

The State of Texas



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Secretary of State

REPORT OF REVIEW OF HART INTERCIVIC VERITY VOTING 2.3 SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

On May 22-23, 2019, Hart InterCivic Inc. (the "Vendor") presented Verity Voting 2.3 for examination and certification. The examination was conducted in Austin, Texas. Pursuant to Sections 122.035(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code, the Secretary of State appointed the following examiners:

1. Mr. Tom Watson, an expert in electronic data communication systems;
2. Mr. Brian Mechler, an expert in electronic data communication systems;
3. Mr. Brandon Hurley, an expert in election law and procedure; and
4. Mr. Charles Pinney, an expert in election law and procedure.

Pursuant to Section 122.035(a), the Texas Attorney General appointed the following examiners:

1. Dr. Jim Sneeringer, an expert in electronic data communication systems; and
2. Mr. Ryan Vassar, an employee of the Texas Attorney General.

On May 22, 2019, Mr. Pinney, Mr. Mechler, and Dr. Sneeringer witnessed the installation of the Verity Voting 2.3 software and firmware that the Office of the Texas Secretary of State (the "Office") received directly from the Independent Testing Authority. Mr. Pinney and Ms. Heidi Martinez, a staff attorney with the Office, examined the accessibility components of the Verity Touch, the Verity Touch with Access, the Verity Touch Writer with Access, and the Verity Touch Writer Duo.

On May 23, 2019, the Vendor demonstrated the system and answered questions presented by the examiners. Test ballots were then processed on each voting device. The results were accumulated and later verified for accuracy by staff of the Secretary of State.

Examiner reports regarding the Verity Voting 2.3 system are attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

On July 10, 2019, pursuant to Section 122.0371 of the Texas Election Code, the Office held a public hearing for interested persons to express views for or against the certification of the Verity Voting 2.3 system.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF VERITY VOTING 2.3

The Verity Voting 2.3 system is an updated version of the Verity Voting 2.0 system, which the Office certified in December 2016 for use in Texas elections. The updated version includes

software enhancements to the existing election management system and introduces a new voting device, the Verity Touch Writer Duo. The Touch Writer Duo is a ballot marking device that allows users to input their selections on a digital interface and prints a paper record of the vote that can be scanned and tabulated using a precinct or central scanner.

Verity Voting 2.3 has been evaluated at an accredited independent voting system testing laboratory for conformance to the 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG). Verity Voting 2.3 was certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) on March 15, 2019.

The components of Verity Voting 2.3 are as follows:

Component	Version	Description
Verity Data	2.3.1	Data management software
Verity Build	2.3.1	Election definition software
Verity Count	2.3.1	Tabulation and reporting software
Verity Central	2.3.1	Central scanning software
Verity User Management	2.3.1	User management software
Verity Election Management	2.3.1	Election management software
Verity Desktop	2.3.1	Election management software
Verity Scan	2.3.1	Precinct scanner
Verity Touch Writer with Access	2.3.1	Ballot marking device with accessibility features
Verity Controller	2.3.2	Voting machine ballot activation device
Verity Touch	2.3.1	Direct-recording electronic voting machine
Verity Touch with Access	2.3.1	Direct-recording electronic voting machine with accessibility features
Verity Touch Writer Duo	2.3.1	Ballot marking device

FINDINGS

The following are the findings, based on written evidence submitted by the Vendor in support of its application for certification, oral evidence presented at the examination, and the written reports of the voting system examiners (all of whom recommended certifying the Verity Voting 2.3 system for use in Texas elections).

The Verity Voting 2.3 system, including its hardware and software components, meets the standards for certification as prescribed by Section 122.001 of the Texas Election Code. Specifically, the Verity Voting 2.3 system and its components, among other things:

1. Preserve the secrecy of the ballot;
2. Are suitable for the purpose for which they are intended;
3. Operate safely, efficiently, and accurately and comply with the voting system standards adopted by the Election Assistance Commission;
4. Are safe from fraudulent or unauthorized manipulation;
5. Permit voting on all offices and measures to be voted on at the election;
6. Prevent counting votes on offices and measures on which the voter is not entitled to vote;
7. Prevent counting votes by the same voter for more than one candidate for the same office or, in elections in which a voter is entitled to vote for more than one candidate for the same office, prevent counting votes for more than the number of candidates for whom the voter is entitled to vote;
8. Prevent counting a vote on the same office or measure more than once;
9. Permit write-in voting;
10. Are capable of permitting straight-party voting; and
11. Are capable of providing records from which the operation of the system may be audited.

CONDITIONS

In their written reports, some of the voting system examiners indicated that the Verity Voting 2.3 system does not provide a software solution to address the ballot-numbering requirements in Sections 51.006-.008, 52.062, and 62.009 of the Texas Election Code. However, the examiners noted that jurisdictions that adopt the Verity Voting 2.3 system can still comply with these requirements by following additional procedures provided by the Vendor. Therefore, the certification of system is conditioned on jurisdictions utilizing these additional procedures to comply with the Texas Election Code's ballot-numbering requirements when using the Verity Voting 2.3 system.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, based upon the foregoing, I hereby certify Hart InterCivic's Verity Voting 2.3 system for use in Texas elections, subject to the above condition.

Signed under my hand and seal of office, this 22nd day of July 2019.



JOSE A. ESPARZA
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE