



June 17, 2024

An Open Letter to Dallas County Voters

Restoring Electoral Systems Confidence: Audit the Dallas County Elections Department

INTRODUCTION

It is imperative that we provide confidence in our Dallas County election systems. There have been many recent issues with voting system equipment, processes, operating procedures, and protocols with elections in Dallas County. In the aggregate, these have led to a serious erosion of electoral confidence in the county's declared election results and we propose lawful solutions to address these concerns.

BACKGROUND

There has never been a serious third-party examination and analysis of Dallas's voting system equipment, processes, procedures, and protocols. Now is the time.

As Chairman of the Dallas County Republican Party and member of the Dallas County Election Commission and Election Board, I am calling for an immediate meeting of the Dallas County Election Commission and Board to begin the process of conducting an independent third-party procedural audit of the Dallas County Elections Department.

This is not a forensic audit to question election results. This is a procedural audit to ensure Dallas is following all Texas Election Code sections and rules outlined by the Texas Administrative Code. Included in the audit will also be an evaluation if Dallas is adhering to its own operating procedures and processes. The goal is to audit and uncover where there may not be definitive operating procedures or where there may be violations of Texas election laws and rules.

This is not a matter of partisan politics, but an opportunity to resolve the many issues and discrepancies that have occurred with elections in Dallas County that have eroded the public's confidence in the declared election results. We recommend this audit be narrowly focused to only encompass the 2022 November election cycle to the present.

PROPOSALS FOR TRUSTWORTHY TABULATIONS & RELIABLE AUDIT TRAIL

1. Ensure Dallas returns to lawful and auditable ballot numbering systems. Actions shall include:

- a. Disable computerized random unique ballot serial numbering capability of all electronic pollbooks for all future Dallas County elections.
- b. Return to lawful and secure distribution of pre-printed, consecutively numbered ballots for early voting and Election Day consistent with the Texas Election Code:
 - i. Deliver to each early polling location 125% of the prior elections' total ballots needed. (Tex. Elec. Code 51.005(a)). This minimizes additional ballot deliveries and breaks in consecutive numbering.
 - ii. Deliver and document a continuous, uninterrupted range of serial numbers to each polling location. (Tex. Elec. Code Sections 51.006 and 51.007(a))
 - iii. Distribute Ballot Seal Record forms prescribed by the Tex. Sec. of State for early voting (Form 3-3) and Election Day (Form 3-4). These forms must be signed by the early voting deputy clerk and presiding judges, respectively, and returned to the Elections Administrator.

2. Ensure secure printing of early voting results tapes. Actions shall include:

- a. Print early voting results tapes at the central counting station on Election Day.
- b. Print the tapes from the original ballot scanners used at the early voting polls.
- c. Print the tapes before any early voting memory sticks are inserted into the central accumulator to ensure a reliable, trustworthy early voting results audit trail.

3. Ensure thorough hash testing and validation of voting system equipment. Hash test and validate a representative sample of *all* voting equipment, including ballot marking devices, ballot scanners, central accumulators.

4. Address ongoing e-pollbook issues with ES&S CEO. Actions shall include:

- a. Resolve historical e-pollbook issues such as synchronization failures, voter check-in numbers changing after polls close, and lack of reconciliation with signature rosters.
- b. Permit inspection of the e-pollbook server and permit watchers to watch it during early voting and Election Day for all future elections:

5. Improve Security of Vote Ballots. Actions shall include:

- a. Improve video camera surveillance in all areas containing voted ballots cast by-mail and in-person for early voting and Election Day (Tex. Elec. Code 127.1232). Areas covered with video surveillance shall include, but are not limited to, the ballot board, delivery of ballots to Elections building, outside and inside the warehouse that stores voted paper ballots, and central counting station, etc.
- b. Ensure watchers are permitted to follow the transfer of election materials from the polling place at which the watcher was accepted to any location designated to process election materials including but not limited to equipment, memory sticks, and/or ballot boxes containing voted ballots (Tex. Elec. Code 33.0602(b)).

- c. Said watchers shall be permitted to follow voted ballots from when delivered to the Elections building, through warehouse, and through to storage destinations when returned to the Elections Department from polling locations. Follow the transfer of election materials from the polling place at which the watcher was accepted to any location designated to process election materials including but not limited to equipment, memory sticks, and/or ballot boxes containing voted ballots (Tex. Elec. Code 33.0602(b)).
- d. Improve training of early voting and Election Day poll workers to follow the Election Code related to filling out Ballot Seal Records and securely sealing ballot boxes to prevent any unauthorized deposit or removal of ballots (Tex. Elec. Code Sections 51.006, 85.032, and 127.066).

6. Improve security protocols for ballots cast by-mail. Actions shall include:

- a. Reduce fraudulent activity surrounding the distribution of unsolicited mail-in ballots.
- b. Release a publically available monthly voter eligibility list to Dallas County Democrat and Republican Party headquarters for continuous review and canvassing.
- c. Review processes and operating procedures to preclude illegal immigrants from voting in Dallas County.

7. End all Texas Secretary of State election waivers in Dallas County. The Texas Secretary of State is not within the Legislative branch of Texas government and therefore is not permitted to waive, alter, or change the Election Code. Actions shall include:

- a. Cease waiving Texas Administrative Code Rule 81.62(b)(2 and 3). Require voting system vendors in their certifications to ensure the central accumulator audit logs include the number of ballots read by the accumulator by *precinct*.
- b. Cease waiving Texas Election Code 129.054. Ensure no voting system equipment (ballot printers and voting system software) are permitted to have the capability to connect to wireless communications.
- c. The Dallas County Election Commission and Board should petition the Texas Secretary of State correct these issues, and rescind any and all Texas Secretary of State election law waivers.
- d. As Dallas County Republican Party Chair, I will interpose myself on behalf of voters to use all lawful means at my disposal to terminate the Secretary of State-issued waivers and restore an ability to audit election results that have been hindered due to the waivers.

SUMMARY

Having served a career in the US military and deployed to several combat zones, I believe we must return our electoral systems to being the envy of the world. It begins here in Dallas County to ensure we are holding ourselves responsible and accountable to restoring the confidence of the electorate in our elections systems.

Understanding my oath to the Constitution of our Republic, if necessary, the Dallas County Republican Party will go forward unilaterally to seek out a third-party audit of the Dallas County Elections Department based upon, at a minimum, the above issues.

Steadfast and Loyal,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen B. West". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lieutenant Colonel Allen B. West (US Army, Retired)
Chairman, Dallas County Republican Party