

The State of Texas

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Jane Nelson
Secretary of State

REPORT OF REVIEW OF HART INTERCIVIC VERITY VANGUARD 1.0 VOTING SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

On September 16-18, 2025, Hart InterCivic, Inc. (“Hart” or the “Vendor”) presented the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system for examination and certification. The examination was conducted in Austin, Texas at the Office of the Texas Secretary of State (the “Office”). Pursuant to Sections 122.035(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code, the Secretary of State appointed the following examiners:

1. Mr. Ryan Macias, 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. Andrew Appel, an expert in electronic data communication systems; and
2. Mr. Justin Gordon, an employee of the Texas Attorney General.

On September 16, 2025, Dr. Appel, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Macias, Mr. Mechler, and Mr. Pinney witnessed the extraction of the trusted build and the installation of the Verity Vanguard 1.0 software and firmware that the Office received directly from the Independent Testing Authority. The examiners compared the generated hashes from each device to the trusted hashes that the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (“EAC”) provided to the Office. The hash validation was successful.

On September 17, 2025, the Office, under observation of the examiners, performed a logic and accuracy test of the system. The examiners reviewed the test script and expected results for the test before the test was conducted. The results of the logic and accuracy test were accumulated and matched to the expected results by Office staff, and the test was successful.

On September 18, 2025, the Vendor demonstrated the system and answered questions presented by the examiners. After the vendor presentation, the examiners conducted targeted testing of system components. During targeted testing, Mr. Pinney, assisted by Office staff, examined the accessibility components of the Vanguard Flex, Vanguard Vault, and Vanguard Adapt.

Examiner reports regarding the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system are attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

On December 19, 2025, 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 Vanguard 1.0 system.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF VERITY VANGUARD 1.0

The Verity Vanguard 1.0 system has been evaluated at an accredited independent voting system laboratory for conformance to the 2021 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG 2.0). Verity Vanguard 1.0 was certified by the EAC on July 7, 2025.¹

The components of Verity Vanguard 1.0 are as follows:

Component	Version	Description
Vanguard Define	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Deploy	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Capture	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Results	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Settings	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Users	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Manage	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Libraries	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Test Decks	1.0.1	Election Management Software
Vanguard Boost	1.0.1	Ballot Activation Device
Vanguard Flex	1.0.1	Ballot Marking Device
Vanguard Vault	1.0.1	Precinct Scanner
Vanguard Adapt	1.0.1	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 certification of the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system for use in Texas elections, subject to certain conditions outlined below).

The Verity Vanguard 1.0 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 Vanguard 1.0 system and its components:

1. Preserve the secrecy of the ballot;
2. Are suitable for the purpose for which they are intended;

¹ In the course of the examination of the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system, the examiners also reviewed Engineering Change Order (ECO) 1743, which was a documentation change to update the Technical Data Package (TDP). ECO 1743 was reviewed and approved by all examiners, and is hereby approved as part of this Certification Order.

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; and
10. Are capable of providing records from which the operation of the voting system may be audited.

CONDITIONS

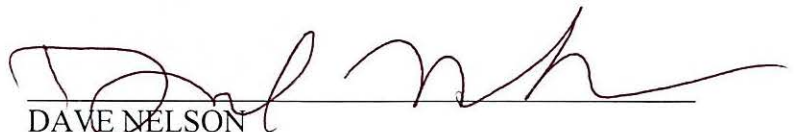
The Secretary of State imposes the following conditions on the certification of the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system:

1. The examiners determined in their written reports that Vanguard Adapt does not operate in a manner compliant with Texas requirements for provisional and spoiled ballot management. Accordingly, Vanguard Adapt is not a certified device of the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system for use in Texas elections.
2. Although Vanguard Ranked Choice is included in the EAC Scope of Conformance, the Vendor has not sought certification of this component in Texas. Therefore, Vanguard Ranked Choice is not a certified component of the Verity Vanguard 1.0 system for use in Texas elections.
3. The Verity Vanguard 1.0 system must be used in accordance with the requirements set forth in the most recent version of the Vanguard 1.0 System Use Specifications published by the Texas Secretary of State.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, based upon the foregoing, I hereby certify Hart InterCivic's Verity Vanguard 1.0 system for use in Texas elections, subject to the above conditions.

Signed under my hand and seal of office, this 31 day of March, 2026.



DAVE NELSON
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE