

## **Important Questions Pertaining to 2022 Election Results**

by Patrick Colbeck, Former MI State Senator

How many of you here realize that the certification vote by the board of canvassers is based upon election results data provided by tabulation machines that were never tested?

Did you know that there are 450 Dominion imagecast precinct tabulators in use on election day in the city of Detroit? Did you know that during the primary only 14 ImageCast precinct tabulators were subject to public accuracy tests and, per comments from Detroit election officials, 0 of these were used in the field on election day?

Did you know that there are 24 Dominion ImageCast central tabulators in use on election day at the AVCB? Once again, per Detroit Election officials, only 1 ImageCast central tabulator was subject to a public accuracy test. Did you know that each AVCB ImageCast central tabulator tabulates the votes for multiple precincts? Did you know that these AVCB tabulators do not print precinct-specific zero tapes or precinct-specific vote tallies? The tabulators used for in-person voting do but not the tabulators used at the AVCB's. Precinct-specific vote tally information is only available after the AVCB tabulators transfer their data to an Election Management System Server. This server has never been subject to a public accuracy test.

Meanwhile, canvassers are expected to rely upon reports generated by these untested EMS servers. EMS server errors during vote aggregation were responsible for the 7,060 vote flip in Antrim County during the 2020 general election. In this context, the dependence of canvassers upon the EMS Server for precinct-level results should be concerning.

Per MCL 168.807, citizens are supposed to be provided with precinct-level election results for each race at the close of the precinct canvass. Precinct-level results for AVCB's are only available once the AVCB tabulator data has been transferred to an EMS server. For anyone interested in manipulating the results of the election, this "feature" conveniently eliminates a very important link in the audit trail for the vote tally chain of custody.

The bottom line is that the precinct-level vote tallies provided to the Boards of Canvassers are provided by voting machines which have not been subject to any public accuracy test. The vote tallies presented today cannot be trusted without a forensic examination of the complete vote tally chain of custody starting with the AVCB tabulators.

Canvassing is about more than vote tallies, though. It also involves verifying ballot count consistency. The official ballot counts are tracked at the precinct-level by electronic poll books.

How many of you here realize that the certification vote is based upon ballot count data from poll books that experienced widespread errors on election night? The ballot tallies presented by these devices are therefore suspect.

In summary, the integrity of the precinct-level AVCB vote tally data is in question due to lack of any substantive audit trail. The integrity of the precinct-level poll books is in question due to systemic poll book errors.

The investigation of these concerns is beyond the scope of canvasser duties as conveniently defined by the Michigan Secretary of State, but I would strongly recommend the execution of a forensic investigation of these records if election officials seek to inspire confidence in the election results among those willing to look objectively at the election records.