# Official ELECT Advisory

DATE: September 1, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Public Participation in Logic and Accuracy Testing

WHY THIS IS NEEDED: Clarification and uniform guidance was requested by General

Registrars and Electoral Board members regarding public

participation in Logic and Accuracy Testing.

**HOW THIS AFFECTS YOU:** Pursuant to § 24.2-633. Notice of final testing of voting system;

sealing equipment. General Registrars are required to mail a

written notice to one of the following:

 During a General Election, the chairman of the *local* committee of each political party.

• During a primary election, the chairman of the *local* committee holding the primary.

 During a city or town council election in which no candidate belongs to a political party, the *candidate*.

This written notification will include the time and place of the testing. The political party or the candidate that has received the notice may have *one* representative present, while the equipment is being tested. It is up to the local party or the candidate that has received the notice to select who that representative will be.

As a best practice, the public should not be invited to attend Logic and Accuracy testing. Pursuant to § 24.2-625.1, the process for Logic and Accuracy testing consists of records and protocols for maintaining the security of ballots for voting and counting equipment. This makes testing exempt from public disclosure, as the release of information would compromise the security of any election in the case of resolving any issues. Additionally since Logic and Accuracy Testing is considered a gathering where voting equipment is being prepared pursuant to § 24.2-107, the presence of two or more electoral board members does not constitute a meeting under FOIA and is not subject to open meeting requirements.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

Before conducting Logic and Accuracy testing for the November 2021 General Election, please make sure to provide written notice to the chairman of each political party. Candidates may attend if they have been appointed by their local committee as the designated representative or, in case of city or town elections, when no candidate belongs to a political party. General Registrars are not required to invite the public.

### **CONTACT:** For technical matters:

Submit questions via JIRA ticket to the System Support Team

### For all other matters:

Regions 1 & 3 (Tidewater & North Central) Zakia Williams: Zakia.Williams@elections.virginia.gov; (804) 864-8954

Regions 2 & 5 (South Central & Northern) Taylor Melton: Taylor.Melton@elections.virginia.gov; (804) 593-2274

Region 6 (Western) John Cronin: John.Cronin@elections.virginia.gov; (804) 864-8908

Regions 4 & 7 (Southwest & Southern) Tanya Pruett: Tanya.Pruett@elections.virginia.gov; (804) 864-8931

#### **ADVISORY NUMBER:**

□ COMM 567 - Public Participating in Logic and Accuracy Testing CANCELED