

**Citizens' Oversight Projects (COPs)**

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November 12, 2020



To: Georgia Election Officials in all Georgia  
Counties

CC: Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger

**REQUEST TO PRESERVE AND SECURE BALLOT IMAGES DURING HAND RECOUNT**

Dear Georgia Election Officials:

The whole nation is watching the recount of the presidential contest in Georgia.

Our organization provides routine oversight of elections. We specialize in reviewing ballot images and other electronic records<sup>1</sup>.

The new Dominion ballot scanner/tabulators create images of each ballot. This is true for both absentee/mail ballots and for BMD (ballot marking device) ballot summaries. These ballot images represent an extremely important audit trail. The Dominion software creates one TIF file for each ballot sheet, where that file has three pages, the front, back, and the "AuditMark", which provides the machine interpretation of voter intent.

Although a hand recount is considered the gold standard for determining the actual outcome, there is some chance that the ballots themselves may be modified by someone with access to the paper ballots. If the outcome is changed, we will want to obtain the ballot images to investigate the reason for the change, and to ensure that the physical ballots were not maliciously modified, removed or added.

We have the following requests:

1. Please confirm that you will PRESERVE and SECURE the ballot images. This means you will not delete them, and that no changes will be made during the course of the recount.

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<sup>1</sup> We have developed an auditing tool called AuditEngine, that can compare the results from the ballot images with the official result, which you can learn more about at <https://copswiki.org/Common/AuditEngine>.

2. Please provide a summary listing, in electronic form, of the ballot image file names from this election. For the Dominion system you are using, these are TIF files. This file listing will be extensive, so please do not print it on paper. There will be one TIF file for each ballot processed, and thus one line in the summary listing. By providing this file list we learn nothing about the votes on any ballot, nor anything about the voters, only that you have indeed preserved the ballot images, and that the number of images matches the total count of votes from your county. Please see the detailed instructions for creating the file lists attached below.
3. If you would prefer, we will accept that you provide all the ballot images instead.

Please upload:

- a. Ballot image archives (ZIP), each no larger than 10GB.
- b. Cast Vote Records (ZIP) or .xlsx or .csv which is usually only a few MBs. The current edition of Dominion creates many JSON files. These should be all zipped into a single archive.

Simply click the following link and upload the files directly to this secure site. This is Sharefile.com, and is a safe link to visit.

<https://citizenoversightinc.sharefile.com/r-rbe792ec62354422>

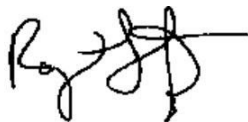
If any of the archives are larger than 10GB or if you would like, you can copy the requested files to a USB drive and mail it to the address in the header. We can provide a new USB drive sent directly from the vendor if you don't have one available. Please let us know if you want to use this option.

**PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL FOR YOUR RESPONSE:**

[citizenoversight.inbox@gmail.com](mailto:citizenoversight.inbox@gmail.com)

Thank you for your kind assistance.

Sincerely,



Raymond Lutz  
Executive Director, Citizens' Oversight Projects

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROVIDING BALLOT IMAGE FILE LISTINGS:

You should have a set of ZIP archives containing the final ballot images from the election. These are normally produced by your election management system upon request.

You may have more than one ZIP file depending on the number of ballots cast. To list the contents of each archive, you will need to use a helper utility. If you are working on Windows, we recommend you use the utility available for free at this URL:

<http://infozip.sourceforge.net/UnZip.html>

On a Mac or Linux computer, the unzip command is already installed and available.

Simply perform the following command from the command line interface:

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unzip -l ARCHIVENAME.ZIP >ARCHIVE_NAME_list.txt
```

for each of the archives, where ARCHIVENAME is the name of the archive on your machine. This will produce one listing file for each archive. You will likely have only one archive unless you have over about 50,000 ballots cast in your county.

Please provide the file listings as attachments to [citizenoversight.inbox@gmail.com](mailto:citizenoversight.inbox@gmail.com)

For example, a Dominion archive is named D01.zip and has a size of 7,965,257,055 bytes. It contains 51,205 files. When the file list is created, it is a text file with 9,073,030 bytes and will email. If you would like to, please zip all the list files, as they will compress well. In this example, the file listing zip file is only 556K.

Thanks again.