



JENNIFER BRUNNER
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DIRECTIVE 2007-36

December 13, 2007

To: COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS OF THE 5TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Ashland, Crawford, Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam,
Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wood, and Wyandot.

Re: **Official Canvass - 5th District - Special Congressional Election**

Timeline for Official Certification

The official canvass of the December 11, 2007, special Congressional election may begin no earlier than 21 days after the election (Wednesday, January 2, 2008). Your board must conduct and complete the official canvass and certify the results no later than **Monday, January 11, 2008**, as provided in the 2007 Expedited Special Congressional Election Calendar that accompanied Directive 2007-17.

Prior to January 2, 2008, boards may examine pollbooks, poll lists or signature pollbooks and tally sheets and compare them to the summary statements. Any errors, defects or omissions must be noted and reconciled. Boards may verify the eligibility of persons casting provisional ballots and the validity of the required provisional voter statements. (*See Dir. 2007-06*)

Instructions for Voting Systems

All Voting Systems: In order for a board to declare and certify official results, all valid ballots cast in the December 11, 2007, special Congressional election—including eligible ballots cast at the polls, provisional ballots and all absentee ballots—must be included in the official canvass.

- **Optical scan**

1. **Central Count:** In accordance with R.C. 3505.32(C), each board first must scan and tally all eligible ballots that were not included in the unofficial canvass. Set the central scanners to reject blank ballots *and* overvoted ballots. The board must designate inspection teams comprised of an equal number of board employees from each major political party to inspect the rejected ballots and, if possible, determine voter intent. (*See Directive 2007-31*)

As stated in R.C. 3506.21(B), voter intent is determined by examining the ballot for a consistently made mark that is contrary to voting instructions. *Examples:* Rather than filling in the oval or box, the voter underlined or circled choice; circled oval or box by choice; made an "X", checkmark or other recognizable mark beside the choice; or marked the ballot with a writing instrument not recognized by tabulator.

2. **Precinct Count:** Each board then must rerun the precinct/polling place memory card and verify that this count matches the unofficial count. If it does not, the board must run all ballots through the tabulator and set it to reject blank ballots and overvoted ballots. The board must designate inspection teams consisting of an equal number of board members and/or employees from each major political party to efficiently inspect the rejected ballots and to determine voter intent.

- **DRE**

1. In accordance with R.C. 3505.32(C), each board first must tally all eligible ballots that were not included in the unofficial canvass. The board must run the cartridges, PCMCIA cards and other removable memory devices on which the uncounted ballots are stored.
2. The board then must rerun the precinct cartridges, PCMCIA cards and other removable memory devices and verify that this count matches the unofficial count. If it does not, the board must compare the audit trail or the internal program on the voting machine to the cartridge results and determine the cause of the difference.

NOTE: The seal on the canister or the tape on the verified voter paper audit trail (VVPAT) is not to be broken to determine official results. If the seal must be broken for any auditing reason other than for recount purposes, the board must notify the Secretary of State's office immediately and prior to breaking the seal.

Instructions for Reporting Official Results

Boards must certify the results to both the board of elections of the most populous county for the 5th Congressional District (Wood County) and to the Secretary of State's Elections Division.

Please transmit the results, first by fax and then by U.S. Mail, to the Wood County Board of Elections and to the Secretary of State's office using the **Official Special Congressional Election Report** form provided with this Directive. Following is the information for faxing and mailing the results:

- **Fax your results to:**
Wood County Board of Elections: 419-354-1730
Secretary of State's Elections Division: 614-752-4360
- **Promptly mail the completed *original* report to:**
Wood County Board of Elections
1 Court House Sq.
Bowling Green, OH 43402
- **Promptly mail a *copy* of the completed original report to:**
Secretary of State's Office - Elections Division
ATTN: Denise Sherrod
PO Box 2828
Columbus OH 43216

The Wood County Board of Elections must transmit the **Official Certification by Most Populous County** form immediately after the Board has certified on or before January 11, 2008, the results of all the counties of the 5th Congressional District Special Election to the Secretary of State's office. The Board shall do the following:

- **Fax the *Official Certification by Most Populous County* forms to:**
Secretary of State's Elections Division: 614-752-4360
- **Promptly mail the completed signed original certification forms to:**
Secretary of State's Office - Elections Division
ATTN: Denise Sherrod
PO Box 2828
Columbus OH 43216

If you have any question regarding this directive, please call the Elections Division: 614-466-2585.
Thank you for your efforts in this extraordinary circumstance.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Brunner

5th Congressional District

Special Congressional Election
Official Certification by Most Populous County

December 11, 2007

The Board of Elections of

WOOD

County hereby certifies that in the

5TH

Special Congressional Election held December 11, 2007, votes cast for the candidates for **Representative to Congress - 5th District**, unexpired term ending January 3, 2009, were as follows:

Candidates are listed **alphabetically**. Indicate successful candidate with an **asterisk**.

Candidates →	Robert E. Latta Rep.	Robin Weirauch Dem.	John F. Green (WI)
County	Vote	Vote	Vote
ASHLAND (part)			
CRAWFORD			
DEFIANCE			
FULTON			
HENRY			
HURON			
LUCAS (part)			
MERCER (part)			
PAULDING			
PUTNAM			
SANDUSKY			
SENECA			
VAN WERT			
WILLIAMS			
WOOD			
WYANDOT (part)			

	<i>Chairperson</i>
	<i>Member</i>
	<i>Member</i>
	<i>Member</i>
	<i>Director</i>
	<i>Date</i>

5th Congressional District Official Special Congressional Election Report

The Board of Elections of _____ County hereby certifies that in the Special Congressional Election held on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, official votes cast for the candidates for Representative to Congress - 5th District, unexpired term ending January 3, 2009, were as follows:

Candidates →	Robert E. Latta	Robin Weirauch	John F. Green
# of Votes Received			

Registered Voters and Electors Voting

Number of Precincts	Number of Registered Voters	Number of Electors Voting

Witness our official signatures at _____ Ohio this _____ day of _____ 2007

Signed:

	<i>Chairperson</i>
	<i>Member</i>
	<i>Member</i>
	<i>Member</i>
	<i>Director</i>
	<i>Date</i>