

contest), the unit will notify the voter of the issue and allow the voter to either "accept" the ballot as completed or "return" the ballot to the voter without being counted so the voter may have the ballot "spoiled" by an election official and complete a new ballot.

3. If the ballot has no over-votes, the unit scans it in, records the votes in the internal memory of the device and separately on the memory card, and drops the voted ballot into the secure ballot box.

All of this takes only a matter of seconds!

At the end of the day after polls are closed, the Digital Scan device can tabulate and report the results of votes cast on the device. The units are then returned to the election's office with the memory card still sealed in the device and the voted ballots in secure containers for tabulation and reporting of County-wide election results.

Voters who chose to vote absentee will receive the same ballot as voters at the polls and simply mail them back to the Elections Department for tabulation, just as they do now.

Q. How will Nevada County accommodate the disabled voter?

A. The Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) units will allow voters with various disabilities to vote privately and independently. The DRE (Hart eSlate) is an accessible device the voter uses to make his or her selections. The unit has an audio component for voters with visual or reading limitations. Voters may use a headset and positive feedback wheel to make their selections. Voters can control the flow of the ballot by interrupting and moving to the next contest and can select other ballot presentation options programmed by the County. The eSlate voting booth also allows access from a wheelchair. Voters with limited dexterity may position themselves close to the unit and use tactile switches or a sip/puff device to move through the ballot. The eSlate is connected to the Judge's Booth Controller (JBC) in the polling place, which automatically records and stores two additional records of cast ballot information, one in its internal memory and one on the memory card. When the voter finishes voting and verifying his or her ballot, the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) prints a paper copy of the voter's selections and stores it in a secure container. After the polls close, the JBC can tabulate and report the

results of votes cast on the DRE. The JBC with the memory card still sealed inside and the VVPAT device with the paper audit trail records are all then transported to the elections office for tabulation of County-wide results and secure storage of the election data sources.

Q. What if I don't want to vote on an electronic voting machine?

A. Most ballots cast in Nevada County will continue to be paper ballots. The electronic voting machines, or DRE, have been purchased to provide accessibility to voters with disabilities. Of course, any voter who wishes may vote on the DRE.

Q. How do we know the system will be secure and count each vote?

A. California has the toughest voting system requirements and testing in the nation. For electronic voting systems, which are used in over half of California's counties, systems are required to produce a voter verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) of all votes. Every manual audit of this paper trail document against machine totals has shown that the systems reported every vote accurately. There is no evidence in California that any voter in any election has had their vote compromised when using an electronic voting machine.

Q. Since the Digital Scanner and JBC tabulate results, will results be available during Election Day?

A. No, the results tabulated by the Digital Scan unit and the JBC cannot be generated or viewed until the polls are closed, at which time the results will be posted outside each polling location, as per the Secretary of State's certification requirements.

Fair voting is the cornerstone of our democracy and nothing is more important than having secure, verifiable, accessible and accurate elections. The Nevada County elections department will conduct successful elections with dedication, honor and dignity. The election's office stands ready to answer all questions and provide an open forum for you to view all election processes and procedures.