



Pierce County

Auditor's Office

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Licensing Supervisor

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Animal Control Supervisor

January 16, 2009

The Honorable Sam Reed
Secretary of State
PO Box 40220
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Secretary Reed:

On January 14, 2009, Sequoia Voting Systems notified my office that it is unlikely that Version 4.0 will be federally certified this year. Last year, your office granted emergency/provisional use of this version of software in order to conduct Ranked Choice Voting Elections as mandated by the Pierce County Charter. The current emergency/provisional certification expires on July 31, 2009.

Please accept this as my formal request for the Office of the Secretary of State to approve an extension to the emergency/provisional certification of Sequoia Voting Systems Version 4.0 and associated software and firmware for use in Pierce County.

The continued authorized use of this system is required for Pierce County to conduct our upcoming November 2009 General Election. Pierce County will have a Ranked Choice Voting office on this election ballot. Washington Administrative Code 434-335-200 and 210 provide for the emergency/provisional certification of election tabulation systems when the failure to modify the system could materially affect the lawful conduct or the county's ability to conduct an upcoming election.

Failure to approve this extension for use of the software provisionally certified and approved by you last year would force Pierce County to count and tabulate an expected 300,000 ballots by hand. This tabulation would involve more than simply counting the ballots; it would also require the application of the RCV algorithm and the reallocation of voter's second and third choices using manual processes as well. This manual count could not start until all ballots have been received and would significantly delay the certification of the election. Further, a delay of certification for a county level office would require approval by our legislative authority.

2401 South 35th Street, Room 200 • Tacoma, WA 98409-7481

www.piercecountywa.org/auditor

Administration
P 253.798.3189
F 253.798.3182

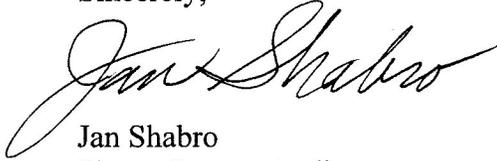
Elections
P 253.798.7430
F 253.798.2761
P 800.446.4979

Recording
P 253.798.7440
F 253.798.2761

Licensing
P 253.798.3649
F 253.798.3701

Please advise if any additional information is needed from Pierce County to initiate this certification process. Should you have questions or concerns, contact me directly at 253-798-3189.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Shabro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jan Shabro
Pierce County Auditor

cc: Nick Handy, Office of the Secretary of State
✓ Paul Miller, Office of the Secretary of State
Patty Murphy, Office of the Secretary of State
Waldeep Singh, Sequoia Voting Systems
Sheree Noell, Sequoia Voting Systems
Howard Cramer, Sequoia Voting Systems
Ed Smith, Sequoia Voting Systems
Dave Prather, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney