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NEWS RELEASE --- IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Snapshot Protocol" Training Seminar to be Held to Thwart Election Fraud

Group seeks Volunteers throughout CA and in many U.S. States to Implement the Protocol

San Diego Training Seminar to be Web-Cast Nationwide

WHEN: 12:00 Noon (PT), Sunday, October 12 (Gather at 11:30a) until 1p or later.
WHERE: World Resources Simulation Center, 1088 3rd Ave, San Diego, California 92101
WEBCAST: Ustream.tv, CitizensOversight channel
WHO: The meeting is nonpartisan and open to the public; nominal donation suggested.
MEDIA: Mr. Lutz will be available for interviews before and after the event.

(Oct 7, 2014) SAN DIEGO -- Citizens' Oversight Projects (COPS) will be holding a training session on the "Snapshot Protocol", on Sunday, October 12, starting at 12:00p PT (Noon). Participants are invited to gather at 11:30am for social networking and light lunch snacks. The event will be held at the World Resources Simulation Center at 1088 3rd Ave, San Diego, 92101. Studio audience seating is limited to 50 attendees.

The event will be webcast on the CitizensOversight channel on UStream.tv web site free of charge for nationwide viewing.

The "Snapshot Protocol" was developed after an in-depth top-to-bottom review of the San Diego County Registrar of Voters by COPS starting in 2008. The oversight protocol is based on gathering information at key times in the post-election processing period and then performing some post-election analysis. The total time for volunteers is only a few hours at each election cycle.

We are seeking volunteers to learn the protocol and implement it statewide and nationally, in states that use durable paper ballots that can be recounted, and have a post-election audit procedure. Alaska, Connecticut, Montana, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, and West Virginia are compatible. Also, the states of Nevada, New York, Oregon, and Wisconsin may be compatible. COPS will need to review the

actual procedures used in each state and election district where volunteer teams are ready to implement the procedure to confirm that they are indeed compatible.

"Although we are making no accusations of impropriety, election fraud is possible by hacking central tabulator results," said Ray Lutz, electrical and software engineer, founder of Citizens Oversight, and designer of the Snapshot Protocol. "If such election fraud were to occur, we expect the election would be flipped from many pre-election polls with a substantial margin of victory of at least 5% -- so no one would entertain an expensive recount, and no automatic recount is triggered."

Lutz said that the San Diego County Registrar, Michael Vu, has been very cooperative in the past and that COPS anticipates no resistance to implementing the Snapshot Protocol in San Diego in this (and future) elections.

If the protocol is successful in detecting any election fraud, additional work by volunteers may be needed to diagnose who, what and how the fraud is occurring. "Our election process is a sacred element of our democracy, and it is our job as citizens to provide oversight to ensure no impropriety is occurring," Lutz said. "Fortunately, this simple procedure can thwart most central-tabulator vulnerabilities, as long as we implement it.

"There is no panacea solution that does not also require diligent oversight," continued Lutz. "No matter how the ballots are counted, we still need citizen oversight to thwart tabulator hacks and other vulnerabilities. Unfortunately, not enough structured oversight is being applied to this critical area to insure that the mechanisms of our democracy are functioning properly."

COPS hopes to partner with other national organizations that can help to quickly deploy this simple oversight protocol in as many locations as possible, while COPS will remain the central clearinghouse for all the information on the website, CopsWiki.org.

For more information, call Ray Lutz at 619-820-5321. or email at raylutz@citizensoversight.org

More information on the Snapshot Protocol project can be found at:
http://www.copswiki.org/Common/SnapshotProtocol

The 79-page in-depth report on the San Diego Registrar of Voters can be found here:
http://www.copswiki.org/Common/COPsRovReport

ABOUT COPS:
Citizens Oversight Projects (COPS), AKA Citizens Oversight, Inc, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, based in Delaware and with offices in San Diego County, CA, and chapters located in a number of locations nationally. COPS promotes active civic engagement by citizens in public meetings and election integrity oversight. Recently COPS has represented ratepayers at California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proceedings on the San Onofre Nuclear Power Station shutdown ($3.3. billion settlement proposal), is working to reopen the East County Performing Arts Center in El Cajon, and worked with the community to block Blackwater from expanding into Potrero in East San Diego County. Mr. Lutz, founder of COPS, was arrested in 2011 for attempting to register voters in the Civic Center Plaza of San Diego and prevailed in his lawsuit against the City of San Diego and management companies for unlawful arrest.

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