

CFFE Registrar Survey Form – 8/3/21

County/City Madison County Observers Toni Shoads, Eileen Ehrth

Date of interview 8/18/21 Registrar Lauren Eanes

Before the Interview - Record the time and date of your call and email, and if the meeting is not set immediately, the time and date of their response

- a) Time and date of initial call and email: 8/16/21 2:30pm
- b) Time and date of response: Same
- 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.)
Not really a concern but wondering ~~how~~ if early voting is going to continue to be as big as it was in 2020.
2. Any other major concerns? (open ended. Record verbatim.)
No other concerns
3. Do you feel like you have the resources, equipment, personnel, and training needed to run an effective election in November?
Yes
No
Don't know
No answer/refused
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?
Two Democrats and a Republican
Two Democrats and an Independent
Three Democrats
Other: _____
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)
Yes more Democrat election officials, but
No we added 10 republicans to help even
Don't know it out
No answer/refused

7. Is the county Board of Elections engaged in your work year-round, or mostly near elections?
 Year round _____
 Mostly near elections *involved year round but mostly near elections.*
 Don't know _____
 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: *Rolling Process, they check obituaries*
 No. of days since last audit: *each week.*

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 _____ *They send it to the State and then the state*
 No *sends to madison co. through computer.*
 Don't know _____ *send out when it pertains to this county.*
 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? *Only get when state has a match to this county*

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) *This Summer*

12. a. Are you confident that the voter file is accurate and up to date?
 Yes
 No _____
 Don't know _____
 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)

Don't know how to figure out how to get this.

14. During registration, how do you verify that voters are citizens?
They check the box but we don't verify

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?
Hart Intercivic

16. Who calibrates the voting machines, and can you please explain the process? *Registrar and County Technician do logic and accuracy testing with the Board Electoral Board. Done 2 days before election then locked up.*

17. Do you invite party representatives to witness the calibration?
 Yes
 No _____
 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?
The company that we got machine from will send someone to do the updates.

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 *Registrar wants to stay non-partisan so she wouldn't answer.*

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 *Received money from State but came from Cares Act.*
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____

b. If yes, what was the funding or contribution used for?

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?
Registrar trains her staff - they need to look at both signatures on ballot. 2 Full Time 2 part time.

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?
For early election voting the drop box is in front of the office and at end of day under video surveillance the ballots are brought in office and entered and then locked in safe.

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 _____

24. Who is responsible for reviewing the video, and were party observers present during the review?
 Person (title) responsible: *Registrar and IT person*
 Yes _____
 No
 Don't know _____
 No answer/refused _____

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 We have a page program and we do the training. We didn't use them for 2020 election due to COVID - but we want to bring it back.
No
Don't know
No answer/refused

26. Would you authorize non-partisan election observers with the same rights as party representatives; as described in 24.2-604.5 A?
Yes One non-partisan observer for every affiliated representative.
No
Don't know
No answer/refused

27. Would you authorize international non-partisan observers from recognized election monitoring organizations?
Yes I don't see a problem with that.
No
Don't know
No answer/refused

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

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

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.