

# **November 7, 2006 Election Update**

# **Election Administration**

# Redistricting

- 177,000 “corrected copy” voter registration cards mailed at an expense of \$83,000 +
  - Voter registration cards by law may not be forwarded automatically if registered voter has moved to new address
- 20,000 “corrected copy” cards returned as undeliverable
- Sending First Class mailing with confirmation card that can be forwarded to notify voters of their need to update their registration with current address
- Temporary staff to handle associated phone calls and data entry

# Oct 10<sup>th</sup> last day to Register to vote

- Deadline extended one day due to Columbus Day federal holiday
- Staff attending numerous voter registration drives and voting demos
- Applications made prior to deadline will be processed in time for November 7, 2006 Election

# Ballot Order

- Special Election Races for the CD 21, 23, 28 and the Unexpired St Sen 19
  - First ballot item
  - Orange box to alert voter
- General Election
  - Second ballot item
  - Yellow box to alert voter
  - Standard Ballot order
    - Straight Party
    - Federal Elections
    - State Elections etc

Joint General, Special and Bond Election  
Bexar County, Texas

**Special Election**

State Senator, District 19, Unexpired Term

Dick Bowen (REP)

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Carlos I. Uresti (DEM)



**General Election**

**Straight Party**

Republican Party (REP)

Democratic Party (DEM)

Libertarian Party (LIB)

**United States Senator**

Kay Bailey Hutchison (REP)

Barbara Ann Radnofsky (DEM)

Scott Lanier Jameson (LIB)

**United States Representative, District 20**

Charles A. Gonzalez (DEM)

Michael Idrogo (LIB)



**Previous  
Page**

**Page 2 of 16**

**Next  
Page**

# Ballot - Electronic

- Largest electronic ballot in Bexar County Election History
  - Redistricting Special
  - Special Unexpired Term Senate Dist 19
  - General Bexar County Ballot
  - Edwards Aquifer Authority
  - South San Antonio ISD Trustee
  - South San Antonio ISD Bond Election
- Each voter will have approx 16/17 voting screens and an additional 5/6 review screens
  - Minimum of 60 races/propositions
  - Maximum of 66 races/propositions

# Ballot – Electronic

- CD 20 has no special election
  - Therefore page 1 screen will be blank
  - County Elections Department will post a notice on bright paper in all booths in the CD 20 to alert voters that their ballot begins on Page 2
- Write In screens have been activated for two races in Bexar County and the write in notices will be posted in each booth

Joint General, Special and Bond Election  
Bexar County, Texas



**General Election**

**Straight Party**

Republican Party (REP)

Democratic Party (DEM)

Libertarian Party (LIB)

**United States Senator**

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**Previous  
Page**

**Page 2 of 16**

**Next  
Page**

# Ballot – Mail In

- Paper mail in ballot is 19 inches long
  - Largest paper ballot used in Bexar County election history.
  - New mail envelopes ordered to accommodate ballot size.
  - ES&S 650 scanners programmed to tabulate 19 inch ballot.

# Ballot – Mail In

- Ordered over 87,000 mail ballots of 154 different ballot styles
- Bexar County Elections Department has mailed 10,271 FPCA cards to the military and dependents and we have approximately 2,167 civilian apps in the office as of yesterday

# Early Voting

- Dates and Sites

- Monday, October 23rd thru Friday Nov 3rd
- 32 early voting sites
  - Widely distributed
  - Readily accessible

- Early voting sites will have two sets of iVotronic and Personalized Electronic Ballots (PEBs)
  - Set for Precinct 1 and 2
  - Additional set for Precinct 3 and 4
  - PEB contains an unlimited number of ballots.

# **Election Day Processes**

# Election Day Preparations

- 304 poll sites in Bexar County
  - Each poll site equipped ADA unit as required by HAVA (Help America Vote Act)
- Mandatory training for all judges will occur at large venues (school auditoriums, etc.), as done in the past
- Technical support will be available at all sites
- ES&S support at the close of early voting, on election day, and for tabulation

# Election Returns

- Election night returns reported from standard 8 Regional Sending Sites
- Election results will be posted on our website
- Early voting results will be available at 7:05 p.m. on the website
- All 304 poll sites will have the election results tapes posted for candidates to view and collect number of recorded votes

# iVotronic Equipment

# ES&S iVotronic Equipment

- Easy to Use By Voter
- Accurately Records Votes
- Auditable Results
- Safe and Secure

# ES&S iVotronic Equipment

- iVotronic touch screen DRE system has been used by Bexar County voters since May 2003.
  - Acquired at cost of \$8.1 million
  - First full election held was Harlandale ISD in May 2003.
  - Successfully used in more than 95 elections
  - Approximately 1,064,534 votes cast on iVotronics

# ES&S iVotronic Equipment

- Bexar County has version 7.4.5 hardware and 2.2 software
  - Certified by Texas Secretary of State for use by the political subdivisions of Texas.
- The iVotronic consists of stand alone voter terminals, which are activated for the voter by a poll official by PEBs(Personalized Electronic Ballots).

# iVotronics – Vote Accuracy Measures

- Three independent but redundant memory paths ensure no vote is lost or altered.
- Printed zero tape verifies that no votes are erroneously entered into any unit prior to poll opening.
- Printed results tape provides a verifiable printed document of precinct level results at close of election.
- Printed results tapes are compared to modemed results sent to the Regional Sending Sites throughout Bexar County.

# iVotronic – Vote Audit Trail

- Patented recount system allows replication of entire voting process
  - All ballot images can be reproduced to allow verification in case of election contest/recount.
- Because each iVotronic unit is a self contained election system, any malfunction in a single unit has no effect upon the operation of the other units at that poll and all units have a battery back up that insures continual use in case of a power failure at the site.

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- The iVotronic firmware monitors all system peripherals such as battery voltage, memory and electronically coded qualification codes on all hardware that is set up for a given election.
- The iVotronic firmware identifies deviations in the election process, such as opening the polls with the Master PEB that already contains votes from testing, closing the polls early or issuing a results report without closing all opened Voter Terminals.

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- All system functions are password protected.
- If an individual terminal fails, no loss of data occurs. Election data can be manually retrieved if necessary.
- If any error occurs, the system displays an error code/message and does not permit the further use of a faulty component.

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- Complete records are kept for each and every unit that is accessed for an election per the Secretary of State Administrative Code
- iVotronic serial numbers are scanned for deployment to each election site.
- Delivery of units accomplished with a bonded company and the Elections Department is emailed every delivery confirmation and the name of the person that signed for the delivery

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- iVotronics are stored and prepared in the Elections Department Warehouse, which has a 24 hour security system.
- Only full time staff have the authority to enter the specific code needed to activate the units for each election.
- A written record of each transaction is kept.

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- After the correct election qualifying code is placed on each unit, the unit is sealed and the seal number is recorded.
- We have a record of each unit, each PEB and each Commpac that is used at any given poll.
- The PEB's are prepared in a secure room in our office and each precinct has only the ballot styles that are required for their specific jurisdiction.

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- At the start of election day, the poll official will open the units using the red Master PEB.
- Master PEB records the serial number of every iVotronic opened on election day and will not allow results to be reported until all the opened terminals are closed after 7:00 p.m..
- All voting data from each voter terminal is accumulated on the Master PEB as the polls are closed.
- A results tape is then printed at the poll.

# iVotronic – Vote Security

- State law requires use of a real time log printer at all times whenever the Unity software is accessed.
  - This printer reports the date, time and function accessed on the software
  - Log book correlates to the staff member(s) in the tab room.
- The tab room is electronically accessed and only select staff members have access.
- The Unity software is on a separate server that is not connected to the County servers or network.
- There is no access into or from the outside web.

# iVotronic – Proven Performance

- iVotronics successfully used for 3 and a half years in multiple elections
  - Proven voter friendly
  - Proven accurate
- At least 3 manual recounts of iVotronic reported results have not resulted in any change to the election night returns.
- iVotronics has successfully passed required random precinct reviews required each election under Texas law.

# Overall Readiness and Equipment Assessment

- Confidence in election staff
- Confidence with state of preparations
- Confidence in equipment

# Thank You

- Election Department Staff

# **November 7, 2006 Election Update**