CITIZENS GUIDE TO

ELECTION INTEGRITY

AMERICA'S HOME FOR ELECTION INTEGRITY

Election
INTEGRITY NETWORK

Dear Grassroots Patriots,

As the President of the Election Integrity Network (EIN), I am thrilled to welcome you to this newly updated edition of our Citizens Guide. This guide has been a cornerstone of our movement since its inception, and this refresh builds on the lessons we've learned together over the past four years, equipping you with even more practical tools and insights to strengthen our shared mission.

As the 2020 presidential general election unfolded, millions of Americans watched with dismay and puzzlement: Too many unexplained anomalies, too many odd happenings, too much that didn't make sense. That dismay and puzzlement, with a great deal of anger and many lingering questions, drove the spontaneous development of a movement—the election integrity movement. Election Integrity Network was founded in 2021 to lead that movement and has since become America's Election Integrity home. Over the past four years, EIN has hosted nearly a dozen statewide election integrity summits, attended by thousands of citizen volunteers, mobilizing them into more than two dozen state coalitions, a dozen national working groups on all the aspects of the election system, and recruited and trained thousands of citizens to engage as citizen volunteers in the election process.

This updated Citizens Guide is designed specifically to empower new coalitions like yours. It helps you identify the key steps to build a successful, sustainable coalition—from forming local task forces and engaging with election officials to leveraging technology, legal expertise, and grassroots strategies. More importantly, it points you to the essential questions you need to ask at every stage: Who are the key players in your state's election system? How can you ensure compliance with existing laws? What vulnerabilities exist in voting processes, and how can citizens step in to protect them? By addressing these foundational questions, you'll lay a strong groundwork for long-term success, turning your passion into effective action that safeguards our elections.

Whether you're just starting out in your community or expanding an existing group, this guide draws from the real-world experiences of patriots across the nation who have turned their concerns into concrete victories. We've seen firsthand how citizen engagement can expose irregularities, enforce transparency, and restore trust in our electoral systems. Now, it's your turn to join this vital work.

Thank you for your dedication to defending our republic. Together, we will ensure that every legal vote is counted—and only legal votes. Visit www.electionintegritynetwork.org to connect with our network, access additional resources, and stay updated on our summits and working groups. Let's build a brighter future for America, one honest election at a time.

Sincerely,

Sharon P. Bemis
President
Election Integrity Network

TABLE OF CONTEXT

TABLE OF CONTEXT

SECTION ONE
1.1 WHY CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT MATTERS
An overview of the importance of citizen engagement in electoral processes

Key Points to Understand:

- Informed, involved, and vigilant citizens help ensure secure and trustworthy elections.
- Democracy thrives when participation is widespread.
- While elections are local, rules are shaped by Federal and State entities—citizens must understand these mechanisms.
- All government depends upon fair, accurate and transparent elections
- Every battle begins at the ballot box: such as health care, education, security, taxes, etc.

A WORD ABOUT POLITICAL PARTIES

Election Integrity is not (or should not be) a partisan issue. This Citizens Guide is for all citizens, regardless of political party affiliation, political persuasion, or beliefs. All that is required is a commitment to the principle that 'the government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed' (as our Declaration of Independence says). The election system must be trusted by the people as fair and honest, giving neither side, nor any candidate, nor any political party an advantage. Most states require the active involvement of all political parties in the election system and apparatus. It is up to every individual who becomes involved with the election integrity network to choose for himself/herself which political party he/she wishes to join for purposes of applying the steps and actions described in this guide.

REVIEW & REFLECT

What does "vigilant citizenship" mean to you?

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_____

Why do you think participation is essential to a healthy democracy?

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_____

What are some rules or processes in your state that affect voting?

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SECTION ONE
1.2 HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Action Steps: Who do you know?

- Is there anyone focused on election integrity in your community or state?
- Start conversations with friends and neighbors about election concerns.
- Identify grassroots groups in your state with overlapping interests.

ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Group or coalition I could join:

_____

_____

_____

People I'd like to talk to about elections:

_____

_____

_____

First steps I'll take this month:

_____

_____

_____

7

SECTION ONE
1.3 Who Can Help? Resources, experts & partners

How to connect and become informed. . .

- EIN: Visit electionintegritynetwork.org for coalition info.

- Follow EIN on X @eiwatchdogs and on Facebook @electionintegritynetwork

- Follow our state coalitions on social media

- Local election offices, such as clerks, commissions, etc.

RESEARCH & RECORD

Expert or organization I want to learn from:

_____

_____

_____

Grassroots group I'll explore:

_____

_____

_____

Topics I want to understand better:

_____

_____

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SECTION ONE
1.4 HOW TO BUILD AN EI GROUP

Y**our Goals:**
- Build relationships with election officials.
- Understand my state laws and election processes.
- Unite people/friends/neighbors across counties to engage locally.
- Participate in public election meetings and discussions.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

What would a successful group in your area look like?

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_____

_____

Who are the key stakeholders you want involved?

_____

_____

_____

_____

What public meetings or events could you attend?

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_____

SECTION ONE
1.5 What Do I Need to Know? Ground Rules

Why It Matters: Knowing the rules helps you advocate effectively and protect voting rights in your community.

Understanding the Landscape of Election Integrity Efforts
Use these questions to explore who's already working on election-related issues in your area—and where you might plug in.

REVIEW & REFLECT

Who are the key people involved in these efforts?

_____

_____

_____

What processes or systems focus on (e.g., voter registration, ballot security, poll worker training)? Are these laws? Or policies?

_____

_____

_____

What's one action you could take this month to connect with one of these groups or your community to learn more?

_____

_____

_____

SECTION ONE
SUMMARY AND NOTES

Key Takeaways from Section 1.0:
- People like you are essential to maintaining secure, trustworthy elections.
- There are many ways to get involved—from joining groups to attending public forums.
- Understanding the people, processes, and rules that shape elections empowers you to advocate effectively.

REVIEW & REFLECT

What surprised you most in this section?

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_____
_____

What's one thing you'll commit to learning more about?

_____
_____
_____

Who could you talk to this week about election integrity?

_____
_____
_____

Additional Notes: Use this space to jot down ideas, questions, or resources you want to explore further.

_____
_____
_____

SECTION TWO
2.0 Understanding 3 Tiers of Election Laws: Federal, State and Local

Focus: Federal Election Laws That Shape Voting Access and Integrity

Key Federal Election Laws

Why?
These laws establish foundational protections and procedures for federal elections across the United States. They also impact what states and local officials can and cannot do.

What are they?
NVRA – National Voter Registration Act (1993)
Requires states to offer voter registration at motor vehicle departments, public assistance agencies, and through mail-in forms. It also sets rules for maintaining voter registration lists. Link to NVRA: https://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra

REVIEW & REFLECT

Do you know the regulations required under the NVRA?

_____

_____

How does your state implement these regulations?

_____

_____

What agencies in your community are required to offer voter registration?

_____

_____

HAVA – Help America Vote Act (2002)

Improves voting systems and access, especially for individuals with disabilities. It also created the Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

Link to HAVA: https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/house-bill/3295

REVIEW & REFLECT

What voting technology is used in your area?

_____

_____

_____

Are there resources available for voters with disabilities?

_____

_____

_____

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act (1990)

Requires polling places and election materials to be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

 Link to ADA: https://www.ada.gov/

REVIEW & REFLECT

Are polling places in your community ADA-compliant?

_____

_____

_____

What improvements could be made to ensure accessibility?

_____

_____

_____

Federal Records Act (1950)

Mandates proper documentation and retention of federal records, including election-related materials.

Link to Federal Records Act:
https://foia.state.gov/RecordsManagement/RecordsManagement2.aspx

REVIEW & REFLECT

Why is record keeping important for election transparency?

_____

_____

_____

What types of records should be preserved during elections?

_____

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UOCAVA – Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (1986)

Allows U.S. citizens living abroad and military personnel to vote absentee in federal elections.

Link to UOCAVA: https://www.justice.gov/crt/uniformed-and-overseas-citizens-absentee-voting-act

REVIEW & REFLECT

Do you know anyone who votes from overseas or while serving in the military?

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_____

How does your state support absentee voting for these groups?

_____

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SUMMARY & NOTES

Key Takeaways:

- Federal laws protect voter access, improve election systems, and ensure transparency.
- Understanding these laws helps you advocate for fair and secure elections.

Additional Notes:

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SECTION TWO
2.1 State Election Administration
Focus: Who's in Charge of Elections at the State Level

Key Federal Election Laws

I. Key State Officials- who they are and how do get their positions?

1. Secretary of State
- Often the chief election official in most states.
- Oversees voter registration, ballot design, election security, and certification of results.
- May issue guidance to local election officials and manage statewide voter databases.

2. State Election Board or Commission
- A bipartisan or nonpartisan body that sets election policies.
- Approves voting systems, monitors compliance, and may investigate complaints.
- Works closely with the Secretary of State or independently depending on the state.

3. State Legislators
- Create and modify election law such as decide on voter ID requirements, mail-in voting rules, early voting periods, and district boundaries.
- Their decisions directly impact how elections are run in your state.
- They may be involved in selecting those who run elections in your state.

Sources:

_____

_____

_____

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

KNOW YOUR STATE'S ELECTION AUTHORITIES

Who is your current Secretary of State?

_____

_____

Does your state have a State Election Board or Commission?

_____

_____

What recent election-related legislation has your state legislature passed?

_____

_____

Which office or agency handles voter registration in your state?

_____

_____

What are the responsibilities of each of these officials in your state?

_____

_____

SUMMARY & NOTES

Key Takeaways:

- State election administration varies widely.
- Understanding who sets the rules and oversees elections helps you engage more effectively.
- Your Secretary of State, State Board, and legislators all play critical roles.

Additional Notes:

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UNDERSTANDING ROLES & ACCOUNTABILITY

Explore the structure of election leadership in your state. Use these prompts to guide your research and reflection.

Do you know the job descriptions of your state's election officials?

Secretary of State: _____

State Election Board/Commission: _____

Legislators: _____

How do these officials become an election official? (Elected or appointed?)

Secretary of State: _____

State Election Board/Commission: _____

Legislators: _____

Who do they report to?

Secretary of State: _____

State Election Board/Commission: _____

Legislators: _____

Who reports to them?

Secretary of State: _____

State Election Board/Commission: _____

Legislators: _____

How does this structure impact election transparency and accountability in your state?

_____

_____

Reporting & Influence Paths:
Governor → Secretary of State
Secretary of State → State Election Board
Legislators → Influence both Secretary of State and Election Board

SECTION TWO
2.2 Local Election Administration
Focus: Who Oversees Elections in Your County or City

I. Who Are Your Local Election Officials?

Local election administration is often handled by:

- **County Clerk or Registrar:** Manages voter registration, absentee ballots, and election logistics.
- **Local Election Board or Commission:** Oversees polling places, certifies results, and ensures compliance with state and federal laws.
- **Municipal Clerks:** In cities or towns, they may handle local elections and coordinate with county officials.

II. How Do They Get Their Jobs?

- **County Clerks** are often elected by voters in the county.
- **Election Board Members** may be appointed by state or local officials, sometimes based on political party representation.
- **Municipal Clerks** are usually appointed by city councils or mayors.

III. Who Do They Report To?

- **County Clerks** typically report to the county government or directly to voters.
- **Election Boards** may report to the Secretary of State or operate independently under local statutes.
- **Municipal Clerks** report to city councils or local executive offices.

IV. How/When Do They Meet?

- Local election boards and commissions usually meet **regularly** (monthly or quarterly) and **publicly**, often posting agendas and minutes online.

- **Meetings may include:**
  - **Reviewing election procedures**
  - **Certifying results**
  - **Addressing public concerns**
  - **Coordinating with state officials**

You can check your county's website or local government portal for meeting schedules and minutes.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

KNOW YOUR LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS

Who is your county's election administrator or clerk?

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_____

Are they elected or appointed?

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_____

What responsibilities do they have in your community?

_____

_____

When and where do they hold public meetings?

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_____

What's one question you'd like to ask them?

_____

_____

SECTION THREE
3.1 DIG DEEPER
Understanding Local Election Administration

I. How to Get Involved at the Local Level – Part 1

Ways to Engage:
- Attend meetings of your local election board.
- Build relationships with local election administrators and board members.
- Recognize that many offices are understaffed and underfunded.
- Ask about their needs, priorities, and how volunteers can help.
- Read public meeting minutes to understand current issues.
- Ensure someone from your group attends every public meeting in person to show commitment.

KEY TIPS ON CONTACTS WITH AND CONDUCT AT ELECTION OFFICES:

1. *Always* go to election offices in pairs so there is always a witness to what transpires.

2. *Never* lose your temper or raise your voice.

3. *Smile* and remind whoever wants you out of there, that you're just gathering information and trying to help make the system better.

4. *Document* any encounter that is intended to make you uncomfortable being at the election offices.

5. *Always* be "right and polite."

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

BUILDING LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS

When and where does your local election board meet?

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Who are the key officials in your local election office?

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_____

What issues have been discussed in recent public meetings?

_____

_____

What are the top needs or priorities your local officials have identified?

_____

_____

How could you or your group offer support?

_____

_____

Who in your group will commit to attending the next public meeting?

_____

_____

SECTION THREE

3.2 Voter Roll Maintenance: How do you keep your voter rolls clean?

Key Actions:

- Obtain a copy of your county or state voter rolls.
- Learn how to check registration status.
- Understand how local officials update records (moves, deaths, voting history).
- Investigate address legitimacy (temporary, vacant, commercial).
- Review National Change of Address (NCOA) data and its impact.
- Track "inactive" status assignments and duration.
- Confirm whether postcards are sent to verify voter eligibility.
- Record and process any registration challenges according to state law.
- Join the National Voter Rolls Working Group for additional support.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

VOTER ROLL ACCURACY

Where can you obtain a copy of your local voter rolls?

_____

_____

What process does your local election office use to update voter records?

_____

_____

Does your state allow temporary or nonresidential addresses for registration?

_____

How is NCOA data used to update voter status?

_____

_____

What triggers "inactive" status and what does it mean in your state?

_____

_____

Are voters who haven't voted in two federal elections sent confirmation postcards?

_____

Have you or your group submitted any registration challenges?

_____

What was the outcome of those challenges?

_____

_____

What ideas from other states could help improve voter roll accuracy in your area?

_____

_____

Additional Resources:

EIN National Working Groups:
- Voter Eligibility & Voter Rolls
- Citizens ONLY in American Politics & Voting
- Banning Third Party Election Interference
-

Key Takeaways:
- Voter registration and roll maintenance are foundational to election integrity.
- Understanding your state's laws and processes helps you advocate effectively.
- EIN's National Working Groups offer valuable resources and connections.

Additional Notes:

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SECTION FOUR

4.1 Who votes? Voter eligibility and voter rolls
Focus: Voter Registration & Voter Roll Maintenance: Who is casting a vote?

TOPIC: Who Votes – Voter Registration & Eligibility Basics

I. Voter Registration Basics

Key Concepts:
- Understand how voter registration works in your state.
- Know who is eligible to register (age, residency, citizenship).
- Ensure only eligible U.S. citizens are voting.
- Learn how states maintain accurate voter databases.
- Meet with local officials to understand their processes.
- Report suspicious registration activity.
- Learn how your state protects vulnerable voters.
- Understand terms like "active" and "inactive" voters under NVRA/HAVA.
- Join EIN's National Voter Roll Working Group for insights from other states.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

VOTER REGISTRATION AWARENESS

What is the voter registration deadline in your state?

_____

What are the eligibility requirements to register?

_____

Does your state constitution explicitly limit voting to U.S. citizens?

_____

How often does your state update its voter registration database?

_____

Who are your local election officials, and how do they maintain voter rolls?

_____

What protections exist for vulnerable voters (nursing homes, group homes, etc) in your state?

_____

What do "active" and "inactive" voter statuses mean in your state?

_____

Have you considered joining the EIN National Voter Roll Working Group?

_____

SECTION FOUR

4.2 Voter Roll Maintenance: How do you keep your voter rolls clean?

Focus: Voter Registration & Voter Roll Maintenance: Who is casting a vote?

Key Actions:

- Obtain a copy of your county or state voter rolls.
- Learn how to check registration status.
- Understand how local officials update records (moves, deaths, voting history).
- Investigate address legitimacy (temporary, vacant, commercial).
- Review National Change of Address (NCOA) data and its impact.
- Track "inactive" status assignments and duration.
- Confirm whether postcards are sent to verify voter eligibility.
- Record and process any registration challenges according to state law.
- Join the National Voter Rolls Working Group for additional support.

VOTER ROLL ACCURACY

Where can you obtain a copy of your local voter rolls?

_____

What process does your local election office use to update voter records?

_____

Does your state allow temporary or nonresidential addresses for registration?

_____

How is NCOA data used to update voter status?

_____

What triggers "inactive" status and what does it mean in your state?

_____

Are voters who haven't voted in two federal elections sent confirmation postcards?

_____

Have you or your group submitted any registration challenges?

_____

What was the outcome of those challenges?

_____

What ideas from other states could help improve voter roll accuracy in your area?

_____

_____

_____

SUMMARY & NOTES

Additional Resources:

EIN National Working Groups:
- Voter Eligibility & Voter Rolls
- Citizens ONLY in American Politics & Voting
- Banning Third Party Election Interference

Key Takeaways:
- Voter registration and roll maintenance are foundational to election integrity.
- Understanding your state's laws and processes helps you advocate effectively.
- EIN's National Working Groups offer valuable resources and connections.

Additional Notes:

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SECTION FIVE

5.1 When and where do you vote?
Focus: Early Voting, Ballot Security, and Election Infrastructure

I. Voting Method Basics

Key Concepts:
- Early voting options vary by state and may include in-person, mail-in, or satellite voting.
- Ballot return methods include USPS, drop boxes, or in-person delivery.
- Security measures like chain of custody, signature verification, and internet disconnection are essential.
- Ballot deadlines and post-election counting rules differ by state.

REVIEW & REFLECT

VOTER ROLL ACCURACY

Does your state offer early voting? If so, how many days before the election begins?

_____

What types of early voting are available?

- ☐ In-person at precinct
- ☐ Mail-in ballots
- ☐ Remote / Satellite voting centers

Notes: _____

Are remote/satellite locations used only for early voting, or also on Election Day?

_____

How are ballots from remote/satellite locations returned?

☐ USPS   ☐ Drop Box   ☐ Other:

How are drop boxes secured in your state?

_____

Does your state require all ballots to be received by the close of polls on Election Day?

_____

If counting continues after Election Day, how many days are allowed?

_____

Are voting machines inspected for internet connections before use?

_____

What chain of custody procedures are used to secure ballots?

_____

How is signature verification conducted for absentee or mail-in ballots?

_____

SUMMARY & NOTES

Additional Resources:

EIN National Working Groups:
- Election Day / Ballot Security / Voter Protection
- Transparency & Accuracy
- Protecting the Military Vote
- Banning Third Party Election Interference
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Key Takeaways:
- Voting methods and ballot security vary widely across states.
- Understanding your state's rules helps ensure transparency and voter confidence.
- EIN's Working Groups offer resources to improve and advocate for secure voting practices.

Additional Notes:

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SECTION SIX

6.1 How do you vote? Election Technology & Audit Basics

Focus: Understanding Voting Systems, Oversight, and Security

I. Election Technology Basics
- Identify the voting equipment and software used in your state and county.
- Understand how systems are purchased, who approves them, and whether the public has input.
- Explore concerns raised about current systems and how counties differ.
- Learn about testing, training, and vendor contracts.
- Investigate ballot production, marking methods, and tabulation systems.
- Examine ancillary technologies like e-poll books and voter registration databases.
- Advocate for secure voting methods like paper ballots and VVPAT.
- Support election security measures that protect infrastructure from interference.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

TECHNOLOGY IN YOUR COMMUNITY

What voting equipment or software is used in your county?

_____

Who decides which systems are purchased and how?

_____

Does the public have a voice in these decisions?

_____

What concerns have been raised about your local voting systems?

_____

Do all counties in your state use the same system? If not, who approves the differences?

_____

What testing and training opportunities exist for election technology?

_____

Who holds contracts with voting system vendors, and how are they approved?

_____

Are ballots produced and counted by the same system/vendor?

_____

Are ballots marked by machine or hand in your area?

_____

Do ballots have security features like watermarks?

_____

Are electronic tabulators used to count all votes?

_____

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

TECHNOLOGY IN YOUR COMMUNITY

What other technology is used (e.g., e-poll books, registration systems)? Who provides it?

_____

Who ensures equipment updates and maintenance?

_____

What secure voting methods are used in your community?

_____

What election security measures are in place to prevent interference?

_____

Sources:

_____

_____

_____

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SECTION SIX

6.2 Technology Audit Basics: Do the systems do what they are supposed to do?

Key Concepts:

- Learn how machines are tested before elections (Logic & Accuracy testing).
- Understand how machines are programmed and verified.
- Track daily reports during elections.
- Review post-election artifacts like reconciliation reports, absentee ballots, and provisional ballots.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

AUDITING ELECTION TECHNOLOGY

PRE-ELECTION

Who programs the machines for each election?

_____

When and where is Logic & Accuracy testing scheduled?

_____

What software versions are used for each election?

_____

DURING ELECTION

What daily reports are generated during voting?

_____

How are ballot counts verified by machines?

_____

POST ELECTION

What reconciliation reports are available?

_____

How are provisional ballots handled?

_____

How are absentee ballots tracked and counted?

_____

What reports exist for nursing home and UOCAVA ballots?

_____

Is there a permanent mail-in ballot report?

_____

SUMMARY & NOTES

Additional Resources:

EIN National Working Groups:
- Technology & Security
- Transparency & Accuracy
- Banning Third Party Election Interference
-

Key Takeaways:
- Election technology must be secure, transparent, and verifiable.
- Understanding how systems are chosen, tested, and audited helps protect election integrity.
- EIN's Working Groups offer expert guidance and best practices.

Additional Notes:

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SECTION SEVEN
7.1 Who's Counting Your Vote?
Focus: Tabulation, Transparency, and Post-Election Audits

II. Vote Counting Basics

Key Concepts:
- Some ballots (like absentee or early votes) may be tabulated before polls close, depending on state law.
- Early voting ballots are often scanned and stored securely until counting begins.
- Election integrity depends on accurate tabulation and public trust.
- Bipartisan teams count votes under public observation.
- Paper ballots or backups are essential for audits and recounts.
- Post-election audits verify results and build confidence.
- Transparency measures include public data access and clear result reporting.

WORKBOOK ACTIVITY

UNDERSTANDING VOTE COUNTING IN YOUR STATE

Are any ballots counted before polls close in your state? If so, which ones?

_____

How are early voting ballots handled—scanned, stored, or tabulated?

_____

Who is responsible for counting votes in your county?

_____

Are bipartisan teams used for vote counting? How are they selected?

_____

Is the vote counting process open to public observation?

_____

Does your state use paper ballots or voter-verified paper audit trails (VVPAT)?

_____

Are post-election audits required or optional in your state?

_____

What types of audits are conducted (risk-limiting, hand count, etc.)?

_____

Where can you find publicly accessible election data and results?

_____

What transparency measures are in place to ensure public trust?

_____

SUMMARY & NOTES

Additional resources:

EIN National Working Groups:
- Transparency & Accuracy
- Technology & Security
- Banning Third Party Election Interference

Key Takeaways:
- Accurate vote counting is the cornerstone of election integrity.
- Bipartisan oversight and public transparency build trust in the process.
- Post-election audits and paper backups are essential safeguards.

Additional Notes:

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SECTION EIGHT

8.1 Model Policies to Secure Elections: US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights

Focus: Strengthening Election Integrity Through Proven Reforms

These model policies reflect best practices promoted by EIN National Working Groups and are designed to enhance transparency, security, and public trust in elections. Go to our website:

https://www.electionintegritynetwork.org/elections-bill-of-rights

Restore Election Day as the Primary Voting Day

Policy Goals:
- Limit early voting to a short, defined window.
- Allow absentee voting only with valid excuses.
- Ensure protections for vulnerable voters (e.g., nursing homes, military, overseas).

REVIEW & REFLECT

UNDERSTANDING VOTE COUNTING IN YOUR STATE

How many days of early voting does your state currently allow?

_____

What are the accepted excuses for absentee voting?

_____

What protections exist for vulnerable voters in your state?

_____

Would restoring Election Day as the primary voting day improve trust in your community?

_____

SECTION EIGHT
8.2 Voter ID Requirements

Policy Goals:
- Require government-issued photo ID for all voters.
- Ensure IDs verify citizenship and residency.

REVIEW & REFLECT

What forms of ID are currently accepted in your state?

Does your state verify citizenship during registration?

What challenges exist for implementing voter ID in your area?

SECTION EIGHT
8.3 Voter Registration Integrity

Policy Goals:
- Ensure only eligible voters are on the rolls.
- Conduct regular audits and updates.
- Remove deceased, duplicate, or ineligible registrants.

REVIEW & REFLECT

How often are voter rolls audited in your state?

_____

What systems are used to verify eligibility?

_____

What improvements could be made to your state's registration process?

_____

SECTION EIGHT
8.4 Accuracy and Transparency

Policy Goals:
- Require independent audits before and after elections.
- Audit voter rolls, voting machines, and tabulation software.
- Ensure public access to election data and audit results.

REVIEW & REFLECT

Are pre- and post-election audits conducted in your state?

_____

Is election data publicly accessible?

_____

What transparency measures would improve public trust?

_____

SECTION EIGHT
8.5 Secure Election Technology

Policy Goals:
- Use open-source software for voting systems.
- Prohibit wireless connectivity in all election equipment.

REVIEW & REFLECT

Does your state use open-source or proprietary voting software?

_____

Are voting machines inspected for wireless capabilities?

_____

What technology reforms would improve election security?

_____

SECTION EIGHT
8.6 Precinct-Based Voting

Policy Goals:
- Require voters to cast ballots in their assigned precinct.
- Eliminate vote centers that allow out-of-precinct voting.

REVIEW & REFLECT

Does your state use precinct-based voting or vote centers?

_____

What are the pros and cons of precinct-based voting in your area?

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SECTION EIGHT
8.7 Precinct-Based Voting

Policy Goals:
- Prohibit drop boxes for ballot return.
- Require secure chain of custody and signature verification.
- Limit ballot return to USPS or in-person delivery.

REVIEW & REFLECT

Are drop boxes used in your state? How are they secured?

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What chain of custody procedures are in place for absentee ballots?

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What reforms would improve absentee ballot security?

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SUMMARY & NOTES

Key Takeaways:
- Model policies offer a roadmap for strengthening election integrity.
- Each reform area addresses a specific vulnerability or public concern.
- Advocating for these policies requires understanding your state's current laws and systems.

Additional Notes:

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CONCLUSION
The Heart of Election Integrity

Dear Election Integrity Advocate,

At its heart, election integrity is about people — citizens who care enough to show up, pay attention, and take responsibility for the process that protects our freedom. It's about neighbors working side by side to ensure every vote is counted, and every voice is heard.

Every action you take — attending a training, volunteering at the polls, sharing what you've learned — helps strengthen confidence in our elections. Your involvement makes a difference. Your persistence ensures accountability.

Free and fair elections don't happen by accident. They are built through trust, transparency, and teamwork — one community, one state, one citizen at a time.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." That vigilance begins with us — ordinary Americans who choose to stay informed, engaged, and committed to preserving the principles that make our republic strong.

Let this workbook serve as more than just a reference — let it be a reminder that you are part of something larger: a nationwide movement to safeguard our democratic process.

Together, we protect the foundation of our freedom.

Sara Vieira
Coalitions Director | Election Integrity Network
America's Home for Election Integrity

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