

CFFE Registrar Survey Form – 8/3/21

County/City Louisa Observers Kelly Edwards & Diana Gill
 Date of interview 8/25/2021 Registrar Chris Watkins, Curtis Thymore *Beth Richardson - assistant registrar*

Before the Interview - Record the time and date of your call and email, and if the meeting is not scheduled, the time and date of their response *electoral board*

- a) Time and date of initial call and email: _____
- b) Time and date of response: _____
- c) Did the registrar refuse to meet you: Yes ___ No ___
- d) If yes, please provide the reason given for not meeting: _____

The Interview - Thank the Registrar for agreeing to see you. State that the purpose of the observation program is to provide voters with accurate information about the election process. Emphasize how important you think his/her role is in ensuring that everyone in the county sees the elections here are free, fair and legitimate.

First, we have a few general questions.

1.	What is your biggest concern about the upcoming election? (open ended. Record verbatim.)	<p><u>Faith in elections - misunderstanding, confidence in process. Meeting with people one on one is helping. Restoring public trust in elections</u></p>
2.	Any other major concerns? (open ended. Record verbatim.)	
3.	Do you feel like you have the resources, equipment, personnel, and training needed to run an effective election in November?	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>good relationship w/ county government</u></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/></p>
4.	If no, what is missing?	
5.	The county election board is supposed to consist of 2 Democrats and a Republican under a Democrat governor, but in some areas, boards have had trouble finding willing Republicans and have appointed an Independent instead, or another Democrat. What is the situation in this county?	<p>Two Democrats and a Republican <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>always have been in compliance</u></p> <p>Two Democrats and an Independent <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Three Democrats <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other: <input type="checkbox"/></p>
6.	What about precinct staff? Are you able to have equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans? (please check one, then provide any relevant detail on right side of this box)	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Equal numbers of chief + asst chiefs</u></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/> <u>board representation including independents</u></p> <p>Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> <u>have never tried to split equally</u></p> <p>No answer/refused <input type="checkbox"/> <u>all the way down</u></p>

7. Is the county Board of Elections engaged in your work year-round, or mostly near elections?
 Year round Board always involved.
 Mostly near elections Close relationship
 Don't know Trained in Poll books last night
 No answer/refused

Thank you. Now a few questions on the voter roll.

8. When was the last time the voter file in your county was scrubbed or cleaned? (Enter date, and the number of days since last audit) Date: 8/25/2021 7am
 No. of days since last audit: ongoing

9. a. Does the Health Department/coroner/or Bureau of Vital Statistics send a list of deceased people to your office every month so they can be removed from the voter roll?
 Yes Hoppers processed daily
 No Comes from State Department
 Don't know
 No answer/refused

b. If no, how often do they send a list?

10. When was the last time the Clerk of Courts submitted a list of individuals who declined to serve on jury duty on the basis of being a non-citizen? never gotten this list

11. When was the last time you had access to the National Change of Address List or any other change of address list? (record date and other list(s), if relevant) July 2021

12. a. Are you confident that the voter file is accurate and up to date?
 Yes Do everything they know to do
 No Confident they do all they can
 Don't know Cross check w/ Dept of Revenue
 No answer/refused

b. If no, what is/are your main concern(s) about the list?

13. How many households in your locality have more than 7 individuals registered at the same address?
 Number: — (if unknown, ask that he/she forward information ASAP)
Have no way to check this // maybe census?

14. During registration, how do you verify that voters are citizens?
Box checked under penalty of law

Moving on, concerns were raised across the country about the accuracy and integrity of voting machines in the 2020 elections.

15. There are three types of voting machines used in Virginia. Can you tell me which machines you use?
More than 3 machines used in VA more like 4 or 5
 Dominion ICE, Image Cast Evolution

16. Who calibrates the voting machines, and can you please explain the process?
Done during logic & accuracy testing - vendor tested during LTA
 Calibrates during LTA testing 399 ballots
 9 ballot styles

17. Do you invite party representatives to witness the calibration?
 Yes Required by code
 No May show up at times
 Don't know
 No answer/refused

18. a. Are voting machines ever connected to the internet?
 Yes _____
 No _____
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____

b. If they are not connected to the internet, how and when are they updated?
 Thumb drives

Many changes in election procedures were introduced in response to the COVID pandemic, and some people have argued that these changes weakened the integrity of the election process.

19. As an election professional, do you think the changes made in the election process in Virginia in response to COVID have weakened election integrity, strengthened election integrity, or made no change in election integrity?
 weakened integrity _____
 strengthened integrity _____
 made no change _____
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____
 Think it made more interest in voting participation when mailed application for mail in vote. Had biggest turnout to election

20. a. Did you receive any funding or in-kind contributions for training, staff, voter education or equipment, or any other purpose from outside the state of Virginia?
 Yes _____
 No _____
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____
 CARES Act + a grant

b. If yes, what was the funding or contribution used for?
 Primarily used for staff for early voting

21. Effective Jul 1, 2021, Senate Bill 1097, eliminated requirements for voters to have a witness signature on absentee ballots for any election during a declared state of emergency. The Governor has now rescinded the state of emergency. How are you training your staff to ensure that there is a signature match for the upcoming elections?
 Checking ballots for signature & witness signature

22. There is a lot of concern in Virginia and across the country about the security and integrity of the ballot drop boxes. What are the chain of custody procedures for ballot drop boxes?
~~Witness signature~~ Box in vestibule used prior to election day. Has camera on 24/7 - checked daily

23. Was there any time during the last election cycle when your drop boxes did not have video monitoring?
 Yes _____
 No _____
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____
 Sheriff Department monitors camera Election Day - Ballot drop kept at precinct at chiefs table end of day a people / fill out logs each time drop box

24. Who is responsible for reviewing the video, and were party observers present during the review?
 Person (title) responsible: Sheriff's Department or pages touched
 Yes _____
 No _____
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____
 was not viewed, no need

To strengthen public confidence in the integrity of elections, we hope to expand our observation efforts, and have a few questions about election pages, non-partisan observers, and party observers.

25. Would you provide training and support, or designate us to provide training and support, for an election day page program as described in 24.2-604.3?
 Yes
 No
 Don't know
 No answer/refused
 They have a page program government teachers at high school students 1/2 day shift - 1 day training

26. Would you authorize non-partisan election observers with the same rights as party representatives; as described in 24.2-604.5 A?
 Yes
 No
 Don't know
 No answer/refused
 Always have observers - found non partisan observers to be disruptive at times - now doing training never had request for non partisan

27. Would you authorize international non-partisan observers from recognized election monitoring organizations?
 Yes
 No
 Don't know
 No answer/refused
 same answer as above

28. Have your local party chairs been notified that they are entitled to send observers to your office each day it is open and receiving in-person absentee ballots?
 Yes
 No
 Don't know
 No answer/refused
 notified of everything they do

29. a. Do you have a publication that you provide to your election officials regarding rights and responsibilities of observers?
 Yes
 No (go to b.)
 Don't know
 No answer/refused
 comes from state do's + don't's list

b. If no, would you be willing to distribute such a publication that we would prepare based on Virginia law?
 Yes
 No
 Don't know
 No answer/refused

Thank you. The survey is complete now. We deeply appreciate your time today, and look forward to keeping in touch as we go through the 2021 state elections. (if you have additional questions) If you don't mind, we have a few additional questions related specifically to (county or city).

30. Post survey question - Please characterize your interaction with the Registrar as (circle all that apply)
 Helpful Polite Defensive Unhelpful Antagonistic

To the survey team: Thank you for all you have done and will do to ensure a free and fair election in Virginia! Please submit your completed survey form as soon as possible.