

## Security of Electronic Voting Systems in Collin County Consensus Questions

**In 2013, LWV-CC adopted the following position:**

The League of Women Voters of Plano/Collin County supports the use of Vote Centers (Election Day centralized voting) for national, state, and local elections to facilitate voter convenience and flexibility. Collin County should provide enough voting locations, equipment and personnel, including Information Technology support, to ensure that voters can vote in various parts of the county without excessive wait times.

**Electronic voting systems for countywide vote centers:** LWV-CC supports the use of electronic voting systems as required for use in countywide vote centers.

- Yes
- No

**Secure:** What safeguards are needed to ensure that all parts of the system are secure from hacking or other outside interference? (Choose all that apply)

- Ability to add, delete or modify all voter- and election-related data should be restricted to authorized personnel, using secure access methods such as user IDs and passwords, and monitored by qualified IT personnel.
- Voter registration data should be entered in a decentralized database, not directly into state database.
- "EPollbooks," the computers used to verify voter registration and check in voters at the polling places, should use secure connections to the voter registration database servers that are maintained by IT personnel.
- Voting machines should be standalone, not on a network or the Internet, to minimize access for hacking.
- All polling place equipment should be closely monitored and secured during use and storage.
- All sensitive polling place equipment should be equipped with seals or other methods of determining whether they have been tampered with by unauthorized persons.
- Criminal background checks should be required for poll workers (election judges and clerks) assigned to work election voting centers or precincts, in addition to the criminal background checks required by state law for all election officials, staff and temporary workers who are engaged in pre-election programming, testing and preparing of the voting system equipment for Early Voting and Election Day.
- To allow better testing for security vulnerabilities, the type of software used in voting machines should be (select one):
  - Open source
  - Private source
  - No preference
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Accurate:** What is needed to ensure that each recorded vote accurately reflects the voter’s intention and that votes are tabulated and reported accurately?

*LWVUS position states that the voting machine must employ a paper ballot that the voter can verify while in the process of voting that is the official record of the voter’s intent.*

(Choose all that apply in addition to LWVUS position)

- If a voter receives an incorrect precinct ballot, or inadvertently selects an unintended option or candidate, the voter should be able to submit a corrected ballot, even after the incorrect ballot has been cast.
- Voting machine should provide clear instructions and user interface features to prevent voter confusion in making selections and casting votes.
- The program used for ballots should be tested for every ballot style and voting option, with two persons verifying each test.
- Voting system should provide adequate reports to facilitate audits and recounts.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Recountable:** What is needed to provide a way to recount ballots when necessary?

*LWVUS position states that “the paper ballot/record is used for audits and recounts.”*

**Accessible:** Voting systems and procedures should make it easy and convenient for all voters to cast their votes. (Choose all that apply)

- Persons with disabilities must be able to cast votes using equipment that accommodates their disabilities.
- Voters should be able to receive language translation when needed.
- Training in use of machines should be available to voters.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Transparent:** The public, or representatives of the public, should be able to observe and provide input to different aspects of the election process, including the following: (Choose all that apply)

- Evaluation of voting machines being considered for purchase and use
- Testing of voting machines being prepared for elections
- Use of voting machines in the polling places
- Tabulation of votes at the close of an election
- Where political parties have a role, all parties on the ballot should have the opportunity to be represented.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_