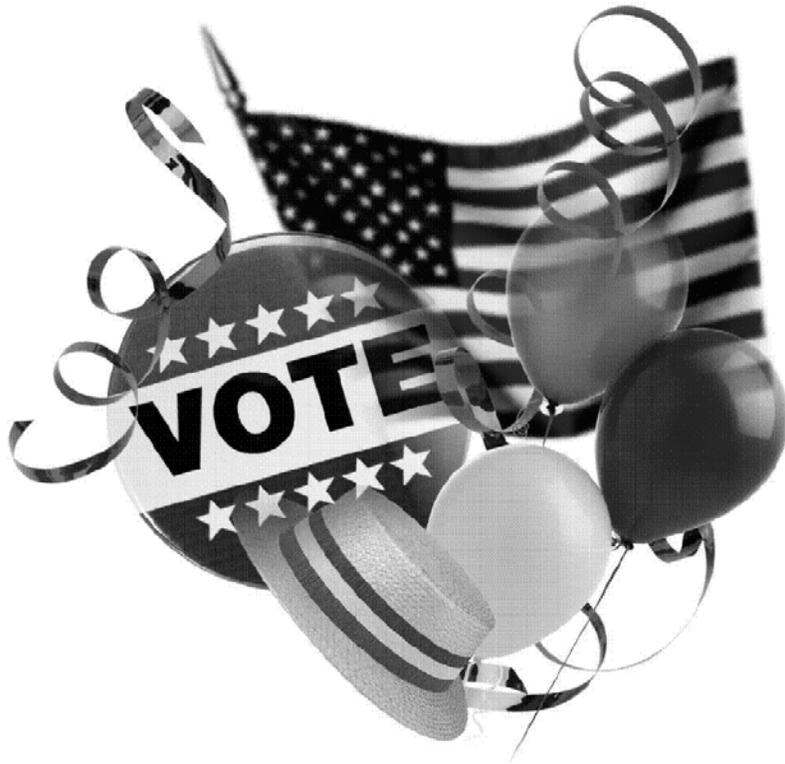


2014

Post-Election Review Guide



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1.0 Introduction

This guide is for Election Officials and their staff who may be participants in a post-election review of voting systems (PER). Please use this guide with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State (OSS) publication “Minnesota Election Laws.” Citations in this guide refer to the Minnesota election laws (M.S. citations) or rules (M.R. citations). Full text of the Minnesota election laws and rules can be found at the OSS Elections Statutes and Rules webpage located at <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=588>. If you are using an interactive electronic version of this guide, you may simply click on the citations to retrieve current statute or rule.

Portions of this guide contain procedures based on best practices, rather than statute or rule. If employing these portions, do not consider the information to hold the same authority as that information governed by federal and state law.

2.0 Review Officials

The post-election review official is the county auditor unless the auditor designates the municipal clerk as the post-election review official within 24 hours after the canvass of the state general election. The review official must submit the results in writing to the county auditor. The county auditor must then immediately submit the results of the post-election review electronically or in writing to the Secretary of State not later than two days before the State Canvassing Board meets to canvass the election. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 3](#); [206.895](#))

3.0 Post-Election Review

The PER is mandated for the election for President or Governor; United States Senator and United States Representative after each state general election. However, no review is required if the election for the office will be subject to a recount as provided in [M.S. 204C.35, subdivision 1](#). The post-election review official may conduct a post-election review of the votes cast for additional offices as well. The review is a comparison of a hand count of the ballots for each eligible election in the precinct with the results from the electronic voting system. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 2a](#); [206.89, subd. 3](#))

4.0 Review Expenses

The cost of conducting the PER must be allocated as follows:

- The governing body responsible for each precinct selected for review must pay the costs incurred for the initial review and any needed additional reviews at the precinct and county levels.
- If the county level reviews demonstrate a discrepancy greater than one-half of one percent, and the reviewed votes comprise 10 percent or more of the total votes cast in that race, a district-wide review must be conducted. The Secretary of State must reimburse local units of government for the costs of district-wide reviews; and
- The vendor of the voting system must pay any costs incurred by the Secretary of State to examine and recertify the voting system. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 9](#))

5.0 Precinct Selection and Review Notification

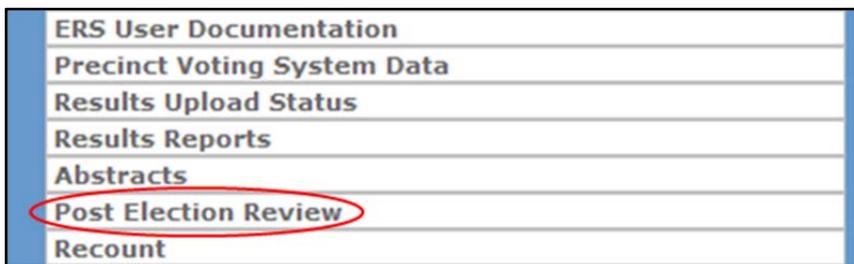
At the canvass of the state primary, the county canvassing board in each county must set the date, time, and place for the post-election review of the state general election. The post-election review must not begin before the 11th day after the state general election. **The PER must be completed no later than the 18th day after the state general election**, two days before the meeting of the State Canvassing Board.

The county auditor must immediately notify OSS of the PER Location, Date and Time determined at the primary canvass. Instructions on how to notify OSS will be provided to counties before State Primary Election Day. Typically, OSS will set up an online survey and email the page link to counties for them to report the PER location, date and time. The post-election review details for each county will be posted on the OSS website at <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=1156>.

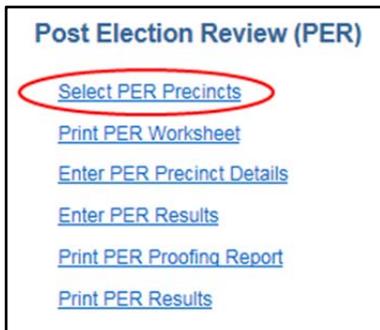
At the canvass of the state general election, the county canvassing boards must select by lot the precincts to be reviewed. The ballots to be reviewed for a precinct include **both** the ballots counted at the polling place for that precinct and the absentee ballots counted centrally by a ballot board for that precinct. The number of precincts to be reviewed is dependent upon the number of registered voters in the county. For a county with

- Less than 50,000 registered voters, a total of at least two precincts must be reviewed;
- Between 50,000 and 100,000 registered voters, a total of at least three precincts must be reviewed;
- More than 100,000 registered voters, a total of at least four precincts, or three percent of the total number of precincts, whichever is greater, must be reviewed. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 2](#))

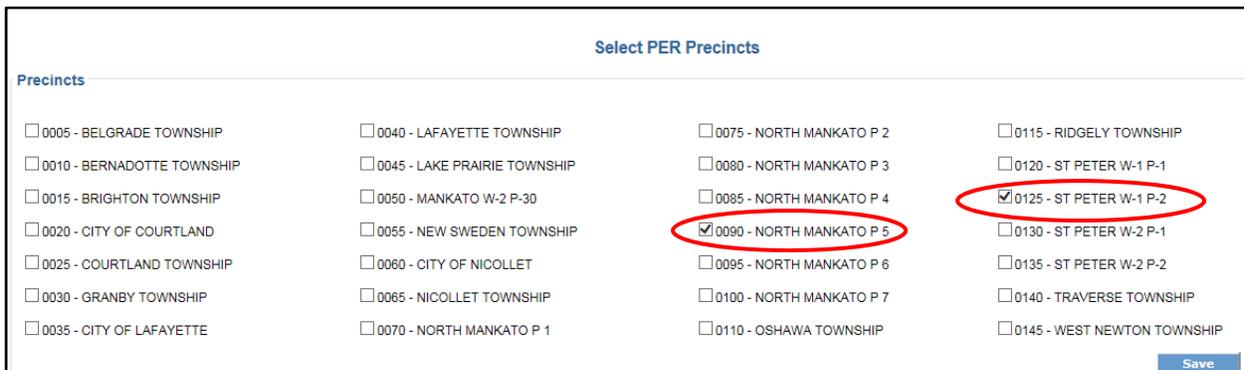
At least one precinct selected in each county must have had more than 150 votes cast at the general election. (The count of votes cast is the combined total of polling place votes and absentee votes.) The county auditor must notify the Secretary of State of the precincts chosen for review, along with the time and place the review will be conducted as soon as the decisions are made. Notification to OSS is made by marking the precincts selected for review in the Election Reporting System (ERS).



ERS County User Menu



ERS PER Menu



ERS PER Precincts selection screen

At least four precincts must be selected in each congressional district. If the selection process has not resulted in this condition being met, the Secretary of State may require counties to select by lot additional precincts to meet the congressional district requirement.

6.0 Standard of Acceptable Performance by a Voting System

The comparison of the results from the voting system and the manual count must be accurate to within one-half of one percent or not more than two votes in precincts where 400 or fewer voters cast ballots. This does not include valid votes marked outside the vote targets on the ballot or votes marked by an unreadable manual marking device that cannot be read by the electronic voting system.

6.1 Additional Review

If the PER in one of the reviewed precincts reveals a difference greater than one-half of one percent or greater than two votes in a precinct where 400 or fewer voters cast ballots, then a second level of review is necessary.

6.1.1 Level Two Review – Additional Precincts in County

When a second level of review is required, the PER official must, within two days, conduct an additional review of the races of President, or Governor; U.S. Senator; and U.S. Representative in at least three precincts in the same jurisdiction where the discrepancy was discovered. If all precincts in that jurisdiction have been reviewed, the county auditor must immediately and publicly select by lot at least three additional precincts for review. The review official must complete the additional review within two days after the precincts are selected and report the results immediately to the county auditor.

If the level two review indicates a difference in any of the reviewed precincts that is greater than one-half of one percent, or greater than two votes in a precinct where 400 or fewer voters cast ballots, then a third level of review is necessary.

6.1.2 Level Three Review – All Remaining Precincts in County

When a third level of review is necessary, the county auditor must conduct a review of the ballots from all remaining precincts in the county for the races of President, or Governor; U.S. Senator; and U.S. Representative. This review must be completed and the results must be reported to the secretary of state within one week after the level two review is completed.

If the results from the countywide reviews from one or more counties together comprise more than 10 percent of the total number of people voting in the election clearly indicate that an error in vote counting has occurred, then a fourth level of review is necessary.

6.1.2.3 Level Four Review – All Ballots in District

The Secretary of State must notify the post-election review official of each county in the district that they must conduct manual recounts of all ballots in the district for the affected office. This manual recount is conducted using the procedure found in [M.S. 204C.35](#). The review must be completed and the results reported to the appropriate canvassing board within two weeks after the post-election review official received notice from the Secretary of State. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 5](#))

7.0 Facilities, Accessibility, and Equipment

All post-election reviews must be accessible to the public. Each election jurisdiction where a review is conducted shall make available without charge to the review official or body conducting the review adequate accessible space and all necessary equipment and facilities. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 3](#); [M.R. 8235.0600](#))

8.0 General Procedures

This portion of the guide contains procedures based on best practices, rather than statute or rule. If employing these portions, do not consider the information to hold the same authority as that information governed by federal and state law. At the opening of a review, the review official or legal advisor shall present the procedures contained in this rule for review.

8.1 Prepare and Organize

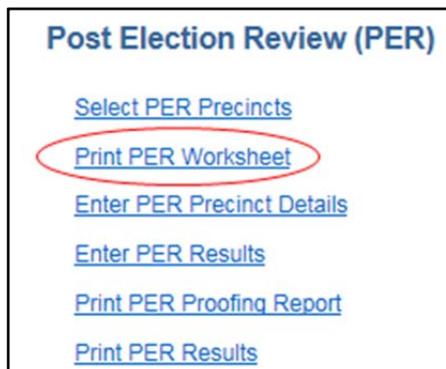
8.1.1 Election Materials

The custodian of the ballots shall make available to the review official the precinct summary statements, the precinct boxes or containers containing the sealed envelopes of voted ballots, and any other election materials requested by the review official. The ballot containers should be delivered to the post-election review official at the counting location by two election judges not of the same political party, or by two election officials, or by a combination of election judges and officials. Ballots and election materials may only be handled by the post-election review official or their staff. If the post-election review official needs to leave the room during the review, they must designate a deputy to preside over the review while they are absent.

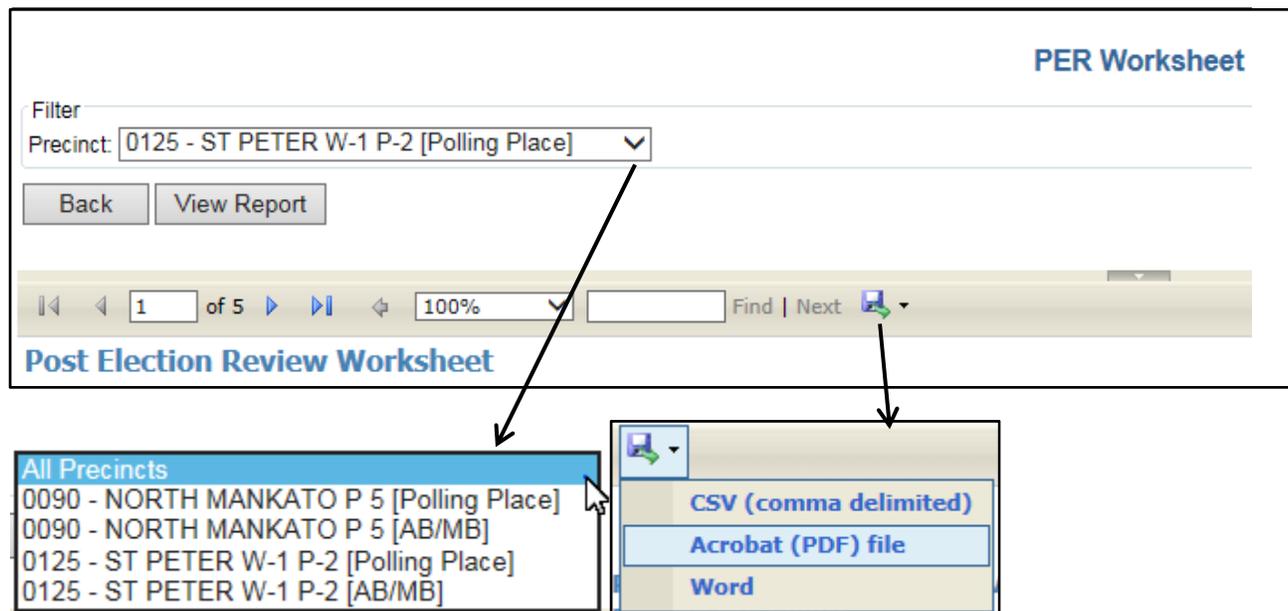
8.1.1.2 Administrative Materials

Prior to the review, prepare a review packet with checklist. Have all forms, exhibits, supplies and contact information organized to insure that all information given to individuals is provided in a consistent format. This will save time and allow the focus of a review to be election specific.

From the ERS Post Election Review menu, print the PER Summary Statement Worksheets for each precinct selected for the review. Each precinct will have two worksheets, one for polling place votes and one for absentee/mail ballot votes.



ERS PER Menu



ERS PER Worksheet report screen

A worksheet will only contain vote totals for that counter group – i.e. the Polling Place worksheet will display only results from the polling place, and the Absentee/Mail Ballot worksheet will display only AB/MB results.

Undervotes (Blanks), Overvotes and Totals are not available in ERS. **Numbers for the blank lines in the original vote totals column must be manually entered from the election night summary statement when beginning the PER.**

The PER Worksheets contain the certified results for a given precinct. It is a good practice to have additional copies of the PER Worksheet available for public review.

Post Election Review Worksheet

State General Election
Tuesday, November 6, 2012

Printed: 10/22/2014 8:29 AM
Printed By: kllfi01

County - Nicollet, Precinct - 10076

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 Polling Place				
Office: U.S. President & Vice President				
Candidate Name	Polling Place Votes	Hand Count	Explained Difference	Explanation
MITT ROMNEY AND PAUL RYAN	522	_____	_____	_____
BARACK OBAMA AND JOE BIDEN	818	_____	_____	_____
GARY JOHNSON AND JIM GRAY	17	_____	_____	_____
JAMES HARRIS AND MAURA DELUCA	1	_____	_____	_____
VIRGIL GOODE AND JIM CLYMER	1	_____	_____	_____
DEAN MORSTAD AND JOSH FRANKE-HYLAND	0	_____	_____	_____
JILL STEIN AND CHERI HONKALA	12	_____	_____	_____
JIM CARLSON AND GEORGE MCMAHON	2	_____	_____	_____
PETA LINDSAY AND YARI OSORIO	2	_____	_____	_____
ROSS C. "ROCKY" ANDERSON AND LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ	1	_____	_____	_____
BLANK FOR OFFICE	_____	_____	_____	_____
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	_____	_____	_____	_____
WRITE-IN**	5	_____	_____	_____
Totals	_____	_____	_____	_____

Hand enter from election night summary statement

Polling Place Votes PER Worksheet

8.1.1.3 Facilities

Setting up the facilities is important. In addition to setting up the room where the review takes place, remember to consider security needs and parking availability for those involved in the process. Set up the review room so there is a staging area, counting area and viewing area. This set-up should take into account the planned workflow (e.g. bringing and removing election materials; bathrooms unlocked). Be sure to set up the necessary number of counting tables.

Only those people directly involved in the review should be present within the review area. These individuals are limited to the review officials and legal advisor and officials of the election jurisdiction. However, the public and the press must be admitted into the room where the review is being conducted to observe proceedings from outside the review area. Badges should be provided which identify the people present and their role in the post-election review.

8.2 Staffing and Training

The post-election review official may be assisted by election judges designated by the official for this purpose. The party balance requirement of [M.S. 204B.19](#) applies to election judges designated for the review.

Bring in as many staff as necessary. Require name badges for all authorized personnel. Establish firm guidelines for release of all information both to the media and between staff members. Schedule the training/information dissemination session for staff. Keep your team informed.

8.3 Observation

The post-election review official shall arrange the counting of the ballots so that the public can view the ballots as they are recounted. The official shall ensure that this public observation does not interfere with the counting or security of the ballots. If other election materials are handled or examined by the review officials, the participants may observe them. The review official shall prepare a summary of the review vote by precinct. ([M.R. 8235.0700](#))

8.4 Managing the Process

The post-election review official is in charge. Acknowledge everyone present (your team, legal counsels, election officials, public, and press); everyone has a role. Always explain what is about to occur and explain why. Be completely thorough and transparent. The total number of ballots counted for the PER offices must be equal, (i.e. the total ballots counted for President equal the total ballots counted for U.S. Senator equal the total ballots counted for U.S. Representative.) Whenever there is a discrepancy among the total number of ballots counted for each office, the ballots should be recounted. If there is any doubt about a precinct's results, count again. Never hold a private conversation with only one of the parties. Always appear in control of yourself and the situation. Be sure to answer any questions and address the concerns of any observer.

Orally review with all present:

- Roles of review officials, observers, and staff.
- Procedures for the review.
- Open sealed containers only when review team and observers are present.
- Keep all ballot access in full view.
- Sorting process.
- County process
- Compare results to original
- If manual count differs from the original results, you may want to have a different review team count again, looking in piles for incorrectly sorted ballots.

If observers have concerns or suggestions, listen. Make sure the actions of officials and staff in the review fills the process with accountability, credibility, and trust. Make a defensible decision and carry it out consistently.

9.0 Example Instructions – Post-Election Review

Provide the team with the following instructions:

- This is a post-election review held pursuant to [M.S. 206.89](#).
- It is **not** to determine who was eligible to vote.
- It is **not** to determine if campaign laws were violated.
- It is **not** to determine if absentee or mail ballots were properly accepted. It is **not** – except for reviewing the ballots – to determine if judges did things right.
- It is simply to physically recount the ballots **for the races included in the post-election review**.

It is an opportunity for everyone, particularly the election officials, to satisfy themselves that ballots were, in fact, counted properly. If we find that the judges have counted votes wrong or the machine counted them wrong, you need to be aware that this is not unusual and that this is why we have the review law. Normally any errors by the judges or the machine are random errors and generally offset one another. Characteristically what we find is that a slight change one way in one precinct is balanced off by a corresponding change in the other direction in another precinct. Normally the results of the election are not changed by these adjustments, but it does happen.

Only the review official handles ballots unless they specifically instruct another to handle them. Make any concerns regarding the process known immediately to the review official. Ballots will be reviewed by

precinct. We will count one precinct at a time, maintaining the separation of ballots by precinct and by counter group. (Polling Place ballots and Absentee/Mail ballots will be counted separately.) The review official, however, may review more than one precinct at a time in physically separate locations within the room in which the review is administered.

Ballots will be:

- Removed from the sealed case(s) and staff will turn all ballots so they are facing in the same direction, with the same side up.
- The review official will separate the ballots into several piles:
 - one for each candidate,
 - one for write-ins, and
 - one for blank or defective or marked outside the target area for the offices we are reviewing.
- Voter intent will be determined pursuant to [M.S. 204C.22](#).
- Staff will count the ballots by piling the ballots in groups of 25.
- Counts will be recorded for each precinct counter group on the review summary statement.
- After counting, the ballots must be resealed in the transfer case. (Polling Place and Absentee ballots for a precinct may be sealed together in a single case.)

10.0 Counting Ballots

Ballots must be reviewed on a precinct by precinct basis, first to determine votes cast for the affected offices (see Section 12), then to determine if additional steps are required (see Section 13). The post-election review official shall open the sealed envelopes and review them in accordance with [M.S. 204C.21](#). After the count of votes (both Polling Place and Absentee/Mail Ballot) for the precinct has been determined, all ballots will be resealed in the ballot envelopes and returned with the other election materials to the custodian of the ballots. (Absentee and Poll ballots may be seal together in a single precinct transfer case.) ([M.S. 204C.361](#); [M.R. 8235.0800](#))

11.0 Determining Voter Intent

Minnesota law requires that every effort be made to accurately count all votes on a ballot. This means that a ballot or vote must not be rejected for a technicality if it is possible to determine what the voter intended, even though the voter may have made a mistake or the ballot is damaged. Intent is determined only from the face of the ballot. Use the following rules to decide voter intent.

11.1 Counted

- If a name is written in the proper place but the write-in target is not marked, count the vote for that individual.

FEDERAL OFFICES	
U.S. SENATOR	
VOTE FOR ONE	
<input type="radio"/>	ROBERT FITZGERALD <small>Independence Party</small>
<input type="radio"/>	MARK KENNEDY <small>BayState</small>
<input type="radio"/>	AMY KLOBUCHAR <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>
<input type="radio"/>	MICHAEL JAMES CAVLAN <small>Green Party</small>
<input type="radio"/>	BEN POWERS <small>Constitution Party</small>
<input type="radio"/>	write-in, if any John Smith

- A mark made out of place but close enough to a name or line to determine voter intent is to be counted.

FEDERAL OFFICES	REPUBLICAN PARTY	FEDERAL OFFICES	FEDERAL OFFICES
UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE	FEDERAL OFFICES	UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE	UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD	UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE	<input type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD X	<input type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD
<input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN	<input type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD	<input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN	<input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN
CONTINUE VOTING ON THE NONPARTISAN BALLOT			

- If two or more different marks are used by the voter, count them, provided the marks do not mark the ballot with distinguishing characteristics where the voter's intent is to identify the ballot.

SUPREME COURT
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE 3 VOTE FOR ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALAN LAWRENCE NELSON
<input type="checkbox"/> PAUL H. ANDERSON <small>incumbent</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> TIM TINGELSTAD
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE 4 VOTE FOR ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LORIE SKIERVEN GILDEA <small>incumbent</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> DEBORAH HEDLUND
<input type="checkbox"/> JILL CLARK
<input type="checkbox"/> F. RICHARD GALLO, JR.
2ND DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE 21 VOTE FOR ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JOY D. BARTSCHER
<input type="checkbox"/> CONNIE S. IVERSEN
<input type="checkbox"/> JOHN P. GUZIK
<input type="checkbox"/> JAMES C. SNYDER, SR.
<input type="checkbox"/> PAUL GODFREY
<input type="checkbox"/> GAIL CHANG BOHR
<input type="checkbox"/> HOWARD ORENSTEIN
<input type="checkbox"/> RICHARD F. CARLSON, JR.

- If a voter uniformly uses a mark other than  to mark their ballot which clearly indicates an intent to mark a name or mark yes or no on a question, count those offices.

JUDGE 10 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EDWARD J. CLEARY <small>incumbent</small> ✓
<input type="checkbox"/> write-in, if any
JUDGE 12 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> MARGARET CHUTICH <small>incumbent</small> ✓
<input type="checkbox"/> write-in, if any
JUDGE 15 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> KEVIN G. ROSS <small>incumbent</small> ✓
<input type="checkbox"/> write-in, if any

- If marks are made next to two candidates and an attempt was made to erase one of the two, a vote is counted for the remaining marked candidate.

UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE	UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DARRYL STANTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DARRYL STANTON
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BILL DAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BILL DAHN
<input type="checkbox"/> STEPHEN WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/> STEPHEN WILLIAMS
<input type="checkbox"/> JACK ULDRICH	<input type="checkbox"/> JACK ULDRICH
<input type="checkbox"/> KURT MICHAEL ANDERSON	<input type="checkbox"/> KURT MICHAEL ANDERSON
<input type="checkbox"/> DOUG WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/> DOUG WILLIAMS
<input type="checkbox"/> DEAN BARKLEY	<input type="checkbox"/> DEAN BARKLEY
CONTINUE VOTING ON THE NONPARTISAN BALLOT	CONTINUE VOTING ON THE NONPARTISAN BALLOT

- If an attempt is made to obliterate a write-in name, a vote is counted for the remaining write-in name or marked candidate.

FEDERAL OFFICES	
U.S. SENATOR	
VOTE FOR ONE	
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ROBERT FITZGERALD <small>Independence Party</small>
<input type="radio"/>	MARK KENNEDY <small>Republican</small>
<input type="radio"/>	AMY KLOBUCHAR <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>
<input type="radio"/>	MICHAEL JAMES CAVLAN <small>Green Party</small>
<input type="radio"/>	BEN POWERS <small>Constitution Party</small>
<input type="radio"/>	John Smith
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE	

- A write-in for governor without lieutenant governor is counted as a vote for the team of candidates including lieutenant governor.
- Count all printed names with a mark made opposite them and all names written-in, not exceeding the number to be elected for that office.
- Misspellings for names written-in must be counted if intent can be determined.
- If the voter's choice can only be determined for some of the offices on the ballot, only count those offices on the ballot.
- A ballot cannot be rejected because it is slightly soiled or defaced.
- A ballot that has one or more blank offices is not defective.

It is a good practice to keep questionable ballots at the top of counted stacks.

11.2 Not Counted

- If the voter has marked more candidates than to be elected or nominated for that office, ballot is defective for that particular office. (All **other offices on the ballot are counted if possible.**)

UNITED STATES SENATOR	
VOTE FOR ONE	
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	DARRYL STANTON
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BILL DAHN
<input type="radio"/>	STEPHEN WILLIAMS
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	JACK ULDRICH
<input type="radio"/>	KURT MICHAEL ANDERSON
<input type="radio"/>	DOUG WILLIAMS
<input type="radio"/>	DEAN BARKLEY
CONTINUE VOTING ON THE NONPARTISAN BALLOT	

- If the voter used an identifying mark or mark with the intent to identify the ballot, the ballot is completely defective.

his: <input checked="" type="radio"/>	<i>John Smith</i>	Write-in, if any	
COUNTY OFFICES		CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 5 VOTE FOR ONE	
CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 2 VOTE FOR ONE		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MARGARET A. BEHRENS
		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in, if any
		7432	

- If a voter has voted yes and no on a ballot question, that question is not counted, but the rest of the ballot must be counted if possible.
- If marks are made opposite of more printed candidate names or write-ins allowed for an office, the ballot is defective for that particular office.
- If the number of candidates for an office is equal to the number of individuals to be elected to that office, and the voter has not marked any name, no vote is counted for any candidate for that office.
- A specific office is considered blank when no name or response to a question is marked and no name is written-in. ([M.S. 204C.22](#))

12.0 Determining Results

12.1 Adjustments to meet Post-Election Review Standards

[M.S. 206.89](#) sets out the following standard for excluding ballots from the post-election review:

“Valid votes that have been marked by the voter outside the vote targets or using a manual marking device that cannot be read by the voting system must not be included in making the determination whether the voting system has met the standard of acceptable performance for any precinct.”

The votes marked in the following examples taken from Section 11, would likely be exceptions you would include in the “Explained Difference” column on the PER worksheet. The ballot counter cannot determine voter intent in these cases, so these votes do not count against the standard of acceptable performance.

12.1.1 Examples to Determine Explained Differences

Marks Outside Target:

These marks would not likely be counted by the ballot counter.

FEDERAL OFFICES UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE <input type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD <input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN	FEDERAL OFFICES UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE <input checked="" type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD <input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN
FEDERAL OFFICES UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE <input type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN	FEDERAL OFFICES UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE <input checked="" type="radio"/> JACK SHEPARD <input type="radio"/> NORM COLEMAN

Possible Overvotes:

The ballot counter would not likely have counted these votes, but would have recorded them as over votes.

UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE <input checked="" type="radio"/> DARRYL STANTON <input checked="" type="radio"/> BILL DAHN <input type="radio"/> STEPHEN WILLIAMS <input type="radio"/> JACK ULDRICH <input type="radio"/> KURT MICHAEL ANDERSON <input type="radio"/> DOUG WILLIAMS <input type="radio"/> DEAN BARKLEY	UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE <input checked="" type="radio"/> DARRYL STANTON <input checked="" type="radio"/> BILL DAHN <input type="radio"/> STEPHEN WILLIAMS <input type="radio"/> JACK ULDRICH <input type="radio"/> KURT MICHAEL ANDERSON <input type="radio"/> DOUG WILLIAMS <input type="radio"/> DEAN BARKLEY
--	--

The cases above were marked in such a way that they could not be properly read by the electronic voting system. Those votes that appear unreadable by the electronic voting system are included for the candidates in the “Hand Counted Votes” column based on voter intent. Unreadable votes, however, do not count against the standard of acceptable performance of the voting system and are also reported in the “Explained Differences” column if applicable. ([M.S. 206.89](#))

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 Polling Place				
Office: U.S. Senator				
Candidate Name	Polling Place Votes	Hand Count	Explained Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	43	45	1	Stray mark recorded as overvote
KURT BILLS	304	305	1	Voter intent outside of target
AMY KLOBUCHAR	973	973		
TIM DAVIS	19	19		
MICHAEL CAVLAN	2	2		
BLANK FOR OFFICE	5	3	1	Vote for Bills outside of target
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	Stray mark not overvote, for Williams
WRITE-IN**	2	2		
Totals	1352	1352	4	

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 AB/MB				
Office: U.S. Senator				
Candidate Name	AB/MB Votes	Hand Count	Explained Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	1	1		
KURT BILLS	40	40		
AMY KLOBUCHAR	119	119		
TIM DAVIS	1	1		
MICHAEL CAVLAN	1	1		
BLANK FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	Write-in candidate name provided; oval unmarked
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	2	2		
WRITE-IN**	0	1	1	Candidate name written-in; oval not marked
Totals	168	168	2	

Example PER Worksheets for Polling Place and AB/MB Votes with review counts and explained differences

12.1.2 Comparison of Results

Once the ballots that are unreadable by the electronic voting system are noted in the “Explained Differences” column, any remaining differences between the results of the hand tally with the reported results for the precinct will be calculated in the Adjusted Differences column. The county must immediately input the results of the post-election review into ERS (no later than two days before the State Canvassing Board meets to canvass the election). Any revision to the vote totals for these offices will be incorporated into the official results for those precincts.

The county will input two sets of results per precinct – one for Polling Place votes, one for Absentee/Mail Ballot votes. Remember to include Blank and Overvote counts from the election night summary statement in the first column on the entry screen.

Post Election Review (PER)

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- [Enter PER Results](#)
- [Print PER Proofing Report](#)
- [Print PER Results](#)

ERS PER Menu

Enter PER Results

Precinct:

- 0090 - NORTH MANKATO P 5 [Polling Place]
- 0090 - NORTH MANKATO P 5 [AB/MB]
- 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 [Polling Place]
- 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 [AB/MB]

0102 - U.S. Senator								
Candidate ID	Candidate Party	Candidate Name	Polling Place Votes	Hand Count	Unadjusted Difference	Explained Difference	Adjusted Difference	Explanation
01020201	Independence	STEPHEN WILLIAMS	43	<input type="text" value="0"/>	43	<input type="text" value="0"/>	43	
01020301	Republican	KURT BILLS	304	<input type="text" value="0"/>	304	<input type="text" value="0"/>	304	
01020401	Democratic-Farmer-Labor	AMY KLOBUCHAR	973	<input type="text" value="0"/>	973	<input type="text" value="0"/>	973	
01021001	Grassroots Party	TIM DAVIS	19	<input type="text" value="0"/>	19	<input type="text" value="0"/>	19	
01021101	Minnesota Open Progressives	MICHAEL CAVLAN	2	<input type="text" value="0"/>	2	<input type="text" value="0"/>	2	
01029001	Nonpartisan	BLANK FOR OFFICE	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	
01029002	Nonpartisan	OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	
01029901	Write-In	WRITE-IN**	2	<input type="text" value="0"/>	2	<input type="text" value="0"/>	2	

ERS PER Polling Place Results Entry Screen

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 Polling Place
Office: U.S. Senator

Candidate Name	Polling Place Votes	Hand Count	Explained Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	43	45	1	Stray mark recorded as overvote
KURT BILLS	304	305	1	Voter intent outside of target
AMY KLOBUCHAR	973	973		
TIM DAVIS	19	19		
MICHAEL CAVLAN	2	2		
BLANK FOR OFFICE	5	3	1	Vote for Bills outside of target
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	Stray mark not overvote, for Williams
WRITE-IN**	2	2		
Totals	1352	1352	4	

Polling Place Votes	Hand Count	Unadjusted Difference	Explained Difference	Adjusted Difference	Explanation
43	<input type="text" value="45"/>	2	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Stray mark recorded as overvote
304	<input type="text" value="305"/>	1	<input type="text" value="1"/>	0	Voter intent outside of target
973	<input type="text" value="973"/>	0	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	
19	<input type="text" value="19"/>	0	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	
2	<input type="text" value="2"/>	0	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	
5	<input type="text" value="3"/>	2	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Vote for Bills marked outside of target
4	<input type="text" value="3"/>	1	<input type="text" value="1"/>	0	Stray mark not overvote, vote for Williams
2	<input type="text" value="2"/>	0	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	

Inputting PER Polling Place Worksheet data into ERS PER Results entry screen

Enter PER Results

Precinct:

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 AB/MB
Office: U.S. Senator

Candidate Name	AB/MB Votes	Hand Count	Explained Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	1	1		
KURT BILLS	40	40		
AMY KLOBUCHAR	119	119		
TIM DAVIS	1	1		
MICHAEL CAVLAN	1	1		
BLANK FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	Write-in candidate name provided; oval unmarked
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	2	2		
WRITE-IN**	0	1	1	Candidate name written-in; oval not marked
Totals	168	168	2	

0102 - U.S. Senator

Candidate ID	Candidate Party	Candidate Name	AB/MB Votes	Hand Count	Unadjusted Difference	Explained Difference	Adjusted Difference	Explanation
01020201	Independence	STEPHEN WILLIAMS	1	1	0	0	0	
01020301	Republican	KURT BILLS	40	40	0	0	0	
01020401	Democratic-Farmer-Labor	AMY KLOBUCHAR	119	119	0	0	0	
01021001	Grassroots Party	TIM DAVIS	1	1	0	0	0	
01021101	Minnesota Open Progressives	MICHAEL CAVLAN	1	1	0	0	0	
01029001	Nonpartisan	BLANK FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	1	0	Write-in candidate name provided; oval unmarked
01029002	Nonpartisan	OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	2	2	0	0	0	
01029901	Write-In	WRITE-IN**	0	1	1	1	0	Candidate name written-in; oval not marked.

Inputting PER Absentee/Mail Ballot Worksheet data into ERS PER Results entry screen

To proof the entry of polling place and AB/MB vote totals, counties should print and review the PER Proofing Report for accuracy. The report can be printed to include all precincts or by individual precinct counter group.

Post Election Review (PER)

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PER Proofing Report

Filter

County: Precinct:

- All Precincts
- 0090 - NORTH MANKATO P 5 [Polling Place]
- 0090 - NORTH MANKATO P 5 [AB/MB]
- 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 [Polling Place]
- 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 [AB/MB]

ERS PER Proofing Report

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 **Polling Place** Nicollet County

Office: U.S. Senator

Candidate Name	Polling Place Votes	Hand-Counted Votes	Unadjusted Difference	Explained Difference	Adjusted Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	43	45	2	1	1	Stray mark recorded as overvote
KURT BILLS	304	305	1	1	0	Voter intent outside of target
AMY KLOBUCHAR	973	973	0	0	0	
TIM DAVIS	19	19	0	0	0	
MICHAEL CAVLAN	2	2	0	0	0	
BLANK FOR OFFICE	5	3	2	1	1	Vote for Bills marked outside of target
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	1	0	Stray mark not overvote, vote for Williams
WRITE-IN**	2	2	0	0	0	
Totals	1352	1352	6	4	2	

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2 **AB/MB** Nicollet County

Office: U.S. Senator

Candidate Name	AB/MB Votes	Hand-Counted Votes	Unadjusted Difference	Explained Difference	Adjusted Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	1	1	0	0	0	
KURT BILLS	40	40	0	0	0	
AMY KLOBUCHAR	119	119	0	0	0	
TIM DAVIS	1	1	0	0	0	
MICHAEL CAVLAN	1	1	0	0	0	
BLANK FOR OFFICE	4	3	1	1	0	Write-in candidate name provided; oval unmarked
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	2	2	0	0	0	
WRITE-IN**	0	1	1	1	0	Candidate name written-in; oval not marked.
Totals	168	168	2	2	0	

Example PER PP and AB/MB Proofing Reports

Proofing Tips:

- Ensure BLANK FOR OFFICE and OVER/DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE votes are entered for all offices.
- Ensure the vote totals for the PER offices within each precinct counter group are equal. (e.g. The Polling Place Totals for U.S. Senator, Governor/Lieutenant Governor, and U.S. Representative are the same.)
- Ensure that an Explanation is included where needed.

ERS will automatically determine if the PER results meet the standard of acceptable performance or if the Adjusted Difference is greater than one-half of one percent and additional review is necessary.

The county auditor must print the PER Results Report and proof for accuracy and acceptability. If Final Results indicate that acceptable performance has been met, **sign, fax or scan/email the report to OSS.**

If the PER Results Report indicates Unacceptable and the county must escalate to a second level of review, contact OSS.

Post Election Review (PER)

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[Print PER Results](#)

ERS PER Menu

Precinct: 0125 - ST PETER W-1 P-2						Nicollet County
Office: U.S. Senator						
Candidate Name	Total Votes	Total Hand-Counted Votes	Total Unadjusted Difference *	Total Explained Difference	Total Adjusted Difference	Explanation
STEPHEN WILLIAMS	44	46	2	1	1	PP: Stray mark recorded as overvote;
KURT BILLS	344	345	1	1	0	PP: Voter intent outside of target;
AMY KLOBUCHAR	1092	1092	0	0	0	
TIM DAVIS	20	20	0	0	0	
MICHAEL CAVLAN	3	3	0	0	0	
BLANK FOR OFFICE	9	6	3	2	1	PP: Vote for Bills marked outside of target; AB/MB: Write-in candidate name provided; oval unmarked
OVER / DEFECTIVE FOR OFFICE	6	5	1	1	0	PP: Stray mark not overvote, vote for Williams;
WRITE-IN**	2	3	1	1	0	AB/MB: Candidate name written-in; oval not marked.
Totals	1520	1520	8	6	2	
Final Results					0.1315%	ACCEPTABLE

Example PER Results Report

13.0 State Canvassing Board

The Secretary of State shall report the results of the review at the meeting of the State Canvassing Board to canvass the state general election. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 6](#))

If the post-election review results in a change in the number of votes counted for any candidates, the revised vote totals must be incorporated in the official results from those precincts. ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 7](#))

14.0 Reporting Review Results

The OSS will post individual precinct results from the post-election review at the Post-Election Review webpage <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=1156>.

15.0 2014 Post-Election Review: Key Dates

- **11-15-2014** First day PER can be held ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 2](#))
- **11-22-2014**
 - Last day PER can be held ([M.S. 206.89, subd. 2](#))
 - Last day for Auditor to submit signed copy of acceptable PER Results Report to OSS by fax or email.

