



# Election Integrity Manual

September 2022

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This manual is a work in progress, and will be updated whenever new or additional information is available. If you have any comments, suggestions, or corrections, please send those to: [director@il.foramericafirst.com](mailto:director@il.foramericafirst.com)

September 2022. This manual was developed and published by Illinois for America First, with resources provided by The American Project. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this manual, but given the variance in procedures by locality, and many recent legal and procedural changes, errors and omissions are inevitable; therefore, only the Code of Illinois and official procedures are authoritative.

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## Introduction

Our election procedures are a mess; a mix of ill-defined, non-transparent, inefficient, and constantly changing processes. Laws and regulations fail to establish voting systems and processes that inspire public confidence in the integrity of our polling processes, and consequently many people doubt the democratic legitimacy of elected representatives.

This existing confusion, inefficiency, and opacity of our elections was multiplied in 2020 through ill-advised changes in procedures in response to the COVID pandemic, all of which weakened the security of the election process. Two of the COVID measures: early voting and mail-in voting; did the most damage to confidence in the integrity of our elections.

Early voting, the replacement of election day by an extended election season, created an extended and non-transparent process impossible for poll watchers or non-partisan observers to effectively monitor and verify. The huge expansion in mail-in voting came with weakened security measures for absentee ballots, inadequate “chain of custody” processes for the movement of ballots, and inadequate oversight for the seemingly ubiquitous drop boxes

The introduction of universal mail-in voting—voting from home rather than at the polling station—eliminated the transparent process required to deter malpractice; and for the first time in the modern era enabled criminal vote fraud, coercion, intimidation, and vote buying to occur in the home or workplace.

Confidence that elections are fair, and that the results accurately reflect the will of the people, is foundational for a functional democracy. Unfortunately, Illinois has adopted machine-based voting, counting, and registration processes that decrease public confidence in elections. Machine-based processes are not transparent or even comprehensible for ordinary citizens and poll workers; and computer experts are prevented from understanding the internal workings of these machines because foolish state officials signed contracts protecting the “intellectual property” of machine manufacturers.

Unfortunately, Illinois allows same day voter registration, and that combined with ID requirements for voter registration and voting that are woefully inadequate to ensure identity and citizenship, enables cheating and diminishes confidence that only eligible citizens can vote in elections. Illinois is also plagued with an inaccurate voter list bloated with many fraudulent registrations; a gaping security hole potentially facilitating many types of election fraud.

Illinois elections were also corrupted by a massive influx of dark money from outside the state. Some of the money went to candidates, and some was used to bribe election officials and influence election processes to unfairly favor one party.

Fundamental reforms in law and procedures are required to restore lasting public confidence in the integrity of Illinois elections, but these reforms will take time. Unfortunately, we don't have much time. While we must not cease to advocate for fundamental reforms, in the near term we believe that the most important action we can take to strengthen the integrity of our elections,

and confidence in the democratic legitimacy of our elected representatives, is to increase transparency in electoral processes.

Your participation is essential to achieving this goal. This guide aims to provide you, a citizen, with the knowledge and tools needed to help ensure a free and fair election process for all voters. In the guide you will find information on election reform advocacy, becoming an officer of election, and monitoring election processes; all activities aimed at increasing transparency in the elections, and public ownership of that process.

The American republic was founded on the principle and promise of self-government. Now that promise is threatened by a loss of faith in the integrity of the very process that enables self-government, and the republic that so many struggled and fought and died to establish, is at risk. Now, as our forefathers once did, we are called to lead; to secure again the right to self-government for ourselves and our families and our fellow citizens. If we are to save our republic, it must begin here, now, and with this election. As has ever been, success will require sacrifice and hard work, but with your help, and the guiding hand of God, it is not too late to restore our republic.

Joshua Pratt  
State Director  
Illinois for America First

## Operation Eagles Wings

Illinois for America First is part of a national initiative called “Operation Eagles Wings” supported by the America Project (TAP), and through the voluntary contributions of individuals committed to the restoration and strengthening of constitutional democracy in America. OEW grew out of a program developed for the 2021 state and local elections in Virginia, creating a template for issue advocacy and election integrity programing which became known as the “Virginia Model”.<sup>1</sup>

Virginians for America First (VFAF) launched on 09 March 2021 with the intent to achieve which aimed to elect an America First majority in the Virginia House of Delegates. Bishop Leon Benjamin, initially supported by Americans for Limited Government (ALG), led the efforts as the founder of Virginians for America First. His courageous stand on America First principles resonated with Virginians of all races and social standing. He was instrumental in bringing unity, building coalitions, and reaching into communities not normally engaged.

Once VFAF launched there was great response with hundreds of sign-ups within hours. This came as a surprise. The overwhelming interest of those sign-ups was election integrity (EI). It became obvious we must include an EI program component to satisfy the interests of our volunteers.

While I was a political appointee during the Trump Administration at the US Agency for International Development, I had worked with Tim Meisburger, who was appointed to USAID by President Trump in 2017 as a director of USAID’s Center for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG).

Tim is an expert in EI, with 30+ years experience around the globe working to ensure free and fair elections in third world and developing democracies; so I contacted him, and asked for his help in developing an EI program based on accepted international standards. Tim joined VFAF/ALG and developed the EI program. He generated a manual for election observation specific to Virginia based on recognized international standards.

The EI program in conjunction with the America First voter education component became the complete “Virginia Model.” Parts of this model are being shared in states across the nation by others, but only TAP is providing the model in total.

In the summer of 2021 TAP learned of VFAF’s project in Virginia, and began supporting it financially as the major contributor. TAP recognized early on that this project was making an impact in Virginia, and that what had been effective in Virginia in 2021 could serve as a model for programs in battleground states in 2022.

The EI component of OEW consists of four major parts:

<sup>1</sup> See [Fixing Virginia’s Elections to Save America](#)

Voter education of America First issues concentrating on low-propensity voters. These are voters who are generally not politically engaged but want America First principles in our government.

Training of poll workers/poll watchers with an in-depth program on election observation, reporting, and the rights of citizens to have free and fair elections.

Direct citizen observation and review of processes and procedures pertaining to the maintenance of and handling of voter rolls. This is primarily achieved by communicating directly with election officials in each municipality.

Real time evaluation of absentee ballot processing during election season (45 days of early voting in Virginia). This part of the program will need to be adjusted to correspond with state specific statutes.

The voter education component of the OEW conducts campaigns to inform voters who have historically had little access to information on the America First movement about the of how America First policies can increase their freedom and improve their lives. Increased turnout by new America First voters, particularly in minority communities, was a very important part of the victory in Virginia. We learned through our targeted voter education efforts, and canvassing, that addressing issues that directly affected voters and their families made the difference in turning out minorities to support candidates who embraced America First principles.

Following its successes in Virginia, TAP developed the “Operation Eagles Wings” program to share its approaches with like-minded organizations across the country, and to implement the Virginia Model Template in nine critical states: Florida, Georgia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Wisconsin, Arizona, Texas, and Illinois.

2021 in Virginia was a message sent to every America First Patriot that with dedicated hard work, focus, and a united effort “We the People” can save the Republic for future generations. 2022 offers us the opportunity to repeat a Virginia type victory all around the nation. Join us by going to [www.americaproject.com](http://www.americaproject.com) to volunteer for, and donate to this effort.

Mark Lloyd  
Director  
Operation Eagles Wings



# 1 Advocacy for Election Reform in Illinois

To restore confidence in the integrity of Illinois' elections will require fundamental reform of election laws and procedures to increase the transparency and security of the entire process. Volunteers should be advocates in their communities and across the state for these simple, commonsense reforms.

## 1.1 Commonsense Election Reforms

End most early and mail-in voting; Supposedly to make it easier to vote, our election day has expanded to almost six weeks, but election professionals agree that early voting, mail-in voting, drop boxes and ballot harvesting all facilitate voter intimidation, impersonation, ballot box stuffing and other forms of fraud. To protect Illinois' elections and restore confidence in their integrity, we must demand that lawmakers return to a single election day. Rather than extending the voting period or using insecure mail-in ballots to increase participation at the expense of election integrity, they may make election day a mandated holiday with absentee voting limited to those with a genuine and provable need.

Use manual rather than machine-based voting and counting processes; Voting and counting machines are inherently non-transparent, prone to malfunction, and are viewed by many computer experts (and by senior politicians of both parties) as highly susceptible to rigging, fraud and abuse. Machine processes cannot be effectively observed and certified by election officials, observers, or ordinary citizens, and as such they have no place in Illinois' elections. To restore confidence in the integrity of elections, Illinois must revert to a simple, transparent, and manual polling and counting processes.

Demand clean voter rolls; Bloated and inaccurate voter rolls facilitate all forms of vote fraud. Require the Illinois Secretary of State to conduct a comprehensive voter list audit using internationally accepted standards and practices, and then address the weaknesses in our voter registration process identified through the audit.

Require photo ID to register and vote; If a potential registrant lacks photo ID, require proof of ID sufficient to acquire a REAL ID driver's license in the state, and issue the registered voter a state ID free of charge that can be used for polling and other purposes. (REAL ID will soon be required to fly domestically, and requires proof of citizenship for issuance.)

Ban "dark money" private funding of election processes; Dark money from outside the state continues to pollute Illinois elections and is likely to be an even bigger problem moving forward. In 2020 the Center For Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) gave more than \$5 million of Zuckerberg money to Democrat-leaning counties for "election administration", fueling suspicion of vote-buying, bribery and undue influence. Volunteers and voters must demand that this type of obvious vote-buying be prohibited in future.

Expose "foreign" funding for campaigns from outside the affected constituency; No country in the world allows foreign funding in their election campaigns, because in a democracy only the citizens who will be represented should have influence on who is elected. The same principle should apply across constituencies in the US. For example, it is incredibly unfair and

undemocratic for Silicon Valley moguls or Davos billionaires to influence federal, state and local level races in Illinois. If it is not possible to prohibit these immoral and undemocratic practices, “foreign” funding of Illinois elections must be monitored and exposed, to ensure voters know who is trying to unfairly influence our representatives.

## 1.2 Taking Action

In 2022, our objective is to elect candidates committed to making commonsense election reforms that will ensure that all voters’ voices are heard, and make it easy to vote and hard to cheat. To achieve this objective will require a concerted effort across the state, and IFAF volunteers have a key role to play.

First, publicize the Commonsense Election Reforms by preparing posters and/or leaflets to put up or pass out in your AOR. The IFAF office will prepare some examples and templates you can use, but feel free to also use your own creativity, and share your creations across the network.

Print the Commonsense Election Reform Pledge (in the box at the end of this section), and ask all of your local candidates to sign the pledge. If any will sign, you can use that as a lever to pressure the others, as the coalition will endorse any candidate that signs the pledge. Please let us know who does sign, and who does not.

Write op-eds and letters to the editor for local papers or social media, or get interviewed on local radio. Explain the reforms and endorse the candidates who signed the pledge, and question the fitness of those who have refused to do so.

Enjoy the fine weather, and hold a rally/barbeque/party for election reform. Invite local leaders, candidates, and press. Hang out with like-minded folks, eating burnt meat and drinking beer. And please let us know about anything you do, so we can share your ideas and activities across the IFAF!

### Illinois Commonsense Election Reforms

- *End most early and mail-in voting*
- *Use manual rather than machine-based voting and counting processes*
- *Clean bloated and error-ridden voter rolls*
- *Require photo ID to register and vote*
- *Ban “dark money” private funding of election processes*
- *Expose “foreign” funding for campaigns from outside the affected constituency*

### Commonsense Election Reform Pledge

*I recognize that democracy in Illinois is dependent on free and fair elections, and if elected, I promise to support legislation that will:*

- *End most early and mail-in voting*
- *Use manual rather than machine-based voting and counting processes*
- *Clean bloated and error-ridden voter rolls*
- *Require photo ID to register and vote*
- *Ban “dark money” private funding of election processes*
- *Expose “foreign” funding for campaigns from outside the affected constituency*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for \_\_\_\_\_

## **2 Serving as a Poll Worker**

### **2.1 Why Serve as a Poll Worker?**

Most election cheating and fraud is not possible without collusion from poll workers, so our number one priority role for those interested in promoting election integrity is to serve as a poll worker. From this position you can best prevent or expose efforts to undermine election integrity.

Although both parties have the right to recommend elections officers for every precinct, in the past Republicans have been less likely to do this, and consequently there are many precincts without Republican officers. Likewise, in some heavily Republican districts there are too few Democrat officers. When this occurs, one of the essential checks and balances built into the system is missing, and this contributes directly to many voters' lack of confidence in the integrity of the election process.

### **2.2 Qualifications and Renumeration for Poll Workers**

To serve as a poll worker you must be registered to vote in Illinois; be at least 18 years of age (unless a student poll worker); able to fluently speak, read, and write English; able to complete required training; and willing to provide your political affiliation (Illinois seek to ensure partisan balance in poll worker recruitment). Payment for poll workers varies from county to county, and by position. If you are interested in becoming a poll worker or election judge, contact your county clerk.

### **2.3 Great for Students!**

Serving as a poll worker is a great opportunity for regular and home-schooled high school students to learn about civics and the process of democracy, while also earning some spending money! With the exception of being qualified and registered voters, students must meet all of the other requirements for election judges, must have written permission from a parent or guardian and school principal, and must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0. To apply, ask your principle, or contact your county election office.

### **2.4 Promoting Election Integrity as a Poll Worker**

As a poll worker, you have a legal and moral duty to administer elections that are free and fair for all voters. Although it is unlikely, in the performance of your duties you may witness other officials engaging in practices not consistent with law or regulations. These can be irregularities (i.e., failure to follow law or procedure due to ignorance), or malfeasance (intended to undermine the integrity of the vote).

In some cases, it may be difficult to determine whether an incident is an irregularity or malfeasance, but in every case, election judges and poll workers should attempt to rectify the situation. That may be as simple as informing the poll worker of the correct procedure (with reference to official documentation), reporting to one of the other judges, or contacting senior election officials at the county level. In cases of potentially criminal conduct, refer to the specific guidance below.

ILFAF encourages all poll workers to fill in and submit a Poll Worker Report after the election. The form is printed below, and available online [here](#). This information (but not your name) will be combined with information from other poll workers in a public report, and used to evaluate the election process and make recommendations for improving future elections.

### Illinois Poll Worker/Election Judge Report

Instructions: fill out the form and send to IFET, or use the online form [here](#). If you need additional space for any question, use the back of the form, or attach additional sheets, as needed.

Name:	Precinct:	
Date Submitted:	County/City:	
<b>Before the election</b>		
1	Did you receive training before election day?	Yes___ No___ N/A___
2	Was your training provided in person or online?	In person___ Online___
<b>On election day</b>		
3	Did you receive all required equipment for the polling process? If not, what was missing?	Yes___ No___ N/A___
4	Which party did you represent?	Rep___ Dem___
5	Were poll watchers present during preparations to open?	Rep___ Dem___
6	Were poll watchers present throughout the day?	Rep___ Dem___
7	Were poll watchers present during the closing process?	Rep___ Dem___
8	Were poll workers representing both the Republican and Democratic parties present for all sensitive operations?	Yes___ No___
9	If no, which party had poll workers present for all sensitive operations?	Rep___ Dem___ N/A___
10	Did any non-partisan observers visit your precinct?	Yes___ No___ N/A___
11	Did any media or press visit your precinct?	Yes___ No___ N/A___
12	Was your precinct overcrowded or normal?	Over___ Normal___
13	Did you witness any irregularities or malfeasance during the process? (if yes, please provide details on the back of the form)	Yes___ No___ N/A___
14	Please grade the overall efficiency of the polling at your precinct on the scale A-excellent, B-above average, C-average, D-below average, E-failing. If D or E, please provide details on the back.	_____
15	Please grade the overall integrity of the polling at your precinct on the scale A-excellent, B-above average, C-average, D-below average, E-failing. If D or E, please provide details on the back.	_____
Thank you!		

## 2.5 Reporting Irregularities and Malfeasance

Irregularities are procedural errors that may be caused by a lack of knowledge or a lack of critical materials. Minor irregularities may not affect the integrity of the process, but are indicators of poor training or election management. Some irregularities can impact the integrity of the process (such as positioning polling booths so that poll watchers or other voters can see a voter marking a ballot; or preventing poll watchers from effectively observing the election process), and if these are done intentionally, would be considered malfeasance.

We generally think of malfeasance as an intentional effort to undermine the integrity of the election process. If you witness serious malfeasance or what you think may be criminal behavior in the election process, you have several options.

- a. You can submit a complaint in person or by mail to the Executive Director of the Illinois State Board of Elections by mail to the following address:

Bernadette Matthews  
Executive Director, Illinois State Board of Elections  
69 W. Washington St., Suite LL08, Chicago, IL 60602

Complaints submitted via email may not be considered. The complaint must include the name of the person submitting the complaint, and a way of contacting the person making the complaint, such as an address, e-mail address and/or a telephone number. The complaint must also specify the statutory provision(s) that has been violated, and describe in particular the nature of the complaint. If available, documentary evidence, (including photographs) should be included with the filing as well as contact information for any witnesses.

- b. Complaints alleging election-day violations should be brought to the attention of the county clerk where the alleged violation occurred.
- c. Complaints alleging a criminal violation such as vote fraud, voter intimidation, etc., should be referred to the State's Attorney's office of the county in which the alleged violation occurred, as the State Board of Elections lacks jurisdiction to commence a criminal prosecution.

Since state institutions don't have a particularly good track record in investigating or prosecuting election crime in Illinois, we suggest that in addition to, or as an alternative to, submitting a report through one of the channels above, you submit an IFAF Incident Report Form. This form has been designed by legal professionals to ensure sufficient information is collected to form the basis of a legal declaration or affidavit that can be used in any needed follow up. GFAP's legal team will review all incident reports, and follow up with legal action, if warranted. The online incident report form is available [here](#), and a print version is attached below.

**Illinois Election Incident Report Form**

Instructions: Please fill in the form as completely as possible as soon as possible after (or during) the incident. Take the time to collect names and contact details of other witnesses. If you collect electronic evidence (picture, video or audio recording), make a copy of the file and submit with your report, but retain the original on your phone or other electronic device. Submit the completed form as soon as possible to: IFET

**REPORTER INFORMATION**

Reported by:	Phone:
Position (voter, election inspector, poll watcher, etc.):	Email:

**DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT**

Date of incident:	Time of incident:	Were the police notified: Yes / No
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Location of incident:

Description of the incident: (What happened, how it happened, etc. Be as specific as possible. Continue on back if needed and attach additional sheets if necessary)

Is there electronic evidence of the incident? Yes___ No___	What type of evidence is it? Phone photo__ video__ audio__
Is the evidence in your possession? Yes___ No___	CCTV___ Other_____

Did you witness the incident? Yes___ No___	If no, list the person who reported the incident to you below, along with details of any other witnesses. Attach additional sheets if needed.
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**WITNESSES**

Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:
Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:
Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:
Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:

**PARTIES INVOLVED IN INCIDENT**

Name:	Phone:
Role:	Email:
Name:	Phone:
Role:	Email:
Name:	Phone:
Role:	Email:

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



### **3 About Election Monitoring and Observation**

To help ensure a free and fair election for all voters, IFAF supports a non-partisan program called Illinois for Election Transparency (IFET), which will deploy volunteer observers to monitor election processes and procedures throughout the election cycle. Observers can deter malfeasance and cheating, or by detecting and formally documenting such malfeasance, can deny legitimacy to fraudulent elections and provide evidence for lawsuits and other post-election court cases. By increasing the transparency of the election, observers can enhance public confidence in the integrity of the election process.

Pre-Election Observation – Observation will be conducted in phases, beginning with Pre-Election Observation. During the pre-election phase observers will look at the voter list, election administration, the legal framework and procedures for elections, and the broader election environment. Pre-election observation seeks to confirm the process, or to highlight potential problems or concerns so that they can be addressed prior to the election. Internationally, pre-election observers are usually referred to as Long-Term Observers or LTOs. LTOs often play an important role in recruiting, training and managing the larger number of volunteers needed for election observation.

IFET pre-election observers are non-partisan. In contrast to partisan observers (poll watchers), they do not represent a specific party. Instead, they represent all voters, and their primary objective is ensuring a free and fair process for all voters, regardless of outcome. Non-partisan observers are normal in other democracies, but still relatively rare in the US, where we have primarily relied on partisan observers. Non-partisan observation provides any voter, regardless of party, the possibility to support free and fair elections; allowing participation by independent voters, and by neutral groups (like church groups) that want to support a fair process, but don't want to affiliate with a particular party.

Election Season Observation – Election observation (poll watching) used to be largely confined to election day, but with long periods of advance voting, and all the opportunities that creates for malfeasance and fraud, we have to develop new approaches to strengthening transparency and deterrence. The primary innovations of the IFET approach are facilitating increased deployment of observers and poll watchers during the advance voting, and the expectation that observers and poll watchers will file regular reports throughout the election season.

Although IFET will continue to deploy its LTOs during election season, its primary focus will be the provision of training and/or materials for party-endorsed poll watchers and independent observers.

Observing Election Day and the Counting Process – Although the actual election day in Illinois is not as important as it used to be because of the long election season, to deter malpractice and enhance transparency on election day will require more poll watchers and observers than any other day. The objective is to detect and deter malfeasance through complete coverage of, and reporting from, all precincts in the state.

Poll watchers may work in shifts organized before election day. They will arrive before the precinct opens to observe set up of the precinct and machines, and will watch the polling process throughout the day, then the counting process after the poll. Each precinct poll watcher (or team) or observer should have a checklist and report form to facilitate monitoring, and the collection of data that can be used to validate or delegitimize the election process at the precinct after the election. In addition, poll watchers will have access to the legal hot line and online incident report forms to report irregularities or malfeasance as they happen.

Post-Election Audits and Reports – After the election, IFET will continue to monitor any post-election audits or court cases. Pre-election, election season and election day reports will be synthesized, and used to develop a comprehensive narrative report on the integrity of the entire election process, with recommendations for needed reforms in advance of the 2024 national elections.

### **3.1 Pre-Election Observation**

IFET will recruit, train and manage the initial LTO teams. Each team will be made up of 3-4 volunteers, and will be responsible for implementing activities in several counties and/or municipalities during the first phase of observation. Teams will establish and maintain good relations with election officials, and other relevant government and security officials, in their area of operations (AOR). These teams will also facilitate the recruitment and training of additional observers. As the network is built out, we hope to identify coordinators and team members for every county and city in the state. To learn more about how you can volunteer for this effort, please visit [gfet.us](http://gfet.us).

#### *3.1.1 County Election Official Survey*

An initial election official survey should be conducted in a sample of cities and counties. LTO teams should request a meeting with the selected officials in their Area of Operations. A sample request letter is included below. The letter should be sent by email, and immediately followed up by a phone call. Use the sample letter as a guide for the call, explaining who you are and who you represent, and that you are election observers interested in learning more about the election process in the relevant county.

Ideally, all interviews should be conducted within a week of the initial call, so request an early date. If they try to put it off, note that you have a deadline for reporting, and that it would be a shame if they were not represented in the state report. During the interview, be respectful, non-confrontational, and non-partisan. Express our common objective of excellent elections that are accepted by all as fair and credible.

Prior to conducting the interview, you will be provided with an online video briefing on the questionnaire by IFET staff. The questionnaire is attached below. During the interview, please record responses directly on the form, using additional pages if required. After completing the questionnaire, you may want to ask additional questions specific to your AOR, but don't take up too much time.

Make arrangements with the official to follow up by email or phone to collect any information that wasn't available during your visit. Thank the official for his/her time, and note that you look forward to remaining in touch throughout the election cycle.

After leaving the office, please photograph your forms, and email them to [report@ifet.us](mailto:report@ifet.us). As soon as possible, please enter the information from the form into the electronic form on the website.

*Tips for getting an appointment with a registrar for the survey*

Get ready

- Gather information for your county: registrar name, phone number, email, physical address
- Start a page in a notebook for each election office that you plan to visit
- Let your team know that you are hoping to get some appointments and that you will need immediate feedback to confirm their availability.

Remember

- Be confident, polite, and friendly.
- It's absolutely our right to ask questions, but we don't want to be confrontational.
- We want to establish a relationship, and don't want to burn any bridges

Contact the official

- Preferable to call - they can't avoid you as easily, and you can keep it informal and friendly
- Email is a good way to follow up to let confirm the appointment
- Introduce yourself
- Explain that you are working with GFAF on a statewide initiative to visit election officials.
- "We are a non-partisan group looking to educate citizens about our election process"
- "We want to show people some of the behind the scenes aspects and help them gain confidence in our election process"
- So far we've met with about 5 (this number will be growing obviously) Definitely mention if you have met with another registrar nearby

Ask for the interview

- "We have developed a survey with about 30 questions"
- "I think it should take about an hour at the most"
- "How about tomorrow or later this week"

Document the call

- Record the date and time you called
- Who you spoke to, when/if you need to call back

*Tips provided by Johanna Carrington, Lancaster County, Va.*

Sample Request Letter

From: Illinois for Election Transparency  
(county or city) Observer Team  
(email address)

To: (title)  
(county or city)  
(email address)

Subj: Request for meeting

Date: XXXXXXXX

Dear (official);

Illinois for Election Transparency is a group dedicated to transparent and credible election processes. We are engaging students, first time voters, and other citizens in learning more about the process in hopes they will continue to be part of our elections either as poll workers, poll watchers, or volunteers.

Our findings will be shared publicly in hopes that it will increase transparency and public confidence in election processes, and to provide the public with the information needed to accurately evaluate the integrity of current processes and procedure.

As part of our civic engagement work, we are conducting a survey of election officials across the state, and would like to request a meeting with you this week to conduct that survey, and to introduce our team. These meetings will facilitate greater learning for our network, allowing them to act as a sort of “ambassador” to other groups regarding the local operations. This is meant to be a positive experience, with positive outcomes, for both citizens and local election office. We anticipate the meeting in total will last about 45 minutes. Please email or call me to confirm a suitable time.

Sincerely,

XXXXXX  
Coordinator  
XXXX Observer Team

### 3.2 LTO Questionnaire

Draft Illinois Election Clerk Survey Form – 6/21/22	
County/City _____ Observers _____	
Date of interview _____ Election Clerk _____	
<i>Before the Interview</i> - Record the time and date of your call and email, and if the meeting is not set immediately, the time and date of their response	
a) Time and date of initial call and email: _____ b) Time and date of response: _____ c) Did the Election Clerk refuse to meet you: Yes____ No____ d) If yes, please provide the reason given for not meeting: _____ _____	
<i>The Interview</i> - Thank the Clerk for agreeing to see you. State that the purpose of the observation program is to provide voters with accurate information about the election process. Emphasize how important you think his/her role is in ensuring that everyone in the county sees the elections here are free, fair and legitimate.	
<i>First, we have a few general questions.</i>	
1.	How long have you served as Election Clerk?
2.	What is your biggest concern about the upcoming election? (open ended. Record verbatim.)
3.	Any other major concerns? (open ended. Record verbatim.)
4.	a. Do you feel like you have the resources, equipment, personnel, and training needed to run an effective election in November? Yes _____ No _____ Don't know _____ No answer/refused _____  b. If no, what is missing?
5.	a. In some areas, due to the pandemic, clerks reduced the number of polling locations. Did that happen here? Yes _____(go to b.) No _____ Don't know _____ No answer/refused _____

	<p>b. If yes, do you plan to revert to the previous number of locations for the 2022 elections, or do you have a different approach to serving a larger number of voters in fewer locations?          Yes, we will revert _____          No, will try a different approach _____ (go to c.)          Don't know _____          No answer/refused _____</p> <p>c. How will you do that?</p> <p>d. How will you notify voters of their new polling location?</p>
6.	<p>A new state law allows for fewer precincts after the new map from redistricting is in place in 2023. With early voting on the rise, there are fewer in-person voters on Election Day. Are you concerned about having fewer precincts? Why or why not?</p>
7.	<p>Have citizens in your county or city expressed concerns about fewer precincts for in-person voting on Election Day?          Yes _____          No _____          Don't know _____          No answer/refused _____</p>
8.	<p>In some counties, clerks have had trouble finding equal numbers of election judges from each party. What about here? Are you able to have equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans? (please check one, then provide any relevant detail on right side of this box)          Yes _____          No _____          Don't know _____          No answer/refused _____</p>
<i>Thank you. Now a few questions on the voter roll and voter registration.</i>	
9.	<p>a. Are you confident that the voter list is accurate and up to date?          Yes _____          No _____          Don't know _____          No answer/refused _____</p> <p>b. If no, what is/are your main concern(s) about the list?</p>

10.	<p>Are you confident the current ID requirements for registration and voting are sufficient to ensure identity and citizenship?</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>Don't know _____</p> <p>No answer/refused _____</p>
<i>Moving on, we would like to ask some questions about election operations.</i>	
11.	<p>Did your office receive 100 or more mail in ballots marked as "undeliverable" by the post office?</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>Don't know _____</p> <p>No answer/refused _____</p>
12.	<p>How do you verify a voter is a U.S. citizen?</p>
13.	<p>a. The law requires the state's 108 election authorities conduct monthly vulnerability risk audits. How does your office conduct its vulnerability risk audit?</p> <p>b. What types of problems have you discovered with the audit, if any?</p> <p>c. Do you feel that you have the resources and information that you need to conduct a proper audit each month?</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>Don't know _____</p> <p>No answer/refused _____</p>
14.	<p>a. During the last election cycle, did you have complaints from voters that someone had voted in their name?</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>Don't know _____</p> <p>No answer/refused _____</p> <p>b. If yes, how do you explain this, and what can be done to prevent it occurring in the future?</p>
<i>Next, we have some questions about drop boxes</i>	
15.	<p>How many drop boxes does your locality currently have?</p>
16.	<p>a. Do your absentee voter drop boxes have 24 hour video monitoring?</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>Don't know _____</p> <p>No answer/refused _____</p>

	<p>b. If yes, who reviews the video to ensure there are no issues?</p> <p>c. Is the previous day's video reviewed the following day? If no, when?  Yes _____  No _____  Don't know _____  No answer/refused _____</p> <p>d. Are poll watchers, observers, and citizens allowed or encouraged to review the drop box video?  Yes _____  No _____  Don't know _____  No answer/refused _____</p>
17.	<p>a. Are all drop boxes emptied and ballots transported with at least one sworn officer of each party present?  Yes _____  No _____  Don't know _____  No answer/refused _____</p>
<i>Moving on, we have some questions on voting processes and technology.</i>	
18.	Who updates and calibrates the voting machines?
19.	Can you please explain how they update and calibrate the machines?
20.	<p>Are you present when the machines are updated and calibrated, or is that process supervised by someone else? If someone else, what is their position?  I am present _____</p> <p>Another person supervises this process (insert title and position) _____</p>
21.	<p>a. Do you invite party representatives to witness the update and calibration?  Yes _____  No _____  Don't know _____  No answer/refused _____</p> <p>b. If yes, did both parties send representatives to witness the calibration?  Yes _____  No _____  Don't know _____  No answer/refused _____</p> <p>c. If no, which party failed to send a representative?  Republican _____  Democrat _____</p>



22.	How are your voting machines stored and secured between elections? Who has access to the area where voting machines are stored? Are there logs maintained of who accessed the storage area? Where are those logs stored? Who has access to those logs?
23.	Who delivers the voting machines to the voting precinct?
24.	How are your voting machines and ballots stored and secured once they are sent to the voting precinct?
25.	<p>a. Are voting machines ever connected to the internet?  Yes                    _____  No                        _____  Don't know            _____  No answer/refused   _____</p> <p>b. If yes, when and why are they connected?</p> <p>c. If they are not connected to the internet, how, when and by whom are they updated?</p>
26.	<p>Concerns were raised across the country about the accuracy and integrity of voting machines in the 2020 elections, and there are now calls to get rid of the machines, and use a manual process like that used in France.</p> <p>a. Do you think it a good idea to go back to a manual voting process?  Yes                    _____  No                        _____  Don't know            _____  No answer/refused   _____</p> <p>b. If no, why?</p>
27.	Can you explain how your office manages voting in nursing homes?
28.	Can you tell us what it costs per voter to implement an election in this county?

<i>Many changes in election procedures were introduced in response to the COVID pandemic, and some people have argued that these changes weakened the integrity of the election process.</i>	
29.	<p>As an election professional, do you think the changes made in the election process in Illinois in response to COVID have weakened election integrity, strengthened election integrity, or made no change in election integrity?</p> <p>weakened integrity.    ___  strengthened integrity ___  made no change        ___  Don't know            ___  No answer/refused    ___</p> <p>(Record any additional comment or explanation of response below)</p>
30.	<p>a. Have you received any funding or in-kind contributions for training, staff, voter education or equipment, or any other purpose from any non-governmental organization for the 2022 election?</p> <p>Yes                        ___  No                            ___  Don't know                ___  No answer/refused        ___</p> <p>b. If yes, what was the funding or contribution used for?</p>
<i>Observation of election processes enhances transparency and strengthens public confidence in the integrity of elections, and have a few questions about party and non-partisan observers.</i>	
31.	<p>a. Did you have both Republican and Democrat observers at every polling location in 2020?</p> <p>Yes                        ___  No                            ___ (go to b.)  Don't know                ___  No answer/refused        ___</p> <p>b. If no, please estimate the percentage of polling locations covered by each party:</p> <p>Democrats    _____                  Republicans    _____</p>
32.	<p>During the 2020 elections there were complaints that in some cases observers were prevented from effectively monitoring some election processes, and there were allegations that some processes were conducted without any observers present. Now that COVID has receded, are you confident that observers will be able to effectively monitor all processes in this area?</p> <p>Yes                        ___  No                            ___  Don't know                ___  No answer/refused        ___</p>
<i>Thank you. The survey is complete now. We deeply appreciate your time today, and look forward to keeping in touch as we go through the 2022 elections. (if you have additional questions) If you don't mind, we have a few additional questions related specifically to (county or city).</i>	
33.	<p>Post survey question – Please characterize your interaction with the Supervisor of Elections as (circle all that apply)</p> <p>Helpful    Polite    Defensive    Unhelpful    Antagonistic</p>
<i>To the survey team: Thank you for all you have done and will do to ensure a free and fair election in Wisconsin! Please submit your completed survey form as soon as possible.</i>	

### *3.2.1 Other Possibilities for Pre-Election Observation*

You may wish to conduct interviews with political party chairs in your county, to gain a greater understanding of their concerns with the election process. These interviews may be conducted by phone. If your county election office has public meetings about election issues, you should send observers to those to ask questions, and report on issues discussed. These meetings may also be a good time to raise specific concerns you have with the transparency or integrity of the election process.

A sample report format for such a meeting is included below:

- a. Name of county/city*
- b. Did the county/city hold a meeting this month? If no, end report. If yes,*
- c. Agenda of meeting (this is often included in the meeting notice)*
- d. Decisions of the meeting*
- e. Any other issues*

At the state level, IFET leadership may conduct similar interviews with relevant officials from the State Board of Elections.

### **3.3 Rights and Duties of Pollwatchers**

A pollwatcher must be registered to vote in the State of Illinois and must be affiliated with the party or organization he/she is representing.

Pollwatchers may represent established political parties, candidates, qualified organizations of citizens, State nonpartisan civic organizations, or organized proponents or opponents of ballot propositions. Each pollwatcher must have credentials issued by the election authority (county clerk or board of election commissioners) or by the Illinois State Board of Elections. These credentials must be presented by the pollwatcher to the election judges immediately upon entering the polling place.

A candidate or political party can appoint two pollwatchers per precinct, while all other organizations can appoint one pollwatcher per precinct. If over-crowding interferes with the orderly conduct of the election, the judges of election may limit the number of pollwatchers. The election judges can order the removal of any pollwatcher who is disrupting the election process.

#### *3.3.1 Rights and Duties of Pollwatchers in Illinois (10 ILCS 5/17-23)*

The following is a summary of a information leaflet prepared by the State Board of Elections, available [here](#).

- Pollwatchers may be in the polling place before the polls open, during the actual voting hours, and after the polls close.
- Before the first ballot is cast, pollwatchers may observe that the ballot box is empty;
- Pollwatchers may position themselves near enough to the election judges to examine the applications for ballot;

- Pollwatchers may observe as the judges compare the voter applicant's signature on the application with the signature on the registration records;
- Pollwatchers may watch as the judges initial and distribute the ballots to voter, and as the ballots are deposited into the ballot box after the voter has voted;
- Pollwatchers may challenge a person's right to vote. A reason for the challenge must be stated. (Possible reasons include the person voted earlier in the day, the person moved, or the person lacks qualifications); The judges of election determine whether or not to sustain a challenge;
- Pollwatchers may observe the counting procedures after the polls close and at the central counting location(s) established by the election authority.
- Pollwatchers are permitted to observe all proceedings and view all reasonably requested records relating to the conduct of the election, provided the secrecy of the ballot is not impinged.
- Pollwatchers may observe early voting at each permanent and temporary polling place where early voting is conducted.
- The judges of elections are the sole authority in the polling place on Election Day, and no person, except a judge, may handle or touch election supplies and materials.
- A law enforcement official may be in the polling place to preserve order and carry out lawful directions given by the judges.
- Electioneering or any type of campaigning must not take place within the Campaign Free Zone (100 horizontal feet from the entrance to the room in which voting is being conducted).

### *3.3.2 Making a Challenge*

If you observe an administrative error or sees an apparent violation on the part of election judges or voters, politely inform the election judges and ask that it be corrected. If the error or violation continues, you should record the details on an [incident report form](#), and submit that report as soon as possible. You may also want to contact the county clerk, or ask your coordinator to do that.

Pollwatchers may also challenge a person's right to vote. A reason for the challenge must be stated (possible reasons include the person voted earlier in the day, the person moved, or the person lacks qualifications). The judges of election determine whether or not to sustain a challenge. If you challenge a voter, record the details and outcome on your pollwatcher form or file an incident report form.

## **4 Election Season Observation**

### **4.1 What is Election Season?**

Any registered voter in Illinois can vote absentee, by mail or drop box, or by visiting an advance voting site. Although absentee ballots can be requested from August 11, 2022, we have defined election season as the 40-day period beginning September 29, when it is possible to cast an in-person absentee ballot at the County Clerk's office. In-person absentee voting may be offered at additional locations from 15 days before the election (October 24, 2022).

Unfortunately, expanding the election from one day to 40 days decreases the transparency and credibility of the election process. Throughout the election season, chain of custody and chain of observation are regularly broken for long periods, reducing the transparency needed to reassure voters that the process is fair and accurate. Extending the election period also places an unsustainable physical and financial burden on overworked election officials, and the party representatives tasked with ensuring the integrity and legitimacy of the election process.

This imperfect system falls far short of accepted norms and standards for transparent and credible elections, and will require fundamental legal and procedural reforms to ever meet or exceed those standards. Until these reforms can be made, the only means to enhance transparency and public confidence in the integrity of the process will be through increased public scrutiny of every stage of the process to the extent possible.

Election season observation may be conducted by poll watchers authorized and coordinated by county or city party unit chairs, and non-partisan observers sponsored by registered organizations. The IFET program seeks to increase election season observation by providing training and materials for pollwatchers and observers.

### **4.2 Monitoring Mail-In Voting**

One of the reasons absentee voting has previously been limited is because it is inherently insecure. Absentee voting enables cheating through ghost voters and ballot (or drop) box stuffing, political pressure and intimidation, vote buying and selling, and other forms of fraud. When it was limited primarily to soldiers and diplomats on duty for the US government, plus very limited exceptions for individuals with provable need, the risks were deemed acceptable; but with the introduction of widespread and sometimes universal (as in Illinois) postal voting, gaps in security can be easily exploited to alter election outcomes.

Because postal voting occurs in private, malpractice is difficult to monitor and control. A spouse or relative in an abusive relationship, or workers on a farm or in a factory, or the elderly and patients confined in a care facility, may be forced to apply for an absentee ballot, and then be forced to vote the ballot for a particular candidate or party, all out of sight of monitors or law enforcement officials.

Controlling abuse in the home is difficult, but organizations can expect some deterrence by conducting public education on the right to vote in secret and to vote your conscience; with a contact number or hotline provided to report abuse. For large farms, factories, businesses, and

especially care homes; observers should visit (or recruit a patriot insider) and ask the following questions:

- Has anyone asked or required or offered to help you apply for an absentee ballot?
- Has anyone offered to help you fill in an absentee ballot?
- Has anyone tried to force you, or pay you, to vote a particular way?

Answers to these questions will help you determine if there is a possibility that organized vote fraud is occurring in the location.

Regrettably, homes for the elderly and those requiring cognitive care are particular targets for vote thieves, so it may be important to recruit patriot insiders in these institutions who can monitor and record the activities of people offering to “help” with applications or voting. The best deterrent for this form of theft, which is a felony, is to ensure the thieves know we are watching, and know they will go to prison if caught.

### **4.3 Monitoring In-Person Absentee Voting**

In Illinois, in-person early voting is accomplished by visiting an early voting location and casting a ballot on a touchscreen voting machine that stores and displays ballots of any precinct in the county. You can find the early voting locations in your county by visiting your county clerks’ website.

Pollwatchers can monitor the process at early voting locations as they would at a polling station on election day. If it is not possible to have poll watchers continuously at all early voting locations, then visits can be conducted at any time during hours of operation, and when possible, please vary the times of your visits.

When you arrive at the office, introduce yourself to the staff, explaining your purpose. If you are refused entrance, or not allowed to witness any process (except marking a ballot), include that in your report. For example, if you are visiting an office, but when you arrive are told you cannot enter for any reason (no space, not authorized, closed early, etc.), please submit a report with the date, time, place, and reason given.

### **4.4 Drop boxes for absentee ballots**

Drop boxes for absentee ballots were introduced during the COVID-19 elections of 2020. Drop boxes have been shown to enable election fraud, and they have been outlawed in many states, but Illinois has authorized them for the 2022 election. There is a requirement that election officials empty the boxes once per day, but no requirement that this be witnessed by pollwatchers or observers, and no requirement that the boxes be under 24 hour video surveillance (although some counties will provide that).

This is a remarkably insecure process, that would be unacceptable in any normal democracy. Unless poll watchers can be at the drop box when the ballots are collected every day, and then allowed to accompany the ballots to the election office, there is nothing to prevent ballot box stuffing or other malfeasance during transport of the ballots.

It is difficult to monitor drop boxes effectively, which is one reason so few people have confidence in their security. You can find the location of drop boxes in your county through [this](#) website. Observers and pollwatchers should contact their county clerk to learn the schedule for daily collection at drop boxes.

For drop boxes that have video surveillance, request to review the tapes daily or weekly. If not allowed to review the tapes, include that in your county report. For places where there is no video monitoring, or poll watchers are not allowed to review tapes, some volunteers may wish to install hidden motion-activated game cameras, or tiny pinhole video recorders, to record activity at the drop boxes. Additional cameras on the street to capture car models and license plates could also be useful. In person monitoring of drop boxes through the night may not be feasible, but if undertaken, should be done with caution, and well-armed, as criminals caught in the act can be dangerous.

The online Drop Box Observer Form can be accessed [here](#). A print version is below. If you witness any serious problems during the day or at night, please document those by filling in and submitting an [incident report form](#).

<b>Drop Box Observer Form</b>	
<b>County/City:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ <b>Time:</b> Closing__ Midday__ Opening____	
<b>Observer(s):</b> _____ <b>Location:</b> _____	
1	Is the drop box in a secure location inside a building where it can be observed continuously during normal working hours and secured after working hours? Yes__ No__
2	If no, is the drop box under 24-hour video surveillance? Yes_____No ____
3	Is the video footage regularly reviewed by officers of election from two parties and poll watchers from both parties? Yes No
4	Were you notified in advance when the ballots from the drop box would be collected? Yes No
5	Were two officers of election from different parties present when the drop box was emptied? Yes__No ____
6	How many ballots were collected from the drop box today:
7	Were the ballots collected from the drop box counted or stored securely? Counted _____ Stored securely _____
8	How many ballots were sent to be cured: _____

## 5 Observing the Voting and Counting Processes on Election Day

Pollwatchers are official observers whose primary concern is the integrity and fairness of the election. They may observe the conduct of the election before, during and after the polls close. A pollwatcher should be able to see and verify all election processes (except a voter marking their ballot), but may not interfere with or impede the conduct of any election. An election judge may eject a poll watcher from the polling place if they deemed to be interfering in the process (if this happens to you, immediately file an incident report).

Each polling team should have three judges from one party and two from the other. In some cases, the clerk may not have been able to find enough judges from one party, so some judges will be “designated” to represent that party. Balanced representation is an important safeguard, and the ability of a political party to ensure they nominate sufficient members to serve as poll workers is an important measure of the party’s organizational capacity, so we include several questions on this issue in the checklist.

This section is derived from the [2022 Precinct Election Manual](#) issued by the Illinois State Board of Elections, which includes more detailed information about the election day process.

### 5.1 Before you Go

Before election day, please read through the observation guidelines. Prepare a lunch or dinner, if needed, bring a bottle of water, and you might like a thermos of coffee or tea. Make sure you have the contact details for your coordinator, and your official pollwatcher credentials, and an email address or phone number for the county clerk responsible for your polling place. Fully-charge your phone, and you may want to bring a pencil or pen and your guidelines and checklist. Although we prefer you fill in your checklist and reports on a phone or tablet, it may be easier to take notes on a paper form, and that can serve as a backup if you have a problem with your device.

### 5.2 Setting up the Polling Place

In the polling place, election judges are responsible for the proper and legal conduct of the election. There are names for the different positions in the polling place (application judge, verification judge, ballot distribution judge, ballot box judge and transportation judge), but judges will rotate through several positions during the course of the day. All judges have equal authority, and there is no “head” judge.

Illinois law requires the polls be open from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm on election day. All judges should arrive at the polls no later than 5:30 am to set up the polling place. Any pollwatchers present, or that arrive during the course of the day, will be required to provide their credentials, which will be kept in a special envelope and delivered to the election authority after the close of polling. They will set out supplies, set up equipment, and post necessary signs.

After setting up the polling place, poll workers will swear an oath to administer the election fairly, and put on their badges. With any poll watchers present in attendance, they will confirm the seals on the voting machines are unbroken, that the numbers on the seals match those in the



log, then will open the machines (if they are paper ballot tabulators) to confirm there are no ballots in the main storage area and the emergency storage area.

An election judge will then print a report from each machine. The report, called a zero tape, should list all candidates for the election, with vote totals of zero. The judge will keep the zero tape, but pollwatchers should be able to confirm that all candidates who should be on the ballot are listed on the zero tape, and that the totals for each candidate are zero. They will also confirm that the ballots for each election, either paper or on a DRE (direct recording electronic) voting machine, match the official specimen ballots for those constituency elections (i.e., they should show the correct candidates and parties and issues for that precinct).

If you will be in a precinct all day, or have the first observation shift, you should plan to arrive at your assigned precinct by 5:30 am, a half hour before opening, so you can observe preparations. On entering a precinct, deliver your credentials to an election judge, who will log you in. During your time in the precinct be calm and respectful, and avoid talking to voters. If you have questions or concerns, address those to a judge.

At 6:00 the one judge will announce the polls are open, and allow voters waiting outside into the precinct.

*Observer Note: For elections to be transparent and credible, pollwatchers must be able to effectively observe all election processes, and record their observations. If you are prevented from or hindered in observing any process (except a voter in the process of marking a ballot) at any time during the polling or counting, that is a serious offence, and should be challenged. If the challenge does not result in immediate relief, record the circumstance on an incident report form, and submit that immediately.*

### **5.3 The Polling Process**

Voters will go first to the application table near the entrance, where they will be asked to state their name and address. A judge will check a list of voters that were mailed an absentee ballot, and if the voter is on the list, they will not be allowed to vote unless they surrender the absentee ballot for cancellation, or sign a statement saying they never received the ballot.

The judge will also check the voter roll to confirm that the voter has not already cast a ballot by returning an absentee ballot, or voting early in-person. If the voter roll indicates the person has cast a ballot, but they say they have not, they may cast a provisional ballot. If a voter claims that someone has voted in their name, that is potentially an indicator election fraud and impersonation has occurred, and the pollwatcher should note details in their report. If this happens several times, you may want to file an immediate incident report.

If the voter is qualified, a judge will announce the voter's name and address in a loud voice (so that it is audible to pollwatchers), then provide the voter an application to vote. The voter will fill in and sign the application, which will then go to two verification judges (one from each party) who will compare the address and signature on the application with that in the voter list, then one of the judges will initial the application.

After establishing a match, one of the judges will mark the voter as having voted, then both will initial each ballot (if they are using paper ballots) and provide the ballot and instructions on how to mark and cast a ballot (this will vary based on whether they are using a paper ballot tabulator or a DRE machine). If using paper ballot, the voter will also be given a secrecy sleeve so that the initials on the ballot can be displayed to the ballot box judge without revealing a voter's choices.

The voter will then go to a voting screen or DRE machine and record their choices. If a DRE machine, these will be recorded automatically. If a paper ballot, the voter then goes to the tabulator machine, shows the initials on the ballot to the ballot box judge without revealing their choices, then insert the ballot in the tabulator, and leaves the polling location.

If the voter accidentally spoils a paper ballot, they can ask for a replacement, and their spoiled ballot will be cancelled.

#### **5.4 Closing the Poll and the Counting Process**

At 6:30 pm a judge will announce that the polls will close in half an hour. 7:00 pm the chair will announce the polls are closed, and prevent anyone else from joining a line, but anyone in line at closing will be allowed to vote. When all votes have been cast, a judge will close and lock the door, and counting will begin. First, a judge will check the auxiliary/emergency compartment on the tabulating machine and any ballots found will be run through the tabulator.

Spoiled ballots and provisional ballots will be counted and the total recorded. Machines will be opened, and the ballots counted. The total number of ballots must equal the number of ballot applications, and should also equal the number of voters ticked on the voter roll. Ballots will also be checked for judge initials. If any problems are revealed during the reconciliation, or any ballots lack initials, record details in your report.

A judge will then print several copies of a results tape for each machine. As a pollwatcher, you are entitled to a copy of the results tape. Please collect this, as you will need the results for your report. Please not, no vote total for any candidate should exceed the total number of voters. If this occurs, file an incident report with the details.

When this process is over, your observation is complete. Please fill in the observation form, if you have not already, and submit immediately.

Thank you for your dedication to free and fair elections in Illinois!

#### **5.5 Poll Watcher Report Forms**

We prefer that you submit your report, and any incident reports, using your phone, tablet or laptop, as that saves us time; but if that is not possible for any reason, please do not hesitate to fill in and submit the paper forms, as it is most important that we get your information in any format. Paper forms can be submitted in person, scanned and sent as PDFs, or simply photographed and emailed. Print versions of the Poll Watcher Report Form and Incident Report Form are included below. The online Poll Watcher Report form is available [here](#). The online Election Incident Report form is available [here](#).

Illinois Poll Watcher Report Form						
Precinct:		Name:				
Address:		Phone No:				
City/Town:		Email:				
County:		Arrival:		Departure:		
<b>Instructions</b>						
Read the questions carefully. Please make a check (a) in the appropriate box. If you cannot answer the question, or it is not relevant, leave it blank. If clarification is required, briefly explain in the comment section of the form. If at any time you are prevented from observing any process, please challenge this to a judge, and if the challenge is not resolved, immediately file an incident report.						
<b>Before Opening</b>					<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1	Were you allowed to observe the set-up of the precinct before opening? (if no, prepare and immediately file an incident report)					
2	Were all polling team members and required materials present?					
3	Were there poll workers from both major parties on the polling team?					
4	Which party had three members (or most members)? Tick "yes" to indicate Democrat and "no" for Republican.				D	R
5	Were any members "designated" to represent a party? If no, leave blank. If yes, indicate the party that needed members by ticking "yes" for Democrat or "no" for Republican.				D	R
6	Did the judges swear an oath to conduct fair elections?					
7	Did the judges confirm the seals on the machines were unbroken, and that the numbers on the seals matched the numbers in the log?					
8	Did the judges open the tabulators and show you that the main and emergency boxes were empty, before resealing the machines?					
9	Was a zero tape printed and shown to pollwatchers?					
10	Were you able to confirm the zero tape listed all candidates, and showed no votes?					
11	Did the precinct open on time (6:00 AM)?					
<b>The Polling Process</b>					<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
12	Were you able to hear the voter's name and address announced?					
13	Were you able to confirm the signature and address on the applications matched those on the voter roll? If not, challenge that, and record details in the comment section.					
14	Did any voters complain that someone had already voted in their name? If yes, record number and details in the comment section.					
15	Were any provisional votes cast? If yes, provide number and relevant details in the comment section.					
16	Did both judges initial ballots one at a time before issuing?					
17	Could voters mark and cast their ballots in secret, without anyone see how they voted? If no, give details in the comment section.					
18	Were poll watchers present from both major parties?					
<b>Closing the Poll and the Counting Process</b>					<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
19	Did the polling place close at 7:00 PM?					
20	Were voters in the line at closing time allowed to vote?					
21	Were there any ballots in the emergency (auxiliary) ballot storage area of the tabulator? If yes, question the judges, and explain in comment section, or file an incident report.					
22	Was the machine opened and ballots inside counted?					
<b>Closing the Poll and the Counting Process - continued</b>					<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
23	Were all of the ballots initialed by judges? If no, provide details in the comment section.					
24	Was a results report run on the tabulator?					
25	Were you given a copy (or allowed to copy) the results tape from the tabulator? (if no, file an incident report).					
26	Were you allowed to observe all aspects of the polling and counting process? (If no, file an incident report)					
27	Record the total number of applications		Record the total number of ballots from the results tape		Record the total number of paper ballots counted	

28	Did the number of ballots in the machine equal the number of applications, and the number of voters marked off the voter roll? If no, provide details in the comment section.		
29	Did the total votes for any race exceed the total number of voters? If yes, prepare and file an incident report.		
30	Which political party do you represent?	Republican	Democrat

Please record each candidate and the total votes below

Candidate Name	Votes	Candidate Name	Votes	Candidate Name	Votes

**Comments (attach additional sheets if needed)**

**Illinois Poll Watcher Incident Report Form**

Instructions: Please fill in the form as completely as possible as soon as possible after (or during) the incident. Take the time to collect names and contact details of other witnesses. If you collect electronic evidence (picture, video or audio recording), make a copy of the file and submit with your report, but retain the original on your phone or other electronic device. Submit the completed form as soon as possible to: GFET

**REPORTER INFORMATION**

Reported by:	Phone:
Position (voter, election inspector, poll watcher, etc.):	Email:

**DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT**

Date of incident:	Time of incident:	Were the police notified: Yes / No
-------------------	-------------------	------------------------------------

Location of incident:

Description of the incident: (What happened, how it happened, etc. Be as specific as possible. Continue on back if needed and attach additional sheets if necessary)

Is there electronic evidence of the incident? Yes___ No___	What type of evidence is it? Phone photo__ video__ audio__
Is the evidence in your possession? Yes___ No___	CCTV___ Other_____

Did you witness the incident? Yes___ No___	If no, list the person who reported the incident to you below, along with details of any other witnesses. Attach additional sheets if needed.
---	---

**WITNESSES**

Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:
Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:
Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:
Name of Witness:	Phone:
Role of Witness:	Email:

**PARTIES INVOLVED IN INCIDENT**

Name:	Phone:
Role:	Email:
Name:	Phone:
Role:	Email:
Name:	Phone:
Role:	Email:

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

## 6 The SEIRS/PWER Monitoring System

### 6.1 How to Use the SEIRS


Another monitoring tool in use in Illinois is called the Statewide Election Integrity Reporting System. An introduction to using the system is included below. You can access additional information at the following links: Poll Watcher Training Video: <https://youtu.be/CkZ19UpTic>  
War Room Training: <https://youtu.be/1kDrPAZ6J9Y>

**Login and \*\*Creating an Incident Report (ticket)**

In your browser enter

[\*\*https://seirs.vqventure.com\*\*](https://seirs.vqventure.com)

This takes you to the login page.



SEIRS

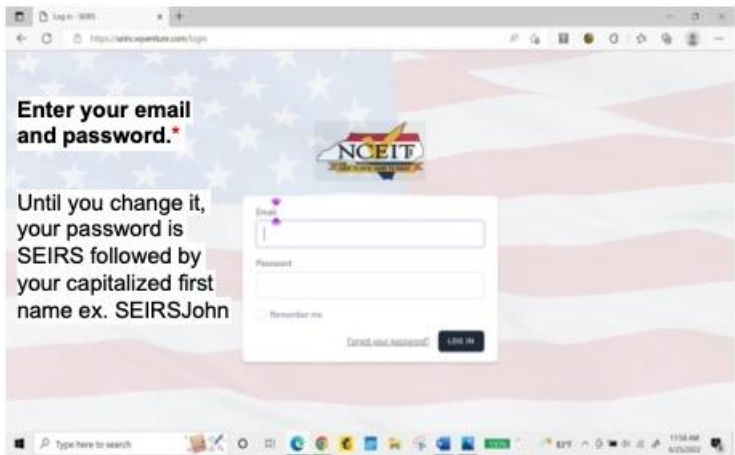
State Wide Election Integrity Reporting System

SEIRS equips We the People with the tools to ensure Free and Fair Elections.

Login

seirs.vqventure.com

### Observer Login continued



Enter your email and password.\*

Until you change it, your password is SEIRS followed by your capitalized first name ex. SEIRSJohn

Forgot your password?

Login

\*If the password does not work, click on the **“Forgot your password?”** link. This will navigate you to a new page where you will enter your account’s email address. A reset password email will be sent (*be sure to check your SPAM folder*). Follow the instructions provided.

Once you have entered the correct information, click the **“Login”** button.

**You are now on your dashboard.**

**Click the green "Check In" tab. Checking in and out notifies the "war room" when and where poll observers are located and/or missing.**

**Once checked in the page view changes to the one on the right.**

**Now click on the three lines on the top right to check your profile.**

**Click on "Profile"**

**This is where your information and location are verified for the war room.**

Dan Mueller  
dvwmueller49@gmail.com

Profile

Log Out

CHECK IN FOR POLL OBSERVING  
Click here to sign out for poll observer

CHECK OUT

CREATE INCIDENT REPORT  
Submit a ticket of an issue you've witnessed. Provide as much detail as possible.

CREATE

JUDGES  
View and/or Add Judges at your voting location. If there is an issue, the Chief Judge is who you need to address first.

seirs.vqventure.com



# Checking Your Observer Profile

Clicking on "Dashboard" will navigate the observer back to the dashboard.

All Observers are encouraged to change their password upon initial login.

When an observer first logs in, select the Precinct you are located at.

Make any corrections to the information listed for you.

Observer name, email, phone, and password can all be updated.

At-large observers will need to change their polling location each time they arrive at a new site.

**Don't forget to "save" any changes!**

# Creating an Incident Report \*\*

click here



Your user information will auto fill with the information in your profile. If anything is incorrect, go back to the instructions on **Checking Your Observer Profile.**

If the Chief Judge/Site Manager isn't listed enter his/her name. **This information is required.**

Start your narrative here.

Back to Dashboard

CREATE NEW INCIDENT REPORT FOR:  
NORTHWEST HARNETT FIRE DEPT.:  
NORTHWEST PRECINCT

User Name  
Dan Maslor

User Email  
dmaslor45@gmail.com

User Phone  
3105577991

Chief Judge  
-- Select Chief judge --

Select Judge (optional)  
-- Select judge --

Narrative Field  
Description...

seirs.vqventure.com

## Creating Incident Reports (tickets) con't

- Finish the Narrative
- Don't worry about exhibits
- If you are comfortable doing so, add the type (see next page). Forget the status.
- **Do not follow people to get them as a witness.** If you know someone else saw what was going on, be generic (assistant judge; other voters, etc.). However, **you do not need this information to submit an incident report. The narrative is the most important area.**

Upload Files  
ADD EXHIBIT FILES

Add Type (optional) Add Status (optional)

Witness Name

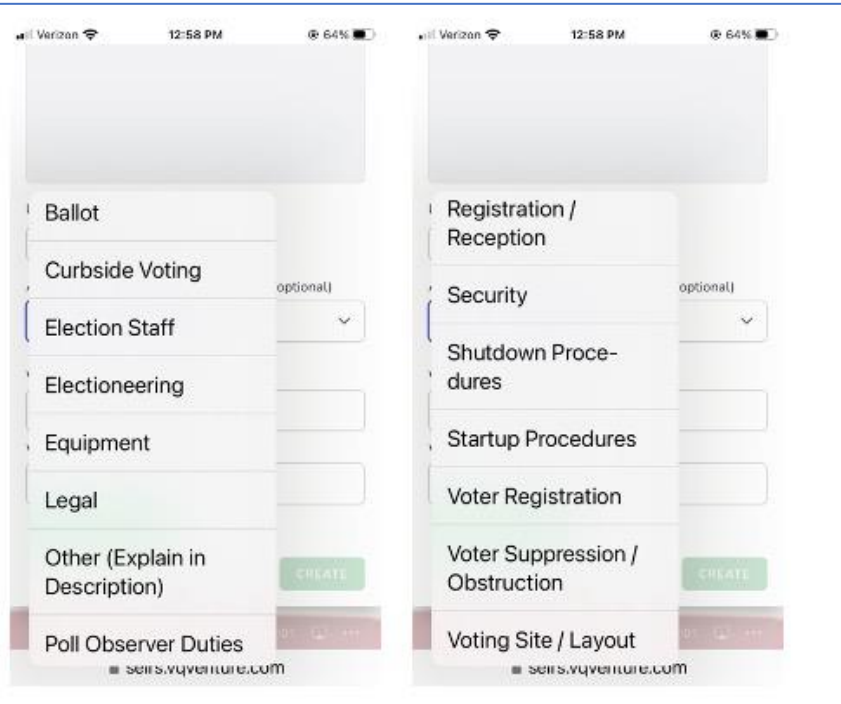
Witness Phone

Add new Witness

CREATE

seirs.vqventure.com

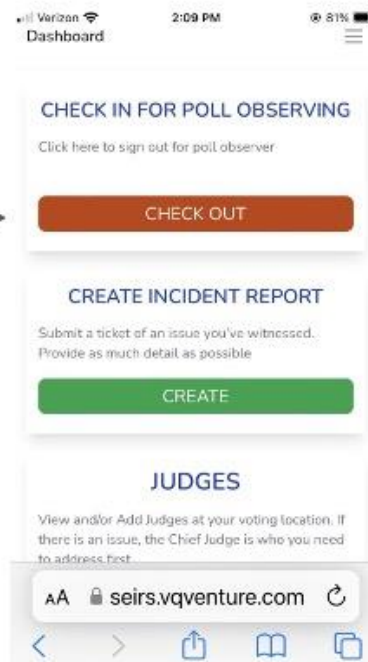
## Selection choices for “Types” of Incidents



Remember to click “**check out**” at the end of your shift.

**Also, as a courtesy, inform the Chief Judge/Site Manager that you are leaving for the day.**

If another observer is replacing you, share any important information with them.



## 6.2 PWER Admin Account Training Manual

# PWER

## Admin Account Training Manual

By Jesse Burger, CEO Vision Quest Venture LLC.

## PWER & VQV Onboarding Cycle

- 2 hrs - System Admins
- 2 hrs - Region War Room
- 2 hrs - County War Room -> Taught by System Admins / Region War Rooms with VQV on call as support.

## **PWER & Region / County War Room and Observer Onboarding Cycle**

- 1 hr - Region reviews training with designated Counties. Run through all the features and functions to ensure proficiency with the system
- 1 hr x 2 - Counties provide two, one hour blocks of training to on-board their Observers. **Priority is getting everyone logged into the account.** *Secondary is doing a trial run and having everyone create a chief Judge, submit an incident report, re-open an incident and add additional info.*
- 30 min - As new Observers are signed up, training sessions should be able to be provided by any account holder that has gone through the on-boarding process. This allows for force multiplication at a grass roots level.

## **Summary**

- System Setup
  - Creation of Regions, Counties, Precincts, and Users
  - Spreadsheet uploads to Precincts and Users
  - Resources
- Incident Reports
  - Filtering and updating Incident Reports
  - Overview of Incident Report Interface

## Admin Dashboard: SYSTEM SETUP

**Manage Type:** Allows the Admins to categorize their Incident Reports. Types should be able to match Resources made available.

**Manage Counties:** Enter Each County within the state FIRST. Precincts can then be uploaded via spreadsheet to a designated County.

**Manage Region:** Counties can be assigned to any Region Created. This can be used for high level access users and customized based on the end user needs.

**Manage Status:** Create different Statuses that will be assigned to Incident Reports. I.e. Open, Closed, In-Review, etc.

**Manage Precincts:** Precincts can be entered manually or uploaded via spreadsheet. (More in slide #6)

**Manage Judges:** Admins have the ability to manually enter Precinct Judges and assign them to a County and Precinct.

**Main Navigation Menu:** Slides #7 & 8

## Admin Dashboard: SYSTEM SETUP

**"Pill Badge"** shows the current number of "Types" available to Account Holders.

Create a County by entering the County Name and clicking "CREATE"

Each section can be expanded providing additional, intuitive features.

Search bar allows for easy lookup of "Precincts"

Precincts can be updated to correct spelling or number by entering the corrections and clicking "UPDATE"

Each Precinct shows the currently assigned "County" in the "pill badge". Assigning a new "County" from the dropdown will re-assign the Precinct.

Precincts can be uploaded via .csv spreadsheets. (Sample provided in packet "Precinct Template").

Spreadsheets can be uploaded AFTER Counties have been created.

## Admin Dashboard: Resources SETUP

Resource Name can replicate the "Category" or be an easy to remember way of finding a specific resource

Enter the URL for the specific reference to statutes / law / training

Summary is to give context to the resource to help the Observer make sense of EI.

It is also used in the search engine to help find a resource without needing to know "legalese"

Images or PDF's can be uploaded to supplement a resource

Resources are assigned a "Category" which is defined by the Incident Types, created in the System Setup

## Admin Dashboard: USER ACCOUNTS

Create New User: Can be used to create new accounts on the spot. Also provides the option to upload Observer Accounts using a Spreadsheet. (Template provided labeled "Account Template.csv")

Shows total number of accounts in the system.

Shows number of Incident Reports generated by each account.

EMAIL	INCIDENTS	ROLE	COUNTY - PRECINCT
Dana County 1232323232 dana@dana.com	0	Regular	Platinum
Brad Butcher 7722054434 admin@Dana-Precinct.com	0	Admin	Law

Easy to use Search and Filtering options.

Most common User complaint is password not working. Click this link to send a password reset email to the account holders email address on record.

Edit or Delete accounts

## Admin Dashboard: USER ACCOUNTS

New User Accounts can be created on the spot. This is a feature very helpful for signing up new volunteers on the spot or after training sessions.

All fields are required.

If the account is a "User (observer)" role, after selecting the "County" the subsequent Precincts will become available.

Click on "Create User" to create the account, send the User their login info and TELL THEM TO CHANGE THEIR PASSWORD from the Profile section of their account.

When uploading a Spreadsheet of Users, select the .CSV formatted spreadsheet (template provided titled "Account Template.csv").

Select the ROLE that will be assigned to all users.

If ROLE is "User": on the Observers first login they will be required to select a precinct from their designated County within the Profile page.

For large spreadsheets, do not navigate away from or click on anything while the spreadsheet is uploading. If there is an issue the system will provide an error.

## Admin Dashboard: INCIDENT REPORTS

Incident Reports for the Admins are only to provide an aggregate total of Incident Reports. While there are significant filtering capabilities from the "dropdown" options, the Admin accounts are for general viewing and not designed to provide an actionable interface like a War Room.

War Rooms are the locations wherein the majority of the information is provided, and can be analyzed and made actionable.

"CALL" will call the Poll Observers phone number that is associated with their account.

"Open Incident" will open the *SINGLE VIEW* of the Incident Report.

Dropdown options allows for quick changes to the "Type" and "Status". (These are all tracked with a date and time stamp as well as account that made the change)

"Assign To" is a feature still in development.



## Admin Dashboard: INCIDENT REPORT

The screenshot shows an incident report form for 'Incident Report 1037'. At the top, there are dropdown menus for 'Type: Early Visiting' and 'Status: Open', along with 'Updated' and 'Created' information. A 'Download PDF' button is visible. The form is divided into several sections: 'Priority Name' and 'Priority Name' (with 'Priority' and 'Anderson-Creek' selected), 'User Name' and 'User Email' (with 'Jesse Burger' and 'jessaburger@gmail.com' selected), 'Judge ID' and 'Judge Name' (with 'John Smith' and 'No' selected), and 'Chief Judge?' and 'Political Party' (with 'No' and 'Republican' selected). A 'Narrative Field' is at the bottom, containing the text 'This is a new incident report.' To the right, there is a 'Comments' section with an 'Add a comment...' input field and a 'COMMENT' button. Annotations with arrows point to various parts of the form: 'Change the Type or Status from the dropdown menu' points to the Type and Status dropdowns; 'Supportive Data' is not editable. These values are determined by the Account holder that submits the incident reports Profile' points to the User Name and User Email fields; 'The Narrative Field will contain the most information and Observers should be trained to be able to document in as much detail as possible issues that are observed.' points to the Narrative Field; 'Anytime a Type, Status, or Comment is added, there will be a new entry into the "Updated" portion of the Incident Report.' points to the Updated field; 'PDF version of the Incident can be downloaded to your device for printing / dissemination when required.' points to the Download PDF button; 'Can be configured to print information into the format of an AFFIDAVIT to be used in court after signatures provided.' points to the Download PDF button; and 'If additional information or clarification is required, use the "COMMENT" system to communicate directly with the person that submitted the Incident Report.' points to the COMMENT button.

Change the Type or Status from the dropdown menu

"Supportive Data" is not editable. These values are determined by the Account holder that submits the incident reports Profile

The Narrative Field will contain the most information and Observers should be trained to be able to document in as much detail as possible issues that are observed.

Anytime a Type, Status, or Comment is added, there will be a new entry into the "Updated" portion of the Incident Report.

This is a scrollable field to view time stamps of all changes.

PDF version of the Incident can be downloaded to your device for printing / dissemination when required.

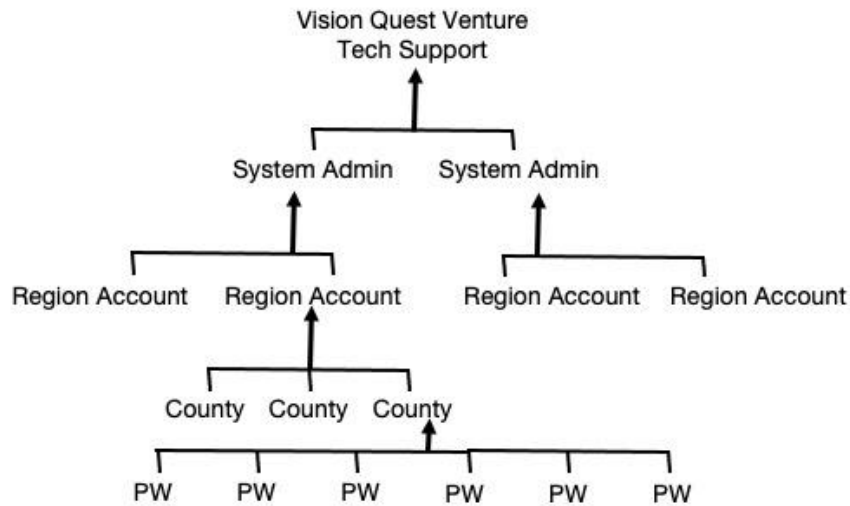
\*Can be configured to print information into the format of an AFFIDAVIT to be used in court after signatures provided.

If additional information or clarification is required, use the "COMMENT" system to communicate directly with the person that submitted the Incident Report.

## Summary

- System Setup
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# Command and Control



# Command and Control Cont.

- In order to facilitate all the War Rooms and Observer Accounts, a strict method line of communication must be followed.
- Even in trial versions, we must replicate GAME DAY as much as possible
- \*Counties will be able to upload or create Observer Accounts for Precincts within their designated County.
- \*Regions can upload or create County War Room and Observer Accounts
- PWER is designed to be bottom up empowering WE THE PEOPLE. As such, issues should be resolved at the lowest levels possible.
- The more we sweat in training, the less we bleed in battle. TRAIN TRAIN TRAIN
- Vision Quest Venture (VQV) will be available for any technical issues and ensure that all systems perform as designed, only in the most rare of circumstances should there be direct contact between a County or Observer and VQV staff.

## **7 Voter Registration Audits**

### **7.1 Introduction**

An accurate and complete voter roll is the foundation of secure and credible elections. Although relatively uncommon in the U.S., voter registration audits are a common tool used in other democracies by legislators, election administrators, election observers, and other stakeholders to assess the overall accuracy of a voter register, and to provide the information needed for effective reforms. Voter registration audits can also provide evidence of some forms of election malpractice.

A typical audit will include an initial assessment of the registration process as defined in law and regulation; an IT-based audit of the register (if appropriate); and random sample-based surveys of voters to assess the accuracy of the register. The scope and focus of the surveys can be general, or targeted at specific aspects of the register, depending on the priorities of sponsor.

Voter registration audits are of particular interest to civil society-based election integrity organizations because, unlike other types of election audits, they can be conducted without the participation of local government or election officials.

### **7.2 General Voter Registration Audit**

The survey portion of a comprehensive voter registration audit may include two different tests, referred to as list-to-people and people-to-list. Whether one or both tests are included in an audit would be determined by priorities and available resources.

The list-to-people test involves surveying a random sample of voters drawn from the voter list to determine the accuracy of the list, including the percentage of moved or deceased voters on the list. The list-to-people test can also reveal fraud, if voter history is included in the survey. For example, if the surveyor finds a voter has moved or died or never lived at the address, that shows error in the list; but if the same voter is listed as having cast a ballot in an election after they moved or died, that shows fraud.

The people-to-list test measures the proportion of eligible citizens listed on the list (comprehensiveness). For example, if you survey a random sample of 1000 citizens who would be eligible to vote, and confirm 780 are on the voter list, you have a registration rate of 78%. If you know the total number of citizens in an area who meet the age and residence requirements to vote from the census, and calculate 78% of that total, then that number should equal (within the margin of error) the total number of registered voters on the voter list.

Typically, the number of voters on the list will be greater than the number calculated from the census, because the list still includes some voters who have moved or died. The percentage over your calculated number will be the magnitude of error or bloat in the list. A well-maintained list might be just a few percent off, while a poorly maintained list could contain 50 or 100% more names than actual voters. This is important, as a bloated list can be used to facilitate fraud, and also skews turnout percentages.

A general voter registration audit with a list-to-people test, or both a list-to-people and a people-to-list test, would be most appropriate when the priority is to drive reform of the voter registration process.

### **7.3 Targeted Audit**

A targeted audit is primarily focused on just one aspect of the voter list, or one period in time. A targeted audit would normally be based on the voter list, so would be a list-to-people test.

An example of a targeted audit was conducted in Virginia in 2021. The election commission reported weekly the names of people who had returned absentee ballots during Virginia's 45-day voting season, and after the first week an election integrity organization ran that list through commercial software to identify suspect addresses, then drew a sample from that list and sent surveyors to confirm that the submitted ballots came from qualified voters. They found that at least 5.7% of absentee ballots submitted during the first week of polling came from addresses where the voter was unknown, or was known but had moved well before the election.

A targeted audit can be conducted at any time using this method, not just during the advance voting period or for absentee ballots. A voter list with voter history is processed through commercial software that identifies a likely mismatch between the voter's listed name and address, and their actual address. A sample from the processed list is then surveyed, and the percentage confirmed as bad addresses during the election period in question can then be applied to the whole list to yield a minimum number of fraudulent votes (this is a minimum number because the commercial software may not catch all bad addresses, and because fraud may have occurred in other ways).

A targeted audit might be most appropriate when the priority is to prove that this type of fraud occurred in a previous election. This type of audit would be less effective at driving reform of registration processes than a general VRA.

### **7.4 IT-Based Audit**

An IT audit might be an examination of the machines and processes used for voter registration, or could be a machine-run analysis or test based on available data. The list screening process for bad addresses described above is one type of IT-based audit. IT audits can be easier and cheaper to conduct, because they don't require fieldwork, but are less accurate and therefore less credible than more intensive audits; making them most useful when an overview is needed, or as part of a more in-depth audit.

#### Types of IT Based Audits

- Comparison of voter registry with obituaries.
- Comparison of voter history across states to detect double voting
- Compare the voter registry with census data
- Compare voter history with post-election registry to identify registrants who voted and then were purged from the list

## **7.5 Sampling**

Surveys or canvassing without a sampling frame can reveal the existence of errors or fraud, but not their prevalence, and consequently such surveys have less impact in driving reform than sample-based surveys. While it is slightly more difficult to survey using a robust sampling methodology, doing so will allow accurate characterization of the area being surveyed, so it is well worth the extra effort.

If it is too difficult to do a random sample of a whole state, you can use a multistage random sampling methodology. For example, a random sample of counties, then a random sample of precincts, then a random sample of voters. It's actually a bit more complicated than that, but the science is well-known, and accessible, as it is used by polling firms all the time.

Another option is to limit the size of the survey area. If the auditing organization is strong in only some parts of the state, several counties can be selected as sampling areas. For example; if you do three counties across the state, you can accurately (authoritatively) characterize the situation in each of those counties, compare and contrast results across those counties, and hypothesize about the causes of similarities and differences. This is enough for a good report and may be enough to spur reform, or further investigation.

While a limited but rigorous and representative audit is more useful than no audit, or an unrepresentative audit, a comprehensive audit is preferred is possible. A comprehensive audit provides the most possible useful data; but can also be a tool for the organization to build out and strengthen their network across the state.

## **7.6 Conducting a Voter Registration Audit**

### *7.6.1 Process Map*

- a) Decide what type of audit you want to do. Consider your priorities (voter list reform or revealing previous malpractice). Also consider what types of data are available.
- b) Decide the area you will audit (state-wide or counties/municipalities).
- c) Acquire relevant data.
- d) Draft the questionnaire. Most of this should be off-the-shelf, with minor changes based on priorities and local conditions. While drafting questionnaire, also do an outline of the report. This will help ensure your questionnaire captures the information you need for your report.
- e) Draw the sample.
- f) Test the questionnaire
- g) Build questionnaire app for ipad or cellphone (primarily off-the-shelf)
- h) Recruit and train enumerators/canvassers.
- i) Field work and data collection.
- j) Analysis and report.
- k) Develop recommendations.
- l) Present report (press, radio, TV, election commission, executive and legislative branches, and judicial branch/law enforcement if significant violations have been found).

### 7.6.2 *General Voter Registration Audit*

Sample – Either households or individual voters. If households, could any registered voter be the respondent, or do we need something like a kish grid? Timing? How do we manage “no one home” or “voter not home”? I think we will probably just have to over-sample, and record limitations in the methodology.

#### Draft Questionnaire

- a. Does the address exist? Y/N if Y, go to next field, if N, record and end
- b. Did someone respond to the knock? Y/N if Y, go to next field, if N, record and end
- c. Can I speak to X? If home, wait. If not home, ask any inhabitant
- d. Did you, or anyone else present now, live here during the fall of 2020? (if no, end)
- e. I’m checking the accuracy of the voter roll, which lists the following people as registered voters at this address (show list). Can you tell me if they lived here during the fall of 2020?  
Responses: don’t recognize  
Yes, lived here  
Used to live here, but moved before period in question  
Died
- f. I don’t want to know who you voted for, but can you tell me, did you vote in 2020?

This questionnaire should yield percent of voters on the list who have moved or died or are unknown at the address (error in the list), and (if we have voter history) the percent of fraudulent votes cast in the missing voters’ names.

### 7.6.3 *Targeted Voter Registration Audit*

The exact shape of a targeted audit would depend on specific local priorities, but one similar to that done in Virginia could be conducted by screening the relevant voter register to identify voters that likely did not live at the listed address, but were shown as having voted in the last election. This set would be potential fraudulent votes. A representative sample of these addresses would then be canvassed to verify information and collect affidavits.

In the 2021 Virginia statewide elections, the IT-based audit suggested 7.5% of absentee ballots submitted in the first week of polling came from suspect addresses, and that was further refined to 5.7% though canvassing. This formed the floor for fraudulent votes, as the initial screen likely missed some people that moved or died, as it incorrectly identified some who had not moved. If fraud occurred throughout the polling period at a similar rate, it would have totaled about 19,000 fraudulent votes.

END