

Pierce County Primary Election - August 18, 2009
Canvassing Board Report
August 28, 2009

Canvassing Board Status Report
Ballot Statistics as of 8/27/2009

VOTER STATISTICS	
Total registered absentee voters	320,094
Total registered poll voters	88,638
Total number of active registered voters in all precincts	408,732
Total number of inactive registered voters in all precincts	31,924
Total registered voters in all precincts	440,656

BALLOT STATISTICS	
<u>Absentee and Vote By Mail (VBM) Ballots</u>	
The total number of absentee/VBM ballots issued	323,695
Total number of absentee/VBM ballots returned (includes challenged ballots)	75,870
Total absentee ballots counted*	72,949
Percentage of absentee voter turnout (based on valid ballots counted against ballots issued)	22.54%
*includes absentee, vote by mail, provisionals, overseas, out of state, service voters, email ballots, and Address Confidentiality Program ballots	
<u>Absentee Return Statistics (See report 1 and 2 for detail)</u>	
Ballots returned by mail	58,945
Ballots returned at staffed Express Booths	12,643
Ballots returned at the Elections customer service counter	183
Ballots returned at the Auditor's Office	97
Ballots returned at drop boxes	3,140
Ballots returned at a polling place	862
<u>Polling Place Ballots</u>	
Total poll site ballots counted	3,033
Percentage of poll voter turnout	3.42%
<u>Provisional Ballots</u>	
Total number of provisional ballots issued	114
Total number of provisional ballots received from other counties	0
Total provisional ballots counted (included in absentee ballot count)	103
Number of valid provisional ballots voted by absentee voters	69
Number of valid provisional ballots voted by poll voters	34

VOTER TURNOUT STATISTICS - OVERALL	
Total ballots counted	75,982
Overall Turnout Percentage	18.59%

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CHALLENGED BALLOT STATISTICS		
<u>Unsigned ballot envelopes</u>		
Total Unsigned ballot envelopes received	442	
Signature updates received and processed	315	
Outstanding letters sent to voters with no response		127
<u>Signature Discrepancies**</u>		
Total Signature Discrepancies received	454	
Signature discrepancies resolved and processed	134	
Outstanding letters sent to voters with no response		320
**Includes signatures that do not match, wrong signers, printed signatures, and envelopes signed with Power of Attorney		
<u>Other challenged ballots</u>		12
Total ballots currently challenged		459

TO BE CANVASSED		
<u>Voter Intent Unclear - Refer to Voter Intent Statewide Standards on What is a Vote</u>		
This spring the Secretary of State sponsored voter intent committee meetings to discuss the statewide standards on what constitutes a vote. Based upon these committee meetings a new voter intent booklet was published in June, 2009. Rule K (a write-in arrow completed, with a blank line) was reviewed and discussed. This rule states that "If the write-in target area is marked, but no name is written on the line, it shall not be counted as a valid vote, even though it may be tallied as a write-in vote by the tabulation system." The law permits County Canvassing Boards to either remake the ballots removing the mark, or allow these ballots to be tallied by the tabulation system. Based upon these discussions, this item is being brought before the canvassing board today to establish a guideline for these ballots for Pierce County.		
Write-in blank line, Rule K; page 57	2,480	
Ballots 1-3 (See Rule A - Target Area, page 2; and Rule B Consistent Pattern, page 22)	3	
Ballots 4-27 (See Rule A - Target Area, page 2; and Rule B Consistent Pattern, page 22)	24	
Ballots 28-31 (See Rule B - Consistent Pattern, page 22 and Rule C Corrected Votes pages 32 and 34. (Ballot # 31 see page 31)	4	
Ballots 32-33 (See Rule E - Written Instructions page 42)	2	
Ballots 34-38 (See Rule S - Anything Else page 73)	5	
Ballots 39-43 Two ballots received in one envelope (See WAC 434-262-031 (b) page 77)	5	
Total ballots to be canvassed		2,523

REJECTED BALLOT STATISTICS		
<u>Absentee ballots rejected</u>		
Total absentee ballots rejected (voter challenge code applied)		5
No ballot in envelope	3	
Voter cancelled after ballots were mailed	2	
Total absentee ballots rejected (No challenge code applied, credit given)		0
Total absentee ballots rejected (No challenge code applied, No credit given)		23
Received at the polls, express booths or Election Center after 8:00 pm on Election Day	5	
Cannot identify voter	3	
Wrong election	15	
Total absentee ballots rejected		28
<u>Provisional ballots rejected</u>		
Not registered	6	
Registered in another county	3	
Voter returned an absentee ballot	2	
Total Provisional ballots rejected		11

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POLLING PLACE RECONCILIATION***

Ballot Accountability Forms

Poll workers are required to complete a ballot accountability form at the end of election night after closing the polls. Election staff have reviewed and reconciled all ballot accountability forms. This involves an extensive review of the number of people signing the poll book compared to the number of ballots cast at the polling places and the number of voters receiving credit.

Political parties requested a manual count of selected precincts

On election night, representatives of the political parties requested a manual tally of the Port of Tacoma Commissioner Position No. 1 race in the following precincts: 25-151, 26-227, and 31-628. Election staff performed this manual tally on Election Night prior to the tabulation of the ballots on the central count tabulators in accordance with state law. The manual tally was compared to the results tabulated for each precinct. All results matched exactly. No discrepancies were found. This requested manual audit was done in the presence of official political party observers.

Touch Screen Audit of Results

In accordance with State Law, Pierce County conducted an audit of results of votes cast on the touch screen voting machines. The law requires that this audit be conducted on four percent of the devices used in the election. Accordingly, three machines were selected by lot. To conduct the audit, an election worker read the results from the voter verifiable paper audit trail and another election worker tallied the results. These results were compared to the results accumulated in the election tabulation system. No discrepancies or anomalies were found. The audit was conducted on the Port of Tacoma Commissioner Position No. 1 race on the following machines:

<u>Machine Number</u>	<u>Polling Location</u>
35279	Sunrise Baptist Church
35293	Edgewood Fire Station
35331	Praise Covenant Church

*** All activities were conducted in the presence of political party observers

OF ADDITIONAL NOTE:

False Alarm

On August 12, 2009 a false alarm was registered at the Pierce County Election Center. Tacoma Police were dispatched and verified the building was secure. Lori Augino, Elections Manager, was notified that the false alarm was attributed to an interior motion detector. The security logs and video surveillance for the Election Center were reviewed. They indicated the building was properly armed the night of August 11, 2009 and properly disarmed and opened on the morning of August 12, 2009 and no one was inside the facility during that period.

Touch Screen Voting Machine Theft

A touch screen voting machine (Serial No. 35313) was taken from Skyline Presbyterian Church, 6301 Westgate Blvd. in Tacoma, sometime after the polls closed on Election Night. The results cartridge, voter verifiable paper audit trail and optical scan ballots were returned securely by the transport team on Election Night. The theft involved physical equipment only – no vote totals were lost or compromised. It is believed the machine was taken sometime between the close of the polls on Election Night and the next day August 19th. A police report was filed on August 21, 2009 with the Tacoma Police Department (Report No. 092330884). The machine was recovered by Tacoma Police on Saturday, August 22, 2009 (Case No. 092340456) and picked up from the Police Property Room on Tuesday, August 25, 2009 by Lori Augino and Mike Rooney.

After testing it was confirmed machine 35313 is in proper working order. The following steps were taken to verify:

1. The screen confirmed 23 votes; which is what was reported on election night in the tabulation system;
2. The machine passed all system self tests upon startup;
3. The event log shows the machine was powered down at 8:33 p.m. on 8/19/09 election night and was not powered back up until 10:04 a.m. on 8/27/09;
4. A hard copy of the event log has been retained;
5. The machine will pass a logic and accuracy test before used in the next election.

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MAILING STATISTICS	
Undeliverable absentee ballots	
Total number of undeliverable ballots returned by the Post Office	4,506
Ballots postmarked too late	
Received August 20, 2009	466
Received August 21, 2009	70
Received August 24, 2009	29
Received August 25, 2009	33
Received August 26, 2009	66
Received August 27, 2009	16
Total number of ballots postmarked too late	680

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Report 1

Absentee Ballots Issued		323,695	
Date	Ballots Received	Cumulative Total	Percent Received
8/4/2009	9,630	9,630	2.98%
8/5/2009	5,054	14,684	4.54%
8/6/2009	4,033	18,717	5.78%
8/7/2009	3,504	22,221	6.86%
8/10/2009	5,985	28,206	8.71%
8/11/2009	5,324	33,530	10.36%
8/12/2009	3,160	36,690	11.33%
8/13/2009	3,140	39,830	12.30%
8/14/2009	3,032	42,862	13.24%
8/17/2009	8,337	51,199	15.82%
8/18/2009	9,751	60,950	18.83%
8/19/2009	14,462	75,412	23.30%
8/20/2009	97	75,509	23.33%
8/21/2009	226	75,735	23.40%
8/24/2009	125	75,860	23.44%
8/25/2009	7	75,867	23.44%
8/27/2009	3	75,870	23.44%

Note: Turnout on this report is based on the cumulative number of absentee ballots received (including challenged ballots) to the total number of absentee ballots issued.

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Ballot Return Statistics - Express Booths and Ballot Drop Boxes (Report 2)

Drop Boxes	8/10	8/11	8/12	8/13	8/14	8/15	8/16	8/17	8/18	Totals
Election Center	236	0	0	0	129	0	0	137	502	1,004
County City Bldg	34	0	18	0	17	0	0	31	89	189
Gig Harbor Fire Station	44	0	29	0	26	4	4	7	30	144
Parkland/ Spanaway Library	83	0	63	0	0	14	37	13	85	295
PC Annex	155	0	0	0	135	0	0	127	892	1,309
Soundview Medical Clinic	15	0	13	0	1	0	3	5	34	71
TACID	19	0	21	0	17	0	5	11	55	128
										3,140

Express Booths	8/10	8/11	8/12	8/13	8/14	8/15	8/16	8/17	8/18	Totals
Bethel Rite Aid					31	39	51	98	222	441
Browns Point Town Center					72	43	11	94	0	220
Fred Meyer Bonney Lake					86	58	67	135	294	640
Fred Meyer Puyallup					125	136	111	363	770	1,505
Fred Meyer Sumner					91	75	83	167	291	707
Green Firs University Place					126	104	79	378	845	1,532
Lakewood Towne Center					126	84	75	374	870	1,529
Oasis of Hope Tacoma					10	4	5	15	72	106
Pt Fosdick Gig Harbor					127	154	129	334	577	1,321
Purdy Fire Station					34	26	20	97	112	289
Rite Aid Tacoma					142	131	117	423	1078	1,891
Sprinkler Spanaway					93	99	87	264	444	987
Surprise Lake Edgewood/Milton					61	44	22	148	294	569
Thun Field South Hill					90	98	70	203	445	906
										12,643

Election Center Customer Service	88	0	0	0	34	0	0	11	50	183
Auditors Office	26	0	0	0	39	0	0	6	26	97

Polling Sites									862	862
Grand Totals	567		123		1522	1113	971	3413	8808	16,925