).
- 3. The VPN setup needs to be explained to give the public information on what is really happening with these. Stop trying to say that the machines do not connect to the Internet when there's a VPN. Why using a VPN, if this is true? A VPN/Firewall that is connected to the election system should not have wireless capability.
- 4. Servers should be kept in the Tabulation Center & not physically located across the river at the County office
- 5. Does an air-gapped network exist? If not, why not? Need to increase the cyber security of the election system infrastructure to prevent outside attacks?



<u>Example</u>: STUXSNET – took down nuclear systems in Iran with USB drives. STUXSNET targets
 <u>Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition</u> (SCADA) systems. The worm is widely understood to be
 a <u>cyberweapon</u> built jointly by the <u>United States</u> and <u>Israel</u> in a collaborative effort known
 as <u>Operation Olympic Games</u>.

A Cisco wireless router/device was recognized at the tabulation observation area. Five gray laptops were in the SURE area, and no network wires were connected to these laptops. These laptops are suspect as being wireless devices. IP phones were connected through patch cords (ethernet), and the 12 SURE terminals used to track voters, ballots, status were also connected through patch cords to the same switch.

- No Ethernet cable to connect to the County?
- 2. Staff would not permit the Observer to speak with IT and was told to refer questions to Amie Downs. Why are IT questions being directed/answered by Amie Downs? Amie Downs is not an IT expert.

FYI Note: An air-gapped network is one that is **physically isolated from any other networks in order to increase its security**. Air-gapping is a technique used to protect networks interconnecting the most sensitive and high-value systems within an organization, systems that are naturally of high interest to numerous attackers, including any and all Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) groups.

Advanced Persistent Threat groups are essentially covert or hidden hacker organizations that perform, "attacks on a country's information assets, critical infrastructure or other elements of national security or strategic economic importance."

From:

Ron Bandes <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 1:49 PM

To:

Board of Elections

Cc:

Subject:

I wish to speak at the Board of Elections meeting on 2022/9/20

Attachments:

Public Comment to the Board of Elections of Allegheny County 2022-09-20.pdf

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Board of Elections:

It is my intention to make a public comment at the Board of Elections meeting on September 20, 2022. Please include me in the list of public speakers.

I have attached my comment for your convenience, but I will read it aloud myself at the meeting. Thank you.

Ron Bandes

Public Comment to the Board of Elections of Allegheny County

Ron Bandes 2022-09-20

I am Ron Bandes. I vote in Pittsburgh election district 14-4 and I am the Judge of Election in Pgh 14-1, a post I've held for twelve years.

The Pennsylvania constitution guarantees the secrecy of every voter's ballot. It does not say that the ballot is to be kept secret only from some people and not others. Officials have no more right to know how I voted than anyone else.

The Election Division's latest contract for printing and mailing of absentee and mail-in ballots calls for the printing of barcodes on absentee and mail-in ballots for the purpose of quality control. This is acceptable as long as the barcode is not unique to the voter, or is otherwise able to be de-anonymized. For example, a barcode encoding the ballot style is acceptable.

I request that the Board vote today to issue a directive to the Elections Division, instructing them never (including the upcoming November 2022 election) to put any mark, including a barcode, that is uniquely assigned to an individual voter.

Two more measures to improve the secrecy of the ballot are warranted. First, when a set of secrecy envelopes is removed from a set of declaration envelopes, the secrecy envelopes should be shuffled so that their order no longer has any correspondence to the order of the declaration envelopes which identify voters. We used to do this when absentee ballots were processed at polling places.

Second, the secrecy envelopes should be actual security envelopes, with hash printing on the inside of the envelope to make it more difficult to see the ballot inside the envelope. I am providing samples of such envelopes, readily purchased at stationery stores.

Thank you for your consideration of these important privacy measures. I look forward to your vote on the directive today, and would like to hear the reasoning behind any opposing votes.

From:

M J Costello <

Sent:

Monday, September 19, 2022 11:30 AM

To:

Board of Elections

Subject:

Request to Speak at BOE tomorrow

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at the Board of Elections meeting tomorrow.

Mary Jo Costello

Pittsburgh, PA 15216

September 19, 2022

Dear Board of Elections,

As a Judge of Election it seems that a true Chain of Custody with our VOTES in Allegheny County is lacking in our election process. Because trust in our Election process is in dire straits with both Democrats and Republicans, it would only make sense that the BOE would be taking a hard look at this, because of the seriousness of this situation. If anything is happening to fix the process, to assure a free, fair and transparent election with a traceable chain of custody for EVERY VOTE, we the people have not been made aware of it. It appears that our legislators are gearing up to do the same thing all over again.

One of the many steps needed is to eliminate drop boxes, and have the Absentee and Mail-ins come through our 1,323 precincts. This would avoid the multiple hand-offs which only add to the number of breaches in the already weak chain of custody.

The following example is referencing one of many critical concerns from voters regarding our broken election process:

In the recent Primary, many Judges of Election (JOE) failed to remove the two USB drives from their precinct DS200 machines at the close-out of the polling place. Therefore, the JOE did not place these USBs in the orange pouch designated for return to the Regional Center. This indicates, the USB drives did not make it to the final count on election night.

Also, Judges failed to post the DS200 Zero Tape and the Final Results Tape in a prominent place at their polling location at the close-out of Election.

How were these serious problems resolved? Were election officials on-site?
Was anyone held accountable? If so, what was the process, results and consequences?
Who is ultimately responsible? How were the votes reconciled without the USB drives?

Here are a few of very many examples of unsatisfactory elections details that defy anything resembling a true chain of custody:

- Were DS200 Scanner machines returned to the Warehouse long after the election with both USB drives still intact/installed in the machines?
- The USBs are required to be returned to the Regional Center on election night.
 Where did they end up?
- Each Judge swears an Election Officer Oath to faithfully perform their duty to prevent fraud, deceit, or abuse, and a Judge makes a true and perfect return of the said Election. This was not in compliance on Election night. Did it even ever happen?
- Violations of the PA Election Code need to be immediately addressed by the County. Did that happen? Was anyone ever held accountable? If so, citizens deserve the details.

- Allegheny County distributes the Election Officer Handbook to the Judge of Elections at training, and an "End of Day Checklist" is available (Pages 47-50) to verify tasks are completed. This Handbook is also available on-line..
 What actions were taken regarding the JOE's who did not comply with these instructions.
- The Sheriff should be contacted to enforce the election law by escorting the JOE back to the polling location to retrieve what was required to be returned to Regional Center the night of the Election. Did this happen?

Our vote leaves our hands and travels down many *different* channels that remain secretive and not transparent, yet we are ignored when we challenge the process. The only transparency in our elections is our legislators refusal to acknowledge the fact that the whole election process appears to be smoke and mirrors to many of us.

We can't even do a count of the scanner tapes for verification because an estimated 40% of the votes come in from other places not-watched, or watched by too many miscellaneous eyes.

I am not a statistician but I do know the first rule of real statisticians is that no data has meaning when apart from their context. Translated: "trust no one who cannot, or will not, provide the context for their figures."

I also plan to speak at the meeting on September 20th to request improved minutes from the BOE meetings (ideally transcribed minutes) for the many unable to attend because these meetings are always scheduled in the middle of the workday and parking is very expensive. There are also chronic complaints about the poor audio and video for those watching virtually on Facebook. These would be professional, easy and very helpful improvements.

Also, is there a user-friendly process, form or link for us to help clean up the voter rolls, without needing to document a SSN or Driver's license number?

Thank you,

M J Costello Allegheny County

References:

"Election Officer Handbook," Allegheny County Elections Division, 542 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, revised as of October 10, 2021. https://www.alleghenycounty.us/uploadedFiles/Allegheny_Home/Dept-Content/Elections/Docs/EO%20Manual%2010_10_2021%20

"Understanding Variation: The Key to Managing Chaos," Donald J Wheeler



Audit The Vote PA

Report - County Based Recommendations for Election Integrity

August 4th, 2022

To All Pennsylvania County Commissioners:

The following report is based on our investigative research and <u>canvassing endeavors</u> that we performed following the 2020 election. We are making these recommendations to ensure that our election process is free, fair, and transparent so that every legal vote counts and every illegal vote does not disenfranchise the citizens of the Commonwealth who cast their ballot according to the law.

As County Commissioners, you have <u>full authority to administer and run your county's</u> <u>election</u> and can make any necessary process or procedure changes you deem necessary, as long as those changes are not in violation of the PA election code, such as skipping the reconciliation process. Pennsylvania election code establishes that precincts and then counties <u>must first reconcile</u> the votes cast to voters before proceeding to certify their election. While this process was not followed by certain counties in the past, such as in the 2020 election where over 100,000 votes remain unreconciled, please know that Audit The Vote PA plans to challenge counties that move forward with certifying numbers they are unable to reconcile.

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or comments. We look forward to collaborating with you to help implement the necessary changes.

Regards,

Toni Shuppe CEO Audit The Vote PA www.AuditTheVotePA.com

Ban Ballot Drop Boxes

- True The Vote has uncovered substantial evidence with the <u>widely used geo-spatial tracking technology</u>, combined with surveillance video from the drop boxes themselves, showing that ballot harvesting is occurring and perpetrators are using the drop boxes to submit their harvested ballots. True The Vote showed evidence that this method was abused and the outcome of the 2020 election in Pennsylvania should be called into question, because the illegally submitted ballots in Philadelphia alone span nearly three times Biden's margin of victory.
- Lancaster County chose not to use drop boxes in the May 17th primary despite being sued by the ACLU. We recommend that all counties follow Lancaster's lead in banning ballot drop boxes.
 - · Commissioner Parsons put out a statement that can be used as a template for this initiative.

Machine Issues

ATVPA is making a recommendation to not use the electronic voting tabulators or machines for the upcoming November general election. It is well within your scope of authority to make this decision as a County Commissioner.

We will be providing separate guidance on a process to hand count paper ballots at the precinct level. The recent CISA report details serious vulnerabilities in electronic voting machines, specifically Dominion. The simplest way to ensure a free and fair election is with no internet capable equipment, and with a hand count, which prevents hacking and foreign interference.

- For counties not willing to take this step, we recommend the following:
 - Ensure the machines do not have internet connectivity by inspecting the internal infrastructure to make sure there is no modem present or any other device that would allow remote access to the tabulators and machines.
 - > Allow concerned citizens with credentials in the tech sector to inspect the machines internet capabilities without accessing any internal or sensitive components.
 - > If the machine manufacturer will not allow any such inspections, then we must consider the machines are vulnerable and cease using them.

Handling of Mail-in Ballots

- Mail-in ballots need to go back to the precincts for counting to ensure that as every Judge of Elections signs off on the tally sheets, they are accurately representing an election that they witnessed.
 - As it stands now, the Judge of Elections signs off on a tally that is then updated to reflect the mail-in ballot count AFTER election day. The given Judge is not able to oversee the counting of those ballots which belong in his/her given precinct.

- This is an area of vulnerability and needs addressed before the November election to ensure transparency and accountability.
- Ensure that all "F" type voters (FWAB, FVAP, UOCAVA, etc.) are also simultaneously registered, as required by PA law.
- Mail-in ballots should have to be requested for each election, not automatically sent out.
 - The automated process trades a minor convenience for a potential vector for abuse. Those seeking to harvest ballots in their neighborhood, will seek out those ballots being sent to the addresses of deceased or moved voters.
- Signature verification must occur on all mail-in ballots. Requiring a signature will help to
 ensure that the registrant is the one requesting their ballot, not some random person online.
 Reference Section 1302 of the PA Election Code for the statutory requirements on this
 matter.
 - Without signature verification, every legal voter is disenfranchised by a potential illegal ballot that cannot be proven to have come from a legitimate registered voter.
- Counties should publish a report after each election to include a summary of how many ballots were sent in with valid signatures, invalid signatures, no signatures, and scribble signatures.
- Research mail-in ballot destination addresses to ensure the following:
 - ➤ Nobody is stock piling ballots. The 2000 Mules that True the Vote has revealed, show that there are NGO-connected ballot stash houses where ballots are being amassed.
 - Additionally, it was uncovered in the 2022 primary that there was a scheme being orchestrated in Philadelphia to harvest ballots by getting residents to unknowingly request their mail ballot arrive at a South Philly Ward Leader's PO Box.
 - The canvassing effort in Allegheny County, specifically Monroeville area, resulted in one resident signing an affidavit indicating that he did not vote in the 2020 election, but according to the SURE system, there was a mail-in ballot cast under his name. This also happened in a long-term care facility in Lancaster County where we surveyed a resident who said she had not voted in at least three years, but there was also a mail-in ballot cast under her name.
 - > Ballots must be sent to legal locations so that they cannot be harvested by others.
- More oversight regarding Nursing Home mail-in ballot requests to minimize ballot harvesting.
- Track the mail-in ballot arrival date separate from the scanned date.
 - > It is imperative to track the arrival date so that concerned citizens can determine and account for how many mail ballots can be considered to be counted in accordance with the law.

> Some counties are already tracking these fields correctly, however some counties are entering in a date other than the ballots' arrival date, causing computational discrepancies when analyzing expected legal mail ballots.

Process Recommendations

- All ballots must be reconciled prior to the certification of the vote.
 - > This is required by law in the PA Election codes, 25 Pa. Stat. § 3031.13.
 - > There were well over 100,000 unreconciled votes statewide in the 2020 election that were certified, a direct violation of the above law.
 - Any future violations of this law will result in lawsuits.

Voter Roll Maintenance

- Utilize the NCOA (National Change of Address) service, as mandated by the law.
 - > Title 25 § 1901(b)(1)(i) requires counties to use the NCOA database once a year at minimum.
 - > Counties should be running their voter rolls against the NCOA database prior to every election and making an effort to reconcile any moves.
 - > Programs like ERIC, while helpful, do not remove the requirement for counties to be leveraging the NCOA database at least once a year.
- Implement follow up canvassing to ensure accuracy/cleaning of voter rolls upon an alert of a move.
 - Title 25 § 1901(b)(2) grants counties the ability to implement a canvassing program to investigate potential voter moves, and upon confirming, allows the county to immediately cancel the registration.
 - > Not performing this canvassing exercise means that in many cases, the registration is left as "inactive" and it takes two+ federal election cycles for it to be removed.
- Ensure that addresses being entered into the system are valid and legal residential addresses.
 - > Bad or illegal addresses should be corrected in the system, and efforts should be made to verify upon entry to ensure data integrity.
- Run checks for duplicates against statewide voter rolls to identify and clean up duplicate registrations.
- Reconcile missing information such as DOB or gender.

Automatic Recounts

A risk limiting audit (RLA) does not yield confidence in our electoral process. After the 2020 election, the Department of State stated that of their RLA that, "The results of the sample mirrored the reported presidential election results across the participating counties within a fraction of a percentage point, providing confirmation of the accuracy of the vote count.

- The Department of State is openly admitting that their audit results **did not mirror** the certified results but seem to think it is a **fraction of a percentage point** (such as 0.999999 or 0.1) and therefore it is acceptable.
 - > Source: https://www.media.pa.gov/pages/State-details.aspx?newsid=453
- The inventor of the RLA states that a RLA does not prove the accuracy of the count.
 - "At best, this pilot provided evidence that [President Joe] Biden got more votes than [Donald] Trump in total in the counties that participated in the pilot," said Philip Stark, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley who invented risk-limiting audits. "That's different from showing that any equipment worked properly, that the count was accurate, or that Biden won [Pennsylvania]."
 - > Source: https://whyy.org/articles/pa-audit-confirms-biden-got-more-votes-than-trump-but-cant-tell-us-much-else/
- Perform a hand recount of 3+ precincts each election cycle, either chosen at random or in coordination with citizen petitions.
- Allow petitioners access to hand recounts as outlined by <u>25 Pa § 3261</u> "Cause the entire vote of the election district to be correctly counted by persons designated by the court."

Speckin Forensics, LLC

120 N. WASHINGTON SQUARE, SUITE 300 PMB 8068

Lansing, Michigan 48933 517-349-3528 • Fax 954-839-8219 PLEASE DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE & PAYMENT HERE:
IIO E. BROWARD BOULEVARD, SUITE 1700
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
954-763-6134 • FAX 954-639-5219

WWW.4N6.COM

LEGNARD A. SPECKIN

MICHAEL J. SINKE
RETIRED LATENT PRINT SPECIALIST
RETIRED CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION
RETIRED FORENSIC DOCUMENT ANALYST

ROBERT D. KULLMAN

DR. GEORGE F. JACKSON Ph.D.

ERICH J. SPECKIN FORENSIC DOCUMENT ANALYS INR DATING SPECIALIST

ROGER J. BOLHOUSE MBA
LABORATORY DIRECTOR
CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION
FORENSIC ANALYST & CONSULTANT

THOMAS K. HUARD Ph.D.

TERRY NADEAU

RICHARD L. BRUNELLE

DR. LAURENCE R. SIMSON M.D.

ANTHONY A. MILONE COMPUTER & GRAPHICS SPECIALIST FORENSIC DOCUMENT SPECIALIST

DR. JULIE HOWENSTINE
SEROLOGIST
DNA ANALYST & CONSULTANT
CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION

September 16, 2022

I have been asked to review scans and ballot count sheets from the November 2020 election in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

I have reviewed election cases including ballots in many instances in my career over the past 29 years associated with my expertise in document examination.

In this case, I had access to PDF scans of the front and back of each ballot as well as the corresponding PDF of the detail for the counting and tabulation of each ballot. Every ballot has a unique individual identifying number associated with the counting and is part of the PDF file name.

There are three primary groups of ballots; first is the poll site (election day) voting. These appear to be processed by different scanners/tabulators than the mail in votes. The second category is the mail in or absentee votes. These appear to be counted at a central location with their own set of tabulators from random areas as would be expected. The final type is a small number of ballots labeled as provisional. These provisional ballots were not focused on during my examination.

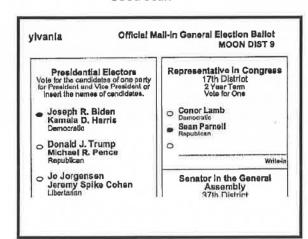
The polling site (election day) ballots are the lowest ballot numbers and the first series counted. The mail in/absentee being the next series counted and the provisional ballots being the final group counted.

Results:

As a result of only having images, the forensic examination that can be performed is limited. It is always more desirable to have the original evidence when possible. The examination conducted used the available captured reliable evidence in the images to make the findings and arrive at the conclusions.

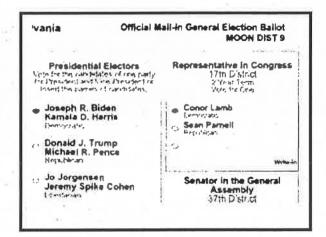
When the series of the mail in ballots was examined, a range of ballot ID numbers contained images that were far inferior to the other ballot images provided. See image comparisons below:

Good Scan



Cast Vote Record 455140 Record 8 Moon Dist. 9

Bad scan



Cast Vote Record 455005 Record 8 Mood Dist. 9

When the poor image ballots were examined and compared to the corresponding tabulation record, the scanner that appeared for these images was consistently the same (8520050452). Many of these images have similar defects in the printing/copying process which would indicate common source of production, but different than the remaining examined ballots. Clearly in the mail in counting area, a random printing defect that may have existed in mailing out of ballots could not consistently come back and be counted on the same scanner. Therefore, a printing defect on the printing side of the ballot creation is not the likely cause of this anomaly.

Presidential Electors

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Cast Vote Record 444064
Record 7 McKee Rock Ward 1 Dist. 2

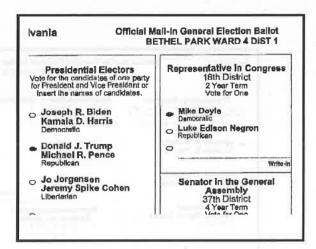
Presidential Electors

Violo for the campitates of ree party for Freshlert and Vion Freshlert or lesestithe names of carefillates

> Cast Vote Record 445034 Record 2 Casl Shannon Dist. 1

It would be a theoretical possibility that the issue in image quality was caused by the scanner at the time of counting or tabulation through a malfunction or an issue with a setting instead of a repeatable defect caused by common printing/copying source. However, upon further investigation, there are a number

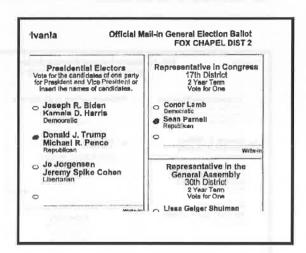
of ballot images captured by this anomalous scanner (8520050452) that contain no issues in image quality or repeatable defects. Below are four examples of ballots scanned in the mail in ballots.



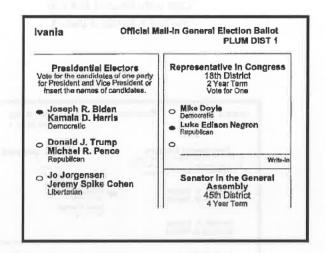
Cast Vote Record 460779 Record 1 Bethel 4 Dist. 1

Ivania Official M	all-in General Election Ballot OHIO DIST 3
Presidential Electors Vote for the candidates of one party for President and Vice President or Insert the names of candidates.	Representative in Congress 17th District 2 Year Term Vote for One
Joseph R. Biden Kamala D. Harris Democratic	Conor Lamb Democratic Sean Parnell Republican
O Donald J. Trump Michael R. Pence Republican	- Write-li
Jo Jorgensen Jeremy Spike Cohen Liberterian	Senator In the General Assembly 37th District 4 Year Term Vote for One

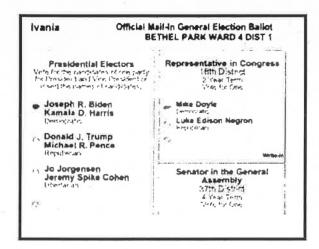
Cast Vote Record 469103 Record 10 Ohio Dist. 3



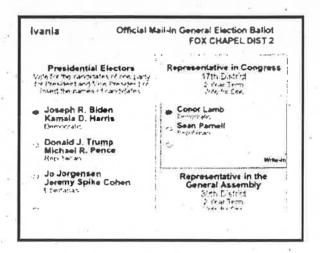
Cast Vote Record 458116 Record 4 Fox Chap Dist.



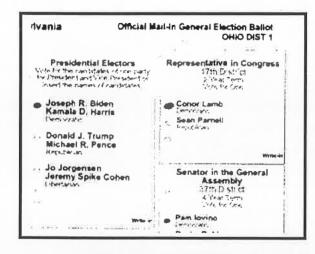
Cast Vote Record 443200 Record 16 Plum Dist. 1 Below are four examples of ballots with poor scans from the same areas in the same scanning range by the numerical ID for the ballot.



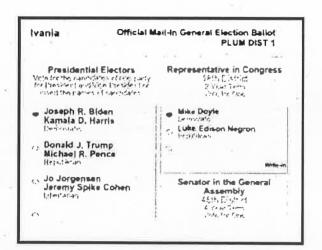
Cast Vote Record 444476 Record 1 Bethel 4 Dist. 1



Cast Vote Record 451891 Record 4 Fox Chap Dist. 2



Cast Vote Record 448587 Record 10 Ohio Dist. 1



Cast Vote Record 43361 Record 16 Plum Dist. 1

At this point in my review, I have identified thousands of ballots with this visible defect. The number is checked by hand at calculated on current totals over 10,000 ballots contain this issue from the same scanner. Based on the identical nature of the anomalies, it is my opinion that this subset of ballots

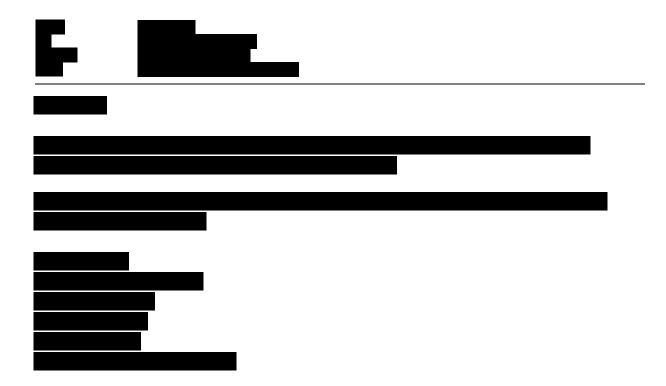
originated from the same source at some point but not the same source that printed the other ballots where the images have no visible issues.

Based on the forensic findings, it is my opinion that further work and review of the original ballots should be conducted to determine what significance these findings have on the whole of the approximately 700,000 ballots cast.

- Review the original ballots that were scanned and created the submitted images to determine the scope and correlation of these printing anomalies or if an alternative theory could exist that cannot be determined at this time.
- 2. Determine the details of the scanner with the anomalies noted in the user, time frames scanned, and cause of the poor image.
 - Then to determine the origin of the original ballots if the issue is with a printing defect.
 - b. Conduct a study of the voting pattern (if any) in these areas compared to other correctly printed ballots.
- 3. If the original ballots are made available:
 - a. To look for impressions of ballots into each other. In the normal course of voting these would not be filled out one on top of each other.
 - b. Using infrared light to determine if more than one ink formulation was used to complete a ballot and which races contained different inks to see if there is any pattern of additions or not.
 - c. In ballots that are color printed to review the CPS code and yellow printed dots to determine similarities in the machines and the timing for the printing process.

Erich Speckin

Forensic Document Analyst



Begin forwarded message:

From:

Date: July 15, 2022 at 10:13:42 PM EDT **To:** # Boards < Boards@alleghenvcounty.us>

Subject: Single set of electors

Warning! This email was sent from an external source. Please be sure you recognize the sender and use caution when clicking on links and/or opening attachments.

Dear Elections Board Members--

I am writing to ask if bylaws or legislation could be introduced to codify the (until recently adhered to) principle of endorsing only a single set of electors?

Signing on to alternate, illegitimate slates undermines the integrity of our electoral process. With Allegheny County being such a publicly-watched district in an important electoral state, participation in election schemes which serve no legitimate function only serve to polarize citizens further. It also erodes trust in the electoral process, something we have seen frequently in conspiracy theories.

The alternate electors scheme was an important part of the January 6 violence at our nation's Capitol. Actions by elected officials, including in Pennsylvania, directly contributed to violence and even death that day.

I support our Elections Board and having both major parties represented in its membership. I simply ask for a rule to be in place where the winner in each race be determined only by the objective measure of votes received. Participation in conspiracy theories and partisan politics by an Elections Board member after votes have been cast shows poor judgement and is a conflict of interest. As a county we should hold board members to a higher standard, where we know they will always faithfully represent the will of the people.

Thank you, Brady Riedel