

Pierce County Primary Election - August 4, 2015

Canvassing Board Report presented August 14, 2015

Status Report - Statistics as of August 13, 2015

Voter Statistics	
Total number of active registered voters in all precincts	454,124
Total number of inactive registered voters in all precincts	43,025
Total registered voters in all precincts	497,149

Ballot Statistics	
The total number of ballots issued	454,124
Total number of ballots returned (includes challenged ballots)	93,815
Total ballots counted*	93,143
*includes overseas, out of state, service voters, email ballots, and Address Confidentiality Program ballots	
Ballot Statistics (See report 1 and 2 for detail)	
Ballots returned by mail	48,877
Ballots returned at drop boxes	44,298
Ballots returned at the Elections Division customer service counter	365
Ballots returned at Voting Centers	163
Ballots returned electronically (fax and email)	45
Ballots counted on touch screen	67
Provisional Ballots	
Total number of provisional ballots issued by Pierce County	4
Total number of provisional ballots sent to other counties	2
Valid provisional ballots received from other counties	0
Total provisional ballots counted	0

Voter Turnout Statistics	
Total ballots counted	93,143
Overall turnout percentage	20.51%

Challenge Ballot Statistics	
Unsigned ballot envelopes	
Total unsigned ballot envelopes received	454
Signature updates received and processed	272
Outstanding letters sent to voters with no response	182
Signature Discrepancies**	
Total signature discrepancies received	792
Signature discrepancies resolved and processed	390
Outstanding letters sent to voters with no response	402
**Includes signatures that do not match, wrong signers, and envelopes signed with Power of Attorney	
Other Ballots Challenged (includes cancelled after ballot was issued, envelopes marked deceased, envelopes marked moved, no ballot in envelope, missing ID)	
	55
Total ballots currently challenged	639
Ballots Rejected - no challenge code applied (includes returned secrecy or ballot but no outer envelope and wrong election)	
	23

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To Be Canvassed

Ballots

Voter Intent Unclear - Refer to Voter Intent Statewide Standards on What is a Vote

Group 1, ballots 1-3 (hesitation marks or overvotes? - pages 2, 5, 11, 15, 17-19, 60-61)	3
Group 2, ballots 4-12 (pattern of similiar marks used for candidates, another pattern used for measures - pages 24, 36-38, 43)	6
Group 3, ballots 13-18 (overvotes - pages 44-55, 60-61)	9
Group 4, ballots 19-23 (correction or not a correction? pages 44-55)	8
Group 5, ballots 24-31 (voter intent/anything else - page 83-85)	5
Group 6, ballots 32-33 (two ballots, one envelope - page 90)	2

Total ballots canvassed

33

Ballot Drop Box Report

It was business as usual when a team of drop box workers arrived at the Pierce County Annex ballot drop box on 7/31/2015. However, as they went to unseal the box, they noticed the blue tamper evident seal was missing. We instructed the team to empty the box and isolate the ballots upon arrival at the Election Center. The facts are: the box was locked when the workers arrived to empty it, all keys were/are accounted for and we check the keys in/out daily, there was no evidence of forced entry or tampering, there was no evidence of the seal being placed on another drop box- meaning that we believe the workers placed the seal on the box the day before and someone removed it, all signatures matched on the voter declaration envelopes, nothing unusual to report in terms of the ballots during visual scan. We have processed the 340 ballots in the box. WAC 434-261-007 requires us to document all steps and include in the canvassing board report.

Random Check of Ballots

On August 4, representatives of the Republican and Democratic political parties requested a manual tally of ballots. The request was made to perform a random check of Port of Tacoma Commissioner Position No. 5 in the 2nd, 27th and 28th legislative districts. Three batches of ballots and three machines were chosen at random. Results from two batches matched exactly. The third batch showed a discrepancy of one vote being tallied as an undervote. Ballots were handed counted a second time. A review of ballots showed four ballots being identified as possible light marks in that contest. Those four ballots were pulled for duplication, and the batch was cancelled. The audit was performed on August 6 in the presence of the official political party observers. Machines are currently set highly sensitive. We will continue to stress the importance of the visual scan process during opening. This is one of the purposes of the automatic recount statute to recount ballots in close races.

Touch Screen Audit

In accordance with state law, Pierce County conducted an audit of results of votes cast on the touch screen voting machines. Pierce County Advisory Vote No. 1 and Port of Tacoma Commissioner contest was audited and two machines were chosen at random and audited. To conduct the audit, an election worker read the results from the voter verifiable paper audit trail and another election worker tallied the results. These results were compared to the results accumulated in the election tabulation system. No discrepancies or anomalies were found. The audit was conducted on machines 35258 and 35283.

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Mailing Statistics

Total number of undeliverable ballots returned by USPS	8,929
Received too late at customer service or a ballot drop box	70
Ballots postmarked too late	
Received - 8/6/2015	466
Received - 8/7/2015	155
Received - 8/10/2015	90
Received - 8/11/2015	51
Received - 8/12/2015	35
Received - 8/13/2015	19
Total number of ballots postmarked too late	816