



★ VIRGINIA ★
DEPARTMENT *of* ELECTIONS

Official ELECT Advisory

DATE: September 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Inspection of Statement of Results

WHY THIS IS NEEDED: There has been some confusion regarding the ability of the public to copy the Statement of Results (SOR) in the office of the general registrar. While the *right to inspect* reference is explicit in Va. Code §24.2-671, the *right to copy* reference is not clear. ELECT has reviewed previously issued guidance and consulted with the Office of the Attorney General to provide greater clarification on this issue for the field in advance of the 2022 General Election.

HOW THIS AFFECTS YOU: Pursuant to Va. Code §24.2-671, "Once the result is so ascertained, the secretary of the electoral board shall deliver one copy of each statement of results to the general registrar to be available for inspection when their office is open for business." Va. Code §24.2-107 states that "Books, papers, and records of the board shall be open to public inspection *and copying* whenever the general registrar's office is open for business." (emphasis added). When read in conjunction, a general registrar *i*s allowed to make or allow for copies of electoral board records, such as SORs, that are open for public inspection in the General Registrar's Office.

ACTION ITEMS: If an individual comes into the general registrar's office and wishes to make a copy of the SOR, the registrar and/or their deputy must allow the individual to either: (1) make a copy of the SOR with their own device or (2) purchase a copy pursuant to of §17.1-275 (A, 8).

CONTACT: **For technical matters:**

Submit questions via JIRA ticket to the System Support Team

For all other matters:

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ADVISORY NUMBER:

 **CAB-1227** - Inspection of Statement of Results

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