



FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

Office of the Chairwoman
Jennifer Stoddard Hajdu

December 13, 2023

Secretary Jane Nelson
Secretary of State
Office of the Texas Secretary of State
P.O. Box 12887
Austin, Texas 78711-2887
secretary@sos.texas.gov

Re: *Dallas County Election Abnormalities – November 2022 & 2023*

Dear Secretary Nelson:

Thank you for hosting Senator Tan Parker, Russ Ramsland, Wes Bowen, and me in your office on November 28, 2023 to discuss some of the election abnormalities we have been experiencing in Dallas County. To recap the E-Pollbook issues observed in Dallas:

November 2022 Midterms:

- After the polls closed at 7:00 p.m. in the voting centers on November 8, 2022, several voting centers experienced a large influx of additional voters being added to the E-Pollbooks that far exceeded the number of voters that actually checked into the voting center. In some instances, these surges exceeded 1,000 more voters than those that checked in and were reflected on the manual paper check in roster.
- The Dallas County Elections Administrator was at a loss to explain the surges and contacted the Dallas County elections vendor, ES&S for an explanation. ES&S's explanation was that the servers it oversees were inundated, and the E-Pollbooks were simply syncing (even though the E-Pollbooks were surging over the number of voters that actually checked in at the locations).
- For the first time, we learned that the E-Pollbooks servers are exclusively hosted by a third-party, for-profit corporation and that the Dallas County Elections Department, Dallas County and the State of Texas have no access to the server and no ability to see or audit what is occurring on the server.
- Well over seven days after the election, on November 21-25, 2022, the Dallas County Elections Administrator invited a Dallas GOP team to examine the E-Pollbooks in question at the Dallas County Elections Department equipment warehouse. During the observation, the E-Pollbooks that had surged

were still open and (i) the voters appearing on the E-Pollbooks were still fluctuating and (ii) new voters check in could still be added. We have videos to prove this.

- We have never received an explanation for the activity observed on the E-Pollbooks well after the election.
- The Dallas County Elections Administrator has reported to me that in order to remedy the 2022 issues, ES&S is placing Texas on a separate server. This creates concerns for us about potential manipulation of the Texas specific server.

November 7, 2023 Constitutional Election:

- Beginning on the first day of early voting, many voting centers reported a serious lack of connectivity of the E-Pollbooks to the internet, with outages lasting many hours if not the entire day, and in some cases for multiple days.
- The November 7, 2023 election was a very low turnout election with approximately 12% turnout, but far less than 12% daily during early voting.
- The outages continued throughout early voting with 33 of 65 voting centers reporting lack of connectivity of the E-Pollbooks or varying voter totals that would have to be subsequently updated – i.e. changed.
- During the outages, voters were still processed (meaning their voter were not registered with the other E-Pollbooks until much later, thereby potentially allowing a voter to vote more than once undetected).
- On election day, the E-Pollbooks continued to fail to connect to the internet with one specific location in University Park, Texas, not connecting to the internet until approximately 4:15 p.m. on election day – less than three hours before poll closings.
- In many voting centers, the E-Pollbooks did not sync. In several voting centers the E-Pollbooks within a single voting center reported different numbers for the total number of registered voters in Dallas County. For example, the seven E-Pollbooks at Coppell Town Center showed six different numbers for the total number of Dallas County registered voters between 6:51 – 6:54 p.m.
- The Preliminary Election Reconciliation performed at the end of election night showed 3,076 more votes than voters. The notes on the Reconciliation blames the discrepancy on the E-Pollbooks not syncing and states that it will be resolved during the canvass. *See Preliminary Election Reconciliation – Unofficial Totals.*
- The Dallas Elections Administrator’s explanation was that the cradle modems on the E-Pollbooks were old and ran on 4G technology and the County was on a 5G network. These same E-Pollbooks did not demonstrate this kind of lack of connectivity in the May 2023 election, just six months prior to the November 7, 2023 election. Moreover, one election judge was told that her location was given the new 5G router, but that for it to work, it had to be placed near a window – a particular window – in the room. Even when placed in the window, the router did not communicate with the five E-Pollbooks in the room until approximately 4:15 p.m.
- On election day, some of the voting center E-Pollbooks are programmed for peer-to-peer communication while others are not. This inconsistency causes concern. At approximately 6:45 p.m., some of the E-Pollbooks that were set on peer-to-peer communication were remotely changed without any warning or explanation to the election judges. We need to know who controls these E-Pollbooks. It is not the Elections Department, the County, the State, or the Parties.
- The clock time on the E-Pollbooks is often not accurate. The Election Department instructs the poll workers not to worry about the errors because the time stamps do not matter. In an audit, the time

stamp could be probative. All aspects of the E-Pollbooks should be accurate for security and audit purposes.

- Dallas County voters' mistrust in elections was heightened on November 7 because of their awareness of the equipment malfunctions.

December 9 Municipal Run Off Election:

As recently as this past Saturday, an incident occurred that makes it very clear that the E-Pollbooks are controlled by an outside server that neither the Elections Department nor the County has any access to or control over. In the Rowlett municipal run off election, the E-Pollbooks at Voting Center 2925 showed a message questioning a voter status that the poll workers had never seen before and that does not apply to the typical check in process. The message resulted in requiring poll workers to issue provisional ballots to voters that should have been issued regular ballots. The poll workers contacted the Elections Department which had no explanation for the issue. The Elections Department took new E-Pollbooks to the Voting Center. The new E-Pollbooks initially appeared to function with the correct voter qualification question, but when connected to the network, reversed and displayed the erroneous qualification question that required the poll workers to issue provisional ballots to almost all voters. Later in the morning the erroneous message disappeared with no explanation from the Elections Department. The Elections Administrator went to the Voting Center to speak with the poll workers and admitted that the Department had no idea why the erroneous message was on the E-Pollbooks and had no control over the E-Pollbooks to correct the problem. This is unacceptable.

The surge of the E-Pollbooks after the vote centers closed and control over the E-Poll books by a server controlled solely by a third-party is extremely concerning. It demonstrates that the E-Pollbooks are not reliable, transparent or trustworthy. The movement of the number of voters in the E-Pollbooks several days after the election is inexplicable and demonstrates that the E-Pollbooks can be manipulated and used in a fraudulent manner. The increased problems with E-Pollbook connectivity throughout Dallas County in the November 2023 election only exacerbates these concerns. The lack of integrity in the Dallas County election systems has created serious disenfranchisement among the Dallas County election workers, the Dallas County voters, and potential candidates for office.

Immediate changes are needed to SB 924 and Chapter 65 of the Texas Elections Code in order to allow Texas counties to design secure voting systems with regionally combined precinct voting with hand (i.e. paper) pollbooks, hand marked sequentially numbered watermarked ballots, and hand counting of ballots within the combined precinct voting centers. Changing Chapter 65 would also mean that other chapters would need minor amendments. We also want to reinstate the mandatory use of paper vote rosters, hand written by the election clerks, to ensure that we have a robust means of post – election auditing.

Many Republican County Chairs in Texas agree with the effort to return voting in Texas to a precinct-based paper ballot system without the use of electronic pollbooks of any kind. This far, we have confirmed that the Harris, Collin, Bexar, Navarro, Tarrant and Travis county Chairs agree with this. Kerr, Gillespie, and Montgomery Counties have also passed resolutions on returning to hand marked, hand counted paper ballots. County wide voting, particularly in large counties, has opened the voting system to the possibility if not the probability of external or internal manipulation of voters and votes that cannot be detected by the county parties, election departments counties or the State.

And, as we discussed, it appears that a court in Georgia could soon declare that machines voting systems, such as those used throughout Texas, are uncertifiable. We do not want to be caught unprepared should this occur. Nor do we want to be channeled into the ultimate in insecure election solutions – mobile voting.

We seek the Secretary of State's and the Texas Legislature's immediate assistance in this effort. Senator Tan Parker is leading the legislative effort. We ask that you encourage Governor Abbott to add election integrity to the current Special Session, or to another Special Session to begin no later than Jan. 8th 2024. Texas should be leading on election integrity. Texas is far too important to the United States to leave her exposed to a voting system for which abundant evidence exists that indicates it is being illegally manipulated.

We appreciate your prompt response.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jennifer Stoddard Hajdu

Jennifer Stoddard Hajdu
Dallas County GOP Chair

/s/ Wes Bowen

Wes Bowen
Dallas County GOP Election Integrity Chair

/s/ Russ Ramsland

Russ Ramsland, Election Integrity Expert
Allied Special Operations

cc: Via U.S. Mail & Email:
Ms. Christina Worrell Adkins
Director of Elections
Office of the Texas Secretary of State
James E. Rudder Bldg., 2nd Floor
1019 Brazos Street
Austin, Texas 78701
CAdkins@sos.texas.gov

Senator Tan Parker
Senator Bryan Hughes
Senator Bob Hall