

1 The State Board of Elections (“the Board”) meeting was held on Tuesday,
2 September 15, 2026 in Martha Brissette Conference Room of the Washington
3 Building in Richmond, Virginia. The meeting also offered public participation
4 through electronic communication so the remote public could view and hear the
5 meeting. In attendance: John O’Bannon, Chairman; Rosalyn R. Dance, Vice Chair;
6 Georgia Alvis-Long, Secretary; and Dr. Sally Hudson, members represented the
7 State Board of Elections (“the Board”). Ashley Coles, Deputy Commissioner
8 represented the Department of Elections (“ELECT”), and Steven Koski,
9 Commissioner represented the Department of Elections (“ELECT”), Ajay P. Saini
10 represented the Office of the Attorney General (“OAG”); attended the meeting
11 electronically. Dr. Chris Stolle attended the meeting late. Chairman O’Bannon
12 called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

13 The first item of business was the Approval of the minutes from the August
14 18, 2026 Board Meetings. Vice Chair Dance moved *to approve of the minutes as*
15 *distributed and presented*. Dr. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed
16 unanimously. A roll vote was taken:

17 Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

18 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

19 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

20 Dr. Stolle – Not in Attendance

21 Dr. Hudson – Aye

22 Chairman O'Bannon opened the floor to public comment. Marianne McKay
23 addressed the Board. This letter appears as Appendix: A.

24 The next item of business was the Commissioner's Report, presented by
25 Deputy Commissioner Coles. The Deputy Commissioner thanked Virginia state
26 and local election officials for their hard work in preparation for the November
27 General Election. Deputy Commissioner Coles informed the Board that early
28 voting starts on Friday, September 18th. The Deputy Commissioner informed the
29 Board that on the November ballot are races for U.S. Senate, all 11 House of
30 Representatives seats, various local offices and referendums, a special election for
31 House of Delegates District 20 and three proposed amendments to the Constitution
32 of Virginia.

33 Deputy Commissioner Coles advised the Board that voters may have heard
34 about a change to procedures for mailed absentee ballots for the upcoming election
35 related to a new rule by USPS. The Deputy Commissioner informed the Board that

the rule would have required states to submit a list of eligible individuals who have applied to receive an absentee ballot to the USPS. The USPS would then verify the list against outbound ballots prior to mailing them to voters. Deputy Commissioner Coles stated that the important thing for Virginia voters to know is that the rule will not be in effect for the 2026 General Election. The Deputy Commissioner advised the Board that on Monday, September 14, 2026 the Supreme Court kept in place an injunction against the USPS rule through the upcoming election.

The next item of business was State Board of Elections policies 2026-003 and 2026-004 regarding general registrar and electoral board member removal proceedings presented by Danny Davenport, Director of Policy. *This memo is in the Working Papers for the September 15, 2026 Meeting.* Vice Chair Dance moved that the State Board of Elections approve proposed SBE Policies 2026-003: *Local Electoral Board Procedures for the Removal of General Registrars* and 2026-004: *State Board of Elections Procedures for the Removal of General Registrars and Local Electoral Board Members*. Secretary Alvis-Long seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

Vice Chair Dance – Aye

54 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

55 Dr. Stolle – Aye

56 Dr. Hudson – Aye

57 The next item of business was the Virginia's Guide to Hand-Counting and
58 Duplicating Ballots presented by Clair Scott, ELECT Policy Analyst. *This memo is*
59 *in the Working Papers for the September 15, 2026 Meeting.* Vice Chair Dance
60 moved that the State Board of Elections approve the amendments to Virginia's
61 Guide to Hand-counting and Duplicating Ballots and that they be effective
62 immediately. Dr. Stolle seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A
63 roll call vote was taken:

64 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

65 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

66 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

67 Dr. Stolle – Aye

68 Dr. Hudson – Aye

The next item of business was the SBE Advisory Opinion #1 regarding the personal use of campaign funds presented by Kayla Soltis, ELECT Policy Analyst. *This memo is in the Working Papers for the September 15, 2026 Meeting.* Vice Chair Dance stated pursuant to its authority under Virginia Code § 24.2-948.8, I move *that the State Board of Elections adopt the proposed advisory opinion and its holdings and conclusions.* Dr. Stolle seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

Vice Chair Dance – Aye

Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

Dr. Stolle – Aye

Dr. Hudson – Aye

The next item of business was the 2027 Locality Elections Security Standard (LESS) presented by Brandon Smith, Chief Technology Officer. *This memo is in the Working Papers for the September 15, 2026 Meeting.* Dr. Stolle moved *that the State Board of Elections adopt the 2027 Locality Election Security Standards*

85 *effective December 1, 2026.* Vice Chair Dance second the motion and the motion
86 passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

87 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

88 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

89 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

90 Dr. Stolle – Aye

91 Dr. Hudson – Aye

92 The next item of business was the Campaign Finance Appeals Hearing
93 presented by Emily Mynarski, Campaign Finance Compliance and Training
94 Specialist. *These appeals are in the Working Papers for the September 15, 2026*
95 *Meeting.* The first penalties reviewed were assessed by local “GR”.

96 The first penalty assessed by the GR was for Friends of Donna Lee Biggs
97 (CC-26-00246). Donna Biggs addressed the Board. Ms. Mynarski informed the
98 Board that a \$100 penalty was assessed. Dr. Stolle stated pursuant to § 24.2-953.6
99 of the Code of Virginia, I move *that the State Board of Elections dismiss the*
100 *petitioner’s appeal of the assessed campaign finance penalty(s) for failure to show*

101 *good cause.* Dr. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

102 A roll call vote was taken:

103 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

104 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

105 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

106 Dr. Stolle – Aye

107 Dr. Hudson – Aye

108 The next penalty assessed by the GR was for Friends of Sabrina (CC-26-

109 00014). Sabrina Bruce and Eric Spencer, GR addressed the Board. Ms. Mynarski

110 informed the Board that a \$100 penalty was assessed. Dr. Hudson stated pursuant

111 to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code of Virginia, because the petitioner has demonstrated

112 good cause to justify relief of the assessed campaign finance penalty(s), I move

113 *that the State Board of Elections grant relief of \$100 as requested by the petitioner.*

114 Dr. Stolle seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote

115 was taken:

116 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

117 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

118 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

119 Dr. Stolle – Aye

120 Dr. Hudson – Aye

121 The next penalty assessed by the GR was for Friends of Clark Hedrick (CC-
122 20-00309). Clark Hedrick and Eric Spicer, GR, addressed the Board. Ms. Mynarski
123 informed the Board that a \$100 penalty was assessed. Dr. Stolle stated Pursuant to
124 § 24.2-953.6 of the Code of Virginia, because the petitioner has demonstrated good
125 cause to justify relief of the assessed campaign finance penalty(s), I move *that the*
126 *State Board of Elections grant relief of \$50*. Dr. Hudson seconded the motion and
127 the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

128 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

129 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

130 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

131 Dr. Stolle – Aye

132 Dr. Hudson – Aye

The next penalty assessed by the GR was for Kat's Leadership Committee (CC-26-00220). Kathy Hendley and Mark Finks, GR, addressed the Board. Ms. Mynarski informed the Board that a \$100 penalty was assessed. Vice Chair Dance stated pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code of Virginia, because the petitioner has demonstrated good cause to justify relief of the assessed campaign finance penalty(s), I move *that the State Board of Elections grant relief as requested by the petitioner for \$100*. Dr. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

Vice Chair Dance – Aye

Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

Dr. Stolle – Aye

Dr. Hudson – Aye

The next penalties reviewed were assessed by ELECT. The first penalty was for Fight for Fairfax (PAC-22-00038). Ms. Mynarski informed the Board that a \$1000 penalty was assessed. Amini Bonane addressed the Board. Dr. Stolle stated pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code of Virginia, I move *that the State Board of*

150 *Elections dismiss the petitioner's appeal of the assessed campaign finance*
151 *penalty(s) for failure to show good cause.* Vice Chair Dance seconded the motion
152 and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

153 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

154 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

155 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

156 Dr. Stolle – Aye

157 Dr. Hudson – Aye

158 The next penalty was for Virginia 3rd District GOP (PP-12-00626). Ms.

159 Mynraski informed the Board that a \$1000 penalty was assessed. Anthony

160 Goodwin addressed the Board. Vice Chair Dance stated pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of

161 the Code of Virginia, because the petitioner has demonstrated good cause to justify

162 relief of the assessed campaign finance penalty(s), I move *that the State Board of*

163 *Elections grant relief of \$500.* Dr. Stolle seconded the motion and the motion

164 passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

165 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

166 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

167 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

168 Dr. Stolle – Aye

169 Dr. Hudson – Aye

170 The next penalty was for Factocracy (PAC-26-00051). Ms. Mynarski
171 informed the Board that a \$100 penalty was assessed. Cynthia Myer addressed the
172 Board. Dr. Hudson stated pursuant to § 24.2-953.6 of the Code of Virginia, I move
173 *that the State Board of Elections dismiss the petitioner's appeal of the assessed*
174 *campaign finance penalty(s) for failure to show good cause.* Dr. Stolle seconded
175 the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

176 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

177 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

178 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

179 Dr. Stolle – Aye

180 Dr. Hudson – Aye

181 At 2:29 P.M., Secretary Alvis-Long stated Pursuant to Virginia Code Section
182 2.2-3711(A)(7), I move *that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of*

183 *discussing pending threatened litigation. In accordance with Section 2.2-3712(F),*
184 *Steven Koski, Commissioner of Elections, Ashley Coles, Deputy Commissioner of*
185 *Elections, and Ajay Saini, Office of the Attorney General, will attend the closed*
186 *session because their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of*
187 *the subject of the meeting. Vice Chair Dance seconded the motion and the motion*
188 *passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:*

189 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

190 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

191 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

192 Dr. Stolle – Aye

193 Dr. Hudson – Aye

194 At 3:00 P.M., Vice Chair Dance moved *to reconvene the meeting in open*
195 *session, and take a roll call vote certifying that to the best of each member's*
196 *knowledge (i) only such public business matters lawfully exempted from open*
197 *meeting requirements under this chapter and (ii) only such public business matters*
198 *as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were*

199 *heard or discussed by the State Board of Elections.* Dr. Stolle seconded the motion
200 and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

201 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

202 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

203 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

204 Dr. Stolle – Aye

205 Dr. Hudson – Aye

206 Dr. Stolle moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Dance seconded the
207 motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

208 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

209 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

210 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

211 Dr. Stolle – Aye

212 Dr. Hudson – Aye

213 The meeting adjourned at 3:01 P.M

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Chairman

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Vice-Chairman

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Secretary

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Board Member

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Board Member

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APPENDIX: A

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Marianne McKay

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DRAFT

Public Comments
Marianne McKay
September 15, 2026:

Good afternoon Chairman O'Bannon, members of the State Board of Elections (SBE), and Commissioner Koski.

Based on the Virginia State Code 24.2-103 I think we all can agree that the SBE's duty is to ensure the legality and purity of Virginia's elections and the very important role this has in building and maintaining the confidence Virginia residents have in our elections. So, I am coming to you today because there is an issue which I think this Board is unaware that if not corrected will undermine one of our state's electoral processes that promotes election integrity.

In the most recent revision of the Dos and Don'ts for Campaigners and Authorized Representatives (Exhibit 1), ELECT, that is the Virginia Department of Elections, has expanded its guidance for the purpose of providing clarity when it actually creates ambiguity and obfuscates the requirements that lead to transparency and accountability the government agency has to the citizens. On page 15 (Exhibit 2) item VIII regarding Provisional Ballot Meetings states that a "New, fully expanded section has been added," and on page 12 (Exhibit 3) it states authorized representatives may "inspect the provisional ballot log and take notes from the list, so long as all necessary personally identifiable information (PII) has been removed from the log." There are two problems with this wording:

1. It totally omits what information is to be redacted.

2. The phrase “so long as all necessary PII has been removed from the log” enables the electoral board or registrar to have plausible deniability to withhold the Provisional Ballot Log from being inspected or a redacted copy being given to the authorized representative.

Neither of these were an issue before this Dos and Don'ts List was revised just 2 months ago because ELECT's Guidance (Exhibit 4) regarding Access to Provisional Ballot Logs rev. 9/27/23 states that the redacted copy of the logs should be made available to the authorized representatives and the document specifies what confidential information must be redacted. Furthermore, the Virginia Assembly has not made any changes to the election laws regarding provisional ballot meetings or logs that would warrant the change. Also, the Guidance is still listed on ELECT's website as you can see from the picture (Exhibit 5), just taken yesterday.

So, I am asking this Board, now that you are made aware of this inconsistency and misinformation, to direct Steven Koski, the Commissioner of Elections, to correct the Dos and Don'ts document so that the statement on page 12 is consistent with ELECT's Guidance that is on the website. The Board's failure to provide this direction to the Commissioner makes this Board complacent in undermining transparency required for the agency's accountability to the public thereby diminishing the purity of our electoral process. Thank you.



★ VIRGINIA ★
DEPARTMENT *of* ELECTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS
1100 Bank Street, 1st Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
elections.virginia.gov

Toll-free: (Voice) 800-552-9745
(TDD) 800-260-3466
804-864-8901
info@elections.virginia.gov

Dos and Don'ts for Campaigners and Authorized Representatives

Exhibit 1

Dos and Don'ts for Campaigners and Authorized Representatives

I. Executive Summary

Under the Virginia Code, authorized representatives and campaigners are given a combination of rights and restrictions. This guide, intended for officers of election and local election officials, explains what authorized party representatives may do or may not do at various points from pre-election to post-election. The Virginia Department of Elections refers to this document as the *Dos and Don'ts for Campaigners and Authorized Representatives*.



X. Change Log (High Level Summary)

- The 2026 version significantly expands and reorganizes the document.
- Adds a full Executive Summary and new sections including Sample Ballots and Pre-Processing Meetings.
- Clarifies authorized representative rules with explicit DO and DO NOT lists.
- Provides expanded rules for campaigners and adds firearm and signage restrictions.
- Introduces structured tables defining representative limits by election type.
- Adds an expanded Appendix A with detailed guidance tables.

I. Executive Summary

- Adds a full Executive Summary explaining the purpose of the guide and referencing applicable sections of the Code of Virginia.

II. Campaigning / Campaigners

- Expanded lists of campaigner DOs and DON'Ts.
- Adds new details: bathroom rules, firearm restrictions within 100 feet, signage rules, and use of loudspeakers.
- Clarifies the authority of building management over signs outside the prohibited area.

III. Sample Ballots

- More structured requirements ("must" / "must not").
- Clarifies federal vs. state disclaimers.
- Explicit prohibition on white paper and minimum font size.

IV. Pre-Processing Meetings

- Includes a full new section detailing:
 - Notice requirements given to party chairs
 - Authorized representatives viewing rights
 - Written statement requirements for authorized representatives
 - Explicit DON'Ts for authorized representatives and candidates

V. Before Polls Open

- Adds detailed DOs for officers of election and authorized representatives.
- Clarifies verification of ID and representative documentation.

VI. While Polls Are Open

- Details on authorized representative placement, observation, limits on seeing PII, and behavior restrictions.
- Separates candidate rules distinctly.

VII. Close of Polls

- Adds structured tables and clearer DON'Ts.
- Clarifies when authorized representatives may leave and communication restrictions.

VIII. Provisional Ballot Meeting

- New, fully expanded section including who may be present at meetings, observation rules, log inspection rules, and confidentiality safeguards.

Appendix / Guidelines

- Significantly expanded 3-column guidance table.
- More detailed behavioral rules for both campaigners and authorized reps.



**Dos and Don'ts for Campaigners and
Authorized Representatives**

Special

- Two from each political party with a candidate on the ballot in that election.
- One from each independent candidate on the ballot in that election.

Primary

- Two from each political party with a candidate on the ballot in that election.

Write-in candidate

- Write-in candidates are not entitled to have authorized representatives.
- However, write-in candidates and their supporters may be able to witness the counting of votes after the close of polls pursuant to Va. Code § 24.2-655.

VIII. The Provisional Ballot Meeting

Relevant Authorities: Va. Code §§ 24.2-653.01, 24.2-671, and 24.2-678.

A. The Dos and Don'ts of the Provisional Meeting

Authorized Representatives may DO the following

- a. Attend the provisional ballot meeting.⁴⁹
- b. Inspect the provisional ballot log and take notes from the list, including the names, phone numbers, year of birth, and addresses of individuals who have voted provisionally, so long as all necessary PII has been removed from the log.

Authorized Representatives DON'T have authority to do the following

- a. Participate during the provisional meeting; authorized representatives may serve only as observers.⁵⁰
- b. Impede the orderly conduct of the meeting.

⁴⁹ Va. Code 24.2-653.01.

⁵⁰ Va. Code 24.2-653.01.



Exhibit 4

★ VIRGINIA ★
DEPARTMENT *of* ELECTIONS

OFFICIAL GUIDANCE

DATE: October 12, 2018 (Rev. 9-27-23)

RE: Access to Provisional Ballot Logs

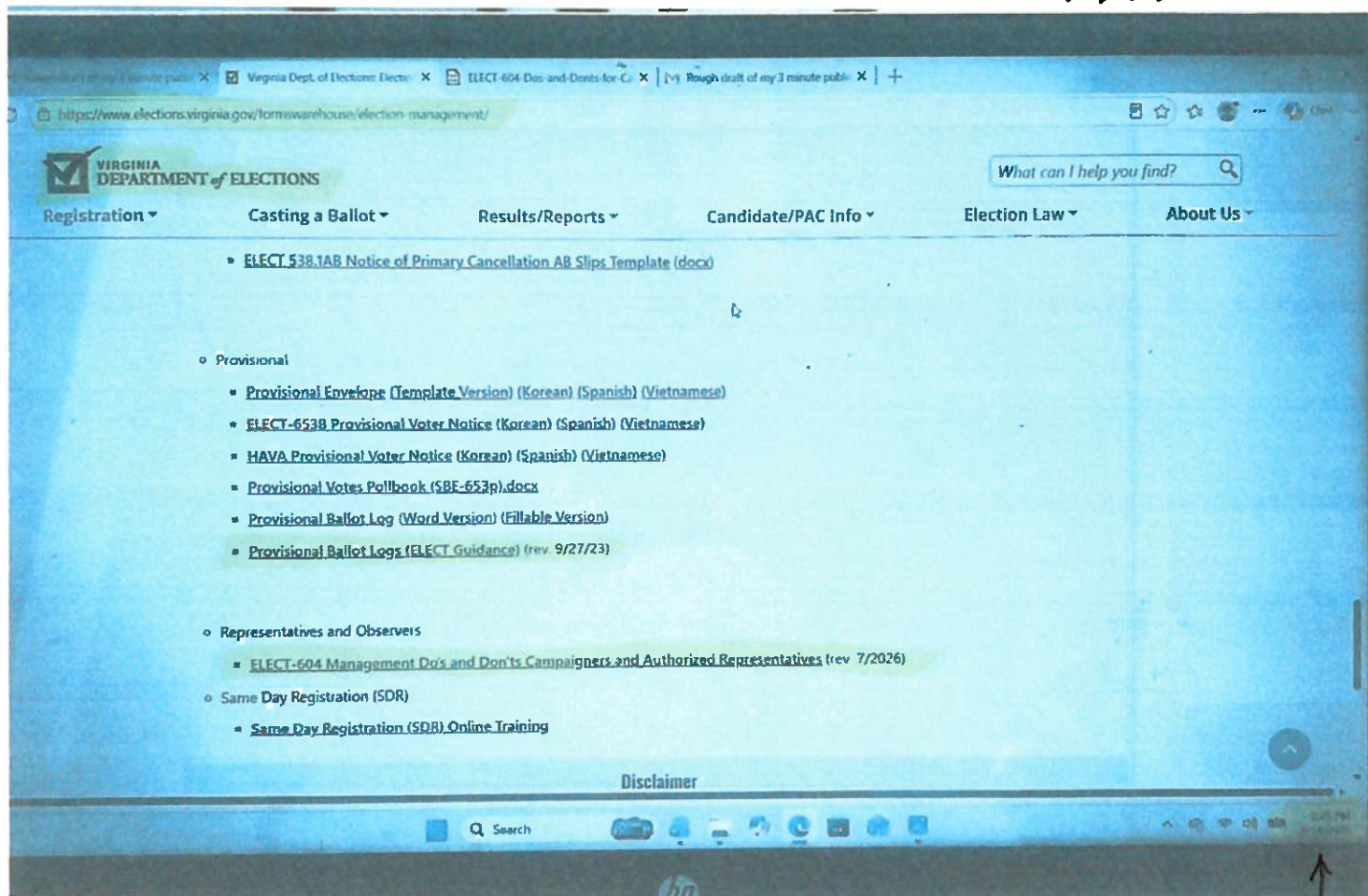
In response to requests from members of the Virginia Election Community, the Department is issuing supplemental guidance to ensure that your offices are equipped to handle any potential issues that may arise with requests for copies of provisional ballot logs.

A redacted provisional ballot log should be made available electronically or in paper form to authorized representatives of political parties or independent candidates. The redacted log may be provided as soon as the polls close, but should be provided no later than the start of the provisional ballot meeting.

During the provisional ballot meeting, an authorized representative may inspect the provisional ballot log and takes notes from the list, including the names, phone numbers, and addresses of individuals who voted provisionally. Separately, copies of a redacted provisional ballot log may be provided to authorized representatives during the meeting.

All confidential information on the provisional ballot log must be redacted prior to being released to any authorized representative. The confidential information that must be redacted includes:

- any part of the social security number;
- the reason for issuing the provisional ballot; and
- whether the ballot was counted.



2:25 PM
9/14/2026