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From: Debbie Rudy <drudy@montrosecounty.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 8:48 AM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: Comments: proposed temporary election rule

Comments for proposed rules:

Rule 8. Watchers

Rule 8 does not specifically address voter registration activities in the VSPC, except in 8.5.2(a) where it addresses that “all activities” in a Voter Service and Polling Center are included in the conduct of elections, as it relates to what watchers are allowed to observe, which is also mentioned in 8.5.5. It would seem that a very good option would be to use a slip with name and address, that could be used to check the voter in and that the Supervisor Judge (or contact judge designated by the Supervisor) could then pass on to the watchers. Because of the sensitive nature of some parts of the voter registration information, it really does seem as if the watchers need to be away from that table at a distance.

There needs also to be more guidance on filtering watchers. Rule 8.5.2(e) refers to local safety codes, but those may or may not be helpful in a situation where there are people moving constantly. Perhaps something in rule allowing the DEO to limit the numbers due to spatial constraints, based on a couple of criteria. First, the DEO should be able to have the parties (and their candidates) watchers designate a representative (or two) who disseminate the information to the concerned parties. Because there could be a candidate who gained access to the ballot through petition, those individuals would be eligible to have a watcher, as well as the ballot question proponents and opponents of a ballot question. It just seems that if you have every kind of watcher that there is, that could be a crowded room.

8.12 seems to be a difficult proposition. There wouldn't be any way to continually provide those lists all day long on election day, because it would be overlapped lists, since there isn't a way to time-stamp what you're running. A list of everything that has gone before is possible – in other words, a list that shows everyone that was issued a ballot but who had not yet returned a ballot or voted otherwise might be an acceptable way to go on that.

10.12.1 Instead of 1-10.5-101(I)(a) should be 1-10-101(I)(a)? There might be another citation that also applies, but this is what I found.

10.17.4 Refers to Rule 4. Complaints are addressed in Rule 13.

17.2.10 Provisional codes RWC should be voted in wrong county. RWS might be a better code for voting in the wrong state.

Sad but true. No matter how hard we try to connect people with their appropriate county or state to get an absentee ballot, sometimes there is no other choice.

While there are some numbering issues and typos, it seemed to me that these were important issues that needed to be addressed.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

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