
From the Office of Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz

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CONTACT: Dan Tapper, 509-6259
324-9862 (Cell)

SECRETARY BYSIEWICZ: TOWNS RANDOMLY CHOSEN TO HAVE OPTICAL SCAN VOTING MACHINES AUDITED



In an effort to ensure the security and integrity of Connecticut's new optical scan voting machines, Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz said today that numerous polling places where these machines were used will now be audited to determine how well the new technology worked. Officials from the League of Women Voters randomly chose these precincts at a news conference today in the Office of the Secretary of the State.

The precincts chosen for the audit are included in an attached chart. The audits will be performed by the Office of the Secretary of the State with the assistance of the University of Connecticut's Department of Computer Sciences, which has helped Secretary Bysiewicz's office in the selection of optical scan technology as an eventual replacement of all of the state's lever voting machines.

These seventeen (17) polling precincts represent twenty percent (20%) of the eighty-seven (87) polling precincts in the fifteen (15) cities and towns which used optical scan technology this year in the First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Congressional Districts, Secretary Bysiewicz said. As most are now aware, the ten (10) cities and towns in the Second Congressional District reviewed every ballot in the context of the recount already. UConn will assist with a technical review of those machines.

"Security is paramount when it comes to the integrity of our elections, which is why we chose optical scan technology to ultimately replace all of our state's lever voting machines in 2007. As a result, we will work with UConn to perform random audits on twenty percent of the machines used this year, in order to see how well and accurately they worked on Election Day," Secretary Bysiewicz said. "This way, we will know what issues need to be addressed prior to the 2007 elections, and will be able start addressing them right away."

*****END*****

**THE FOLLOWING POLLING PLACES WERE SELECTED AT RANDOM
TO HAVE THEIR OPTICAL SCAN MACHINES AUDITED TO GAUGE
THEIR PERFORMANCE IN THE NOVEMBER 7TH ELECTION**

| Municipality | Polling District |
|---------------|------------------|
| Wethersfield | 10 |
| South Windsor | 3 |
| East Hartford | 5 |
| Middletown | 8 |
| East Hartford | 3 |
| Hartford | 3 |
| Hartford | 12 |
| East Hartford | 6 |
| Wilton | 2 |
| Monroe | 2 |
| Newington | 3 |
| East Haven | 1 |
| Wethersfield | 5 |
| Newington | 5 |
| Monroe | 1 |
| Newington | 1 |
| Middletown | 12 |