

1% Manual Tally Observations in San Diego

Ray Lutz -- 2022-11-17

I spent just under 2 hours observing the 1% manual tally and other aspects in San Diego on Nov 17, 2022, 9 calendar days after election day.

1. The Random Draw occurred on Nov 10. There were at least two volunteers at the meeting, Garrett Lutz and another volunteer. They did not video record the meeting.

Here is a "bad" random draw procedure done in Palm Beach County, FL. This was to choose the one contest to be audited, because Florida randomly chooses that single contest, and so this becomes a very critical selection process.

<https://copswiki.org/Common/M1719>

2. Picked up the CD of the "snapshot" data which is the frozen data from election night. This has been a standard request once we figured out that we could not compare with the final results, because they do not include the "later processed" VBM ballots.
3. Newbies to audits should review this video: <https://youtu.be/aTgRVcLKpE0>
4. The number of ballots still uncounted and not included in the 1% manual tally is roughly about 40% of the total election, more than 400K ballots. The exclusion of these ballots is getting to be quite ridiculous now, and is an example of how the election officials will adopt a ridiculous position as long as they can win a court case.
5. The scanning center has 8 of these big Innotech scanners. All were quiet.



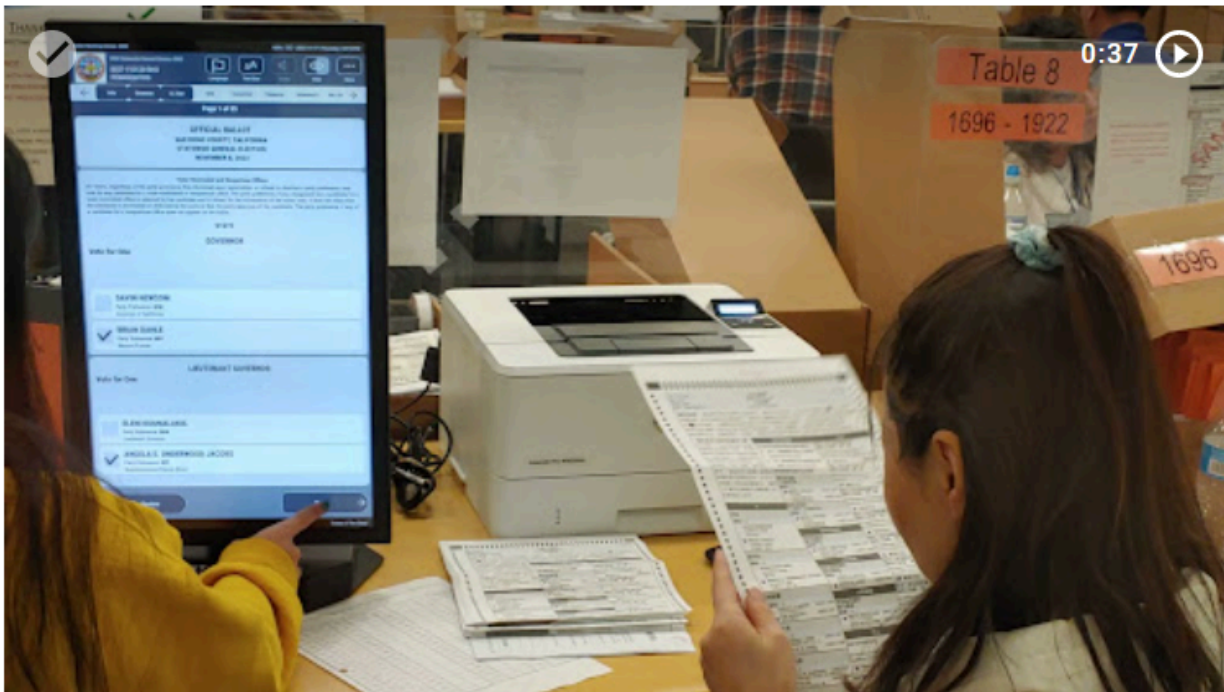
6. I watched workers transcribing votes from hand-marked paper ballots to BMD ballots. They had 8 two-person teams doing this work.



7. One team was workers familiar with Chinese characters and transcribing from a Chinese hand-marked paper ballot to Chinese BMD ballot summary. These are all obviously not included in the audit. They did not check the paper, but checked the screen twice, by looking at the English version on the screen, and then clicked "use Chinese" and then the BMD was printed in Chinese. Of course, this defeats the purpose of having a Chinese BMD. I'm not sure why they are remaking these ballots. I would think these hand marked paper ballots could be processed, but directing these for remaking may be

simply to make sure they avoid the 1% manual tally.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/SL4fM7VYGcwevV9u5> <-- click to view video clip



Here is another clip: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Myz31LsWoYoqxsNJA>

8. They had two workers working on adjudication stations.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/3zX2878T74a3qhw28>

Regarding the 1% manual tally:



1. The teams have two workers tallying on large tally sheets, maybe 11 x 17 in size, while another worker reads the marks on the ballot. There is no 4th worker watching as the first worker reads. All work was done with black pencil, and they also had erasers.

Here is a picture of a typical tally sheet used by San Diego County in 2016. I think they are about the same. This image does show "Blank", "Write-In", and "Overvote". Click link for high resolution image.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/gLK2Bt4zdbLDjXFU9>

MAIL BALLOTS		SEQ: 32	CONS: 110150	ONE PERCENT MANUAL TALLY SHEET - June 7, 2016 Presidential Primary Election		Supervisor's Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>
BALLOTS	136					
Total VOTES CAST:						
PRESIDENT - DEMOCRATIC						
BERNIE SANDERS	23					
Total VOTES CAST:						
HENRY HEWES						
Total VOTES CAST:						
HILLARY CLINTON	100					
Total VOTES CAST:						
KEITH JUDD						
Total VOTES CAST:						
MICHAEL STEINBERG						
Total VOTES CAST:						
ROQUE DE LA FUENTE						
Total VOTES CAST:						
WILLIE WILSON						
Total VOTES CAST:						
BLANK						
Total VOTES CAST:						
WRITE-IN						
Total VOTES CAST:						
OVERVOTE						
Total VOTES CAST:						
PRESIDENT - REPUBLICAN						
BEN CARSON	1					
Total VOTES CAST:						
DONALD TRUMP	25					
Total VOTES CAST:						
JIM GILMORE						
Total VOTES CAST:						
JOHN R. KASICH	6					
Total VOTES CAST:						
TED CRUZ	4					
Total VOTES CAST:						
BLANK						
Total VOTES CAST:						
WRITE-IN						
Total VOTES CAST:						
OVERVOTE						
Total VOTES CAST:						

2. Here is a video from a prior election and the process is still about the same.
<https://copswiki.org/Common/M1903>
3. I watched the workers call over the official to tell them what to do about a mark that was slightly out of the oval, but closer to one than the other. He instructed them to regard it as an undervote, rather than what I would have thought was the correct voter intent. This would then allow the correlation with the machine count more closely. So their interpretation of the marks in the 1% manual tally is according to how the machine would treat the marks, rather than voter intent. There was no logging done about this.
4. One of the teams got to the end of their batch #131. They looked at each contest. The tally sheet provides by inspection (without counting) the count of the tally marks. They wrote this count into the box at the left for each contest. Then they swapped sheets and checked the counts again. Then they compared the counts on the two sheets. In one contest, they did not agree, so they erased the pencil count and adjusted it to match the tally marks.
5. The team that had completed their batch #131 called for the supervisor to come over and check their totals. He stood with a clipboard and totals sheet printed out by the EMS. They could not see what he had on his sheet. Many contests were crossed out on his sheet. I asked him why those contests were crossed out on his summary sheet, and he said it was because in that batch, those contests were not included. He said this was determined by the election system. But if they did find that one of the contests was included, the team would ask him for a tally sheet.
6. The checking process would proceed like this: The supervisor would say the contest name, like "Water board, are you there?" -- "Yes", they would say. Then he would say "Alice Doe". They would say the vote, like "46". If it matched, he would say "check" and check it off. No one except for me watched the comparison process, so he could have said check and checked it off even if it did not match.
7. At first, he would only ask for candidates with votes. So if Alice Doe had 46 and Bob Smith had zero votes, he would say "Alice Doe" they would say "46", he says "check". Then he would not ask for the votes for Bob Smith because on his sheet he had 0. So I asked him why he did not ask for those and he said "Because they had no votes." But then I said he should ask them for their totals anyway. And then he started doing that, as well as getting the overvotes, and writeins, which were commonly also 0.
8. In the review of 2 of the contests, the tally interpretation did not match exactly with the computer report. He wrote down the totals that they reported and he did not say "check". They put a tiny sticky tab on their tally sheet for each contest and he put a sticky note on his tally sheet. To my knowledge, there was no logging of this issue except for what he put on his sheet. Thus, except for the check mark, there is no separate record of the

comparison process.

9. After they had reviewed all the rest of the contests in the comparison process, they were told to re-tally those two contests. The two contests were Helmsworth for Justice and Prop 26, both off by one. I did not stay for the re-tally process.
10. The batches they were processing would hold only about 200 ballots. They sometimes had a mix of BMD and HMPB in the box, as was the case for #131. There were brown boxes and white boxes. The representative who was from the front office, not the tally workers, was asked how many ballots were in each batch. She said that it was 200 but could be as few as 1, because in some voting centers, there was very low turnout in the early days, and they would pick up whatever they had each day, and it would be kept in the same batch box. so if they had only one voter that day, the batch would have only one ballot.