



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 5, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshar 
County Administrator

Re: **July 1, 2022 Mock Election Update**

The attached memorandum from Elections Director Constance Hargrove provides an update on the second mock election held July 1, 2022.

Ms. Hargrove received helpful feedback from both pollworkers and participants. She will meet with an inspector to discuss concerns and vote center setup.

Finally, Ms. Hargrove confirms there is no change in the tabulation process for Pima County.

JKL/anc

Attachment

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator
Constance Hargrove, Director, Elections



ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT
6550 SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB RD., TUCSON, AZ 85756
(520) 724-6830 FAX (520) 724-6870

Date: July 3, 2022

TO: Jan Leshner
County Administrator

FROM: Constance Hargrove *CH*
Elections Director

RE: July 1, 2022 Mock Election Update

The Elections Department held a second mock election on July 1, 2022, to demonstrate the electronic pollbooks and the ballot on-demand printers. We had sixty-six participants on Friday, including some pollworkers that wanted to see the process. The e-pollbooks and the printers functioned properly.

It is important to understand that we are using a training environment and ballots for an old election. The staff manually creates the training database to include different scenarios. The training database unintentionally includes new precincts created during redistricting. The new precincts do not have any ballots in the training database, meaning no ballots will print when we check in the voter.

The existence of the new precincts caused a problem during the mock election. The problem also highlighted the importance of pollworkers reading the messages on the screen when checking in a voter. The e-pollbook gives the pollworker a message after processing a voter. The e-pollbook will either say, ballot printed successfully or problem printing ballot. The messages alert the pollworker to a problem. The individuals operating the e-pollbooks did not pay attention to the messages, creating a line at the ballot table. Some of the scenarios did not produce and ballot for the participants. I made the judgment call to give the participants a ballot instead of making them go back through the line to get another card. The problem had nothing to do with the process or the equipment.

In addition, one participant decided to spoil his ballot. The individual's card was in a new precinct. Therefore, the individual did not have a ballot associated with the precinct. He was given a ballot for the correct party primary but a different precinct. So when he spoiled the ballot, the pollworker couldn't know which ballot to issue based on the original information.

The participant received a different ballot, and it raised some questions. I attempted to explain the situation to the participant, but he did not receive the explanation. The scenario is not a problem for a real election because we receive the data from the Recorder, and the ballots exist for all precincts.

Furthermore, the voter will use their identification when they receive a ballot and when they spoil a ballot. The workflow requires the pollworker to pull up the voter's record to spoil and reissue the ballot. The voter must sign and confirm that they are spoiling a ballot.

I had discussions with some pollworkers, and some participants' feedback was helpful. I will meet with one inspector to discuss the vote center setup and determine how to accommodate everyone's concerns. Most of the written comments were positive, and some participants had questions I will add to our FAQ document.

Finally, I will address the perception that the Elections Department has new tabulation equipment. We do not have new tabulation equipment in the vote center. However, each vote center has one accessible voting machine required by the Help America Vote Act. Pima County uses the ExpressVote ballot marking device as the accessible machine. The ExpressVote does not tally or tabulate votes. The machine produces a paper ballot tabulated with the other ballots at the central count location. The e-pollbook and the ballot on-demand printers are the only new equipment in the vote center. There is no change in the tabulation process for Pima County.