

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

2014 General Election Experience Report

Contributors:

Gwen Abramowitz

John O'Brien

Larry Szurley

David Voyer

Mark Wolosik

Overview

JERRY TYSKIEWICZ, DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
604 COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING • 542 FORBES AVENUE • PITTSBURGH, PA 15219
PHONE (412) 350-4500 • FAX (412) 350-5697 • WWW.ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US

Of the 882,916 registered voters in Allegheny County, 359,082 – or 40.67%, voted at the past November 4, 2014 General Election. This level of voter participation is lower than turnout levels in recent past elections of this type.

A total of 10,295 absentee ballots were issued and 715 provisional ballots were cast. Of the provisional ballots, 81 were fully counted, 318 partially counted and 316 were not counted. The majority of those not counted were due to the fact that the provisional voter was not a registered voter.

Over 350,000 “emergency” paper ballots were supplied to this County’s 1,319 polling places in the event that at least one-half of the voting machines in a precinct were non-functional. 110 emergency ballots were used in 12 voting districts, primarily due to the fact that the local district election boards had difficulty in printing a “zero tape” prior to the opening of the polls. All of the affected precincts successfully printed their zero tapes that morning.

43 candidates appeared on the ballot and a total of over 75 distinct ballot configurations were created to accommodate the Federal and State office contests. Two Home Rule Charter Amendment referendum questions appeared on the Municipality of Mt. Lebanon ballot at this election.

Accessibility

All 1,319 polling places in this County are classified as “accessible” pursuant to the standard promulgated by the Pennsylvania Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Firmware Verification

Allegheny County employed the services of “GRP Consulting Group, LLC” to verify that the software resident on the iVotronic voting devices contain the “trusted build” version certified by the Pennsylvania Department of State. As has been the case since 2008, no instance of uncertified software has been detected. Copies of the reports prepared for the November 4, 2014 General Election are attached below.

Executive Summary Report

Final Report

Logic and Accuracy Testing

Extensive automated and manual Logic and Accuracy Testing (L&A) was performed. Automated L&A was performed on all 4,226 iVotronic voting machines deployed on Election Day. Manual L&A was also performed for each of the approximately 75 different ballot configurations. Those parties and organizations permitted by Pennsylvania law to be present during this process were duly notified.

The “test deck” comprised of over 6,600 ballots, containing ballots for every candidate and question, was used to verify that the 5 ES&S Model 650 high-speed ballot counters would accurately count the absentee, provisional and emergency optical scan paper ballots to be used at the election. This test was conducted prior to Election day as well as before final certification of the election results. In both tests, the ballot scanners produced an accurate count. Public notice of the pre-election test was given, as required by law.

Network Security

Also following past practice, an independent third-party review was conducted both prior to and after the past Election to assure that the election network was isolated and not connected to any external network. Copies of the reports produced by Solutions 4 Networks are attached below.

Air Gap Analysis Report

Parallel Testing

Since the November 2006 Election, Allegheny County has employed a Certified Public Accounting firm to ensure that the functionality of the iVotronic voting machine devices have not been compromised. Once again, the parallel testing performed at the November 4, 2014 General Election indicated that the randomly-selected voting devices recorded and counted all votes completely and correctly. A copy of the report issued by Baker Tilly is attached below.

Parallel Test Report