

The State of Texas



Elections Division
P.O. Box 12060
Austin, Texas 78711-2060
www.sos.texas.gov

Phone: 512-463-5650
Fax: 512-475-2811
Dial 7-1-1 For Relay Services
(800) 252-VOTE (8683)

Secretary of State

REPORT OF REVIEW OF DOMINION VOTING SYSTEMS DEMOCRACY SUITE 5.5

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

On January 16-17, 2019, Dominion Voting Systems (the "Vendor") presented Democracy Suite 5.5 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 January 16, 2019, Mr. Mechler, Mr. Pinney, and Dr. Sneeringer were present and witnessed the installation of the Democracy Suite 5.5 software and firmware that the Office of the Texas Secretary of State (the "Office") received directly from the Independent Testing Authority.

On January 17, 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.

On January 16, 2019 and January 23, 2019, Mr. Pinney and Ms. Krystine Ramon, a staff attorney with the Office, examined the accessibility components of the voting devices.

Examiner reports regarding the Democracy Suite 5.5 system are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

On March 13, 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 Democracy Suite 5.5 system.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEMOCRACY SUITE 5.5

The Democracy Suite 5.5 Voting System supports both paper ballots and electronic voting. Additionally, the Democracy Suite 5.5 Election Management System is a comprehensive tool that can be used for managing an election, coding a ballot, and accumulating election results. This software can be used in conjunction with several different ballot marking devices, a direct-recording electronic (DRE) machine with a supported voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT), a precinct scanner, and a central scanner.

Democracy Suite 5.5 has been evaluated at an accredited independent voting system testing laboratory for conformance to the 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG). It has received Elections Assistance Commission (EAC) # DVS-DemSuite5.5 on September 14, 2018.

The components of Democracy Suite 5.5 are as follows:

Component	Version	Description
EMS – Election Management System	5.5.12.1	Election Management System
ADJ – Adjudication	5.5.8.1	
ICC – ImageCast Central	5.5.3.0002	Central scanner and tabulator
ICX – ImageCast X BMD (Ballot Marking Device)	5.5.10.25	Accessible electronic ballot marker
ICX – ImageCast X DRE w/ VVPAT	5.5.10.25	Direct-recording electronic voting machine with voter-verified paper audit trail
ICP – ImageCast Precinct	5.5.3.0002	Precinct scanner and tabulator
ICX – ImageCast X BMD Classic 15”	5.5.10.25	Accessible ballot marker
ICX – ImageCast X BMD Classic 21”	5.5.10.25	Accessible ballot marker

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 findings of the voting system examiners as set out in their written reports.

The examiner reports identified multiple hardware and software issues that preclude the Office of the Texas Secretary of State from determining that the Democracy Suite 5.5 satisfies each of the voting-system requirements set forth in the Texas Election Code. Specifically, the examiner reports raise concerns about whether the Democracy Suite 5.5 preserves the secrecy of the ballot; is suitable for its intended purpose; operates efficiently and accurately; and is capable of permitting straight-party voting. Thus, the Democracy Suite 5.5 Voting System and corresponding hardware devices do not meet the standards for certification as prescribed by Section 122.001 of the Texas Election Code.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, based upon the foregoing, I hereby deny certification of Dominion Voting Systems' Democracy Suite 5.5 for use in elections in Texas.

Signed under my hand and seal of office, this 20th day of June 2019.



JOSE A. ESPARZA
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE