



Texas Secretary of State
ELECTIONS DIVISION



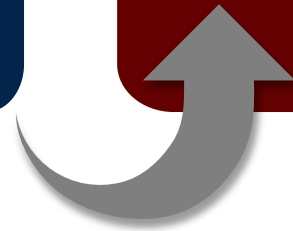
Planning for Risk-Limiting Audits



When Do RLAs Happen?

November 19-20, 2026

Each election on a
statewide race or measure





General Information

Conducted by general custodian of election records

Open to poll watchers

Notice must be posted in office and on website



RLA and PEHCA

The Post-Election Hand Count Audit must begin not later than the first business day after the SOS certifies completion of the risk-limiting audit

PEHCA must be completed no later than the 30th day after election or by the deadline designated by the SOS whichever is later



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Risk-Limiting Audit Basics



What is a Risk-Limiting Audit?



Checks outcome
of an election

1

Retrieve randomly
selected ballots



2

Hand count ballots



3

Calculate risk



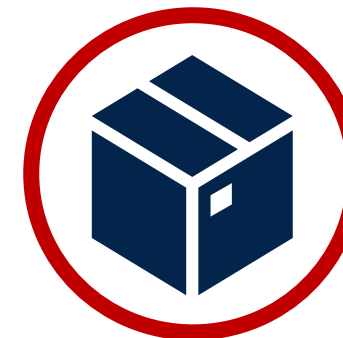


Ballot Retrieval

Audit Board #1

Batch: EV Library

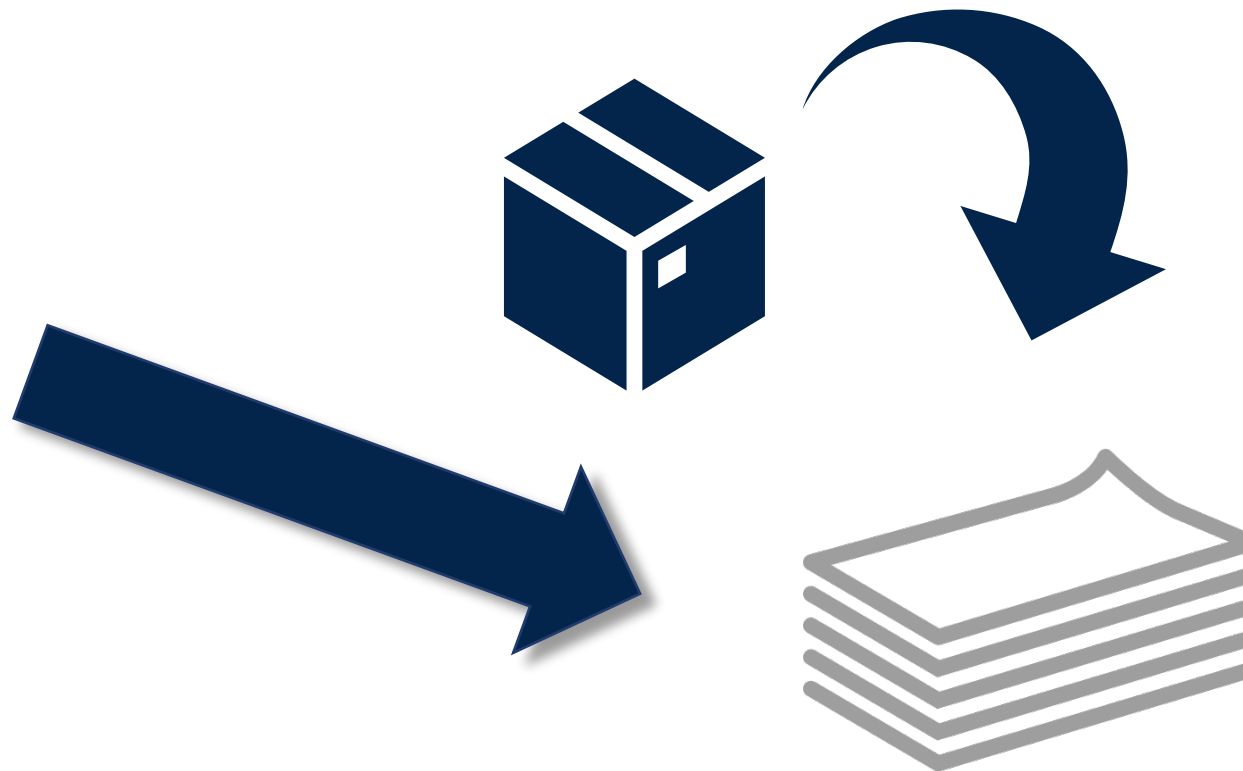
Ballot Number: 538





Ballot Retrieval

Audit Board #1
Batch: FV Library
Ballot Number: 538





Hand Count



Hand Count
Each Ballot

Enter Voter Choices



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Preparing for Risk-Limiting Audits



Ballot Manifest

	A	B
1	Batch Name	Number of Ballots
2	EV Library	762
3	EV City Hall	244
4	EV Main Office, Bag 1	2357
5	EV Main Office, Bag 2	1549
6	ED Library	285
7	ED Main Office	963
8	ED City Hall	174
9	ED NW Community Center	189
10	Mail	102

**Uploaded by Monday,
November 16**



Ballot Retrieval

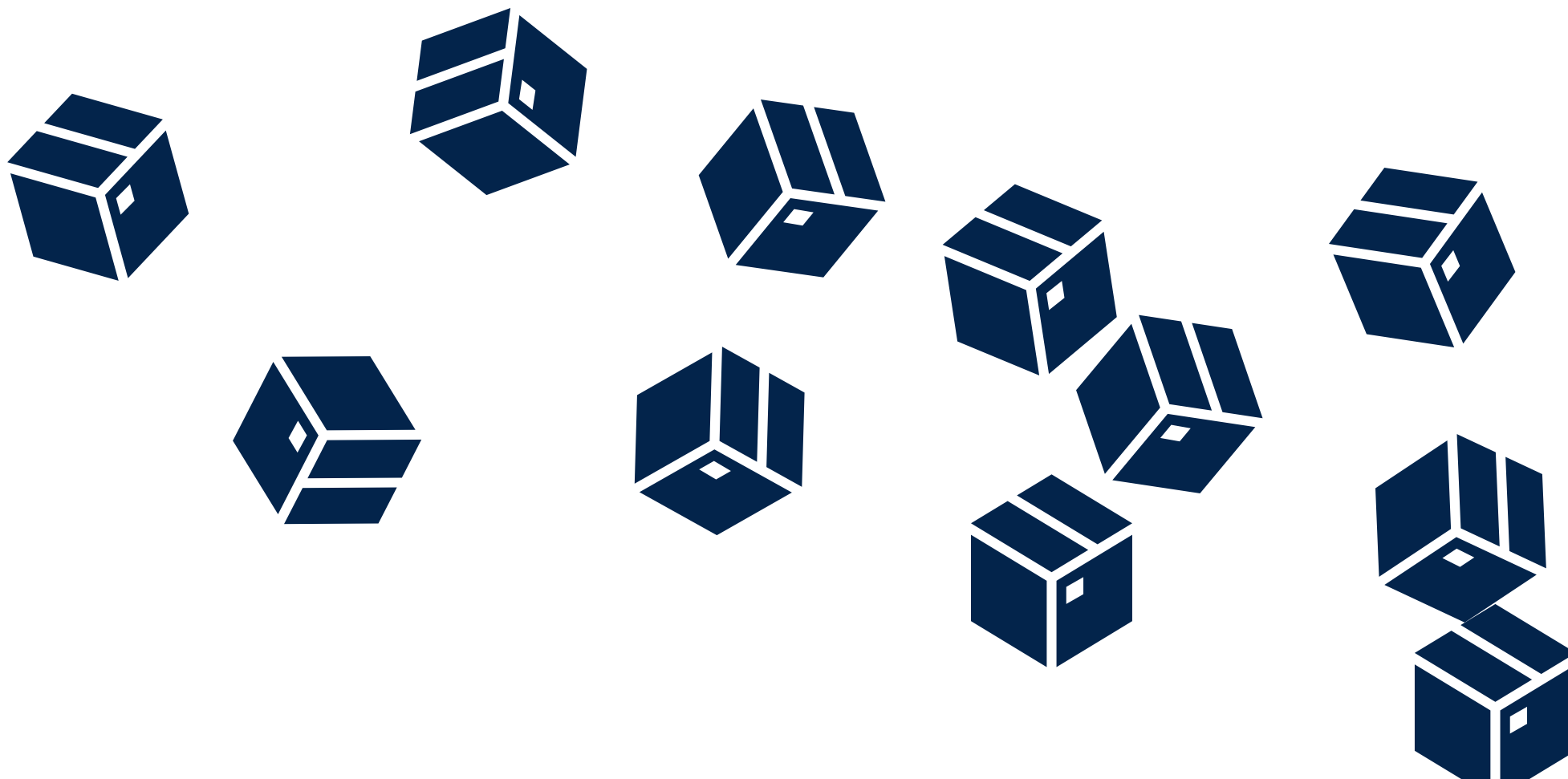
	A	B
1	Batch Name	Number of Ballots
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3	EV City Hall	244
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Audit Board #1
Batch: EV Library
Ballot Number: 538





Organize Ballot Containers





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Poll List



Ballot Manifest Sources

ePollbook reports

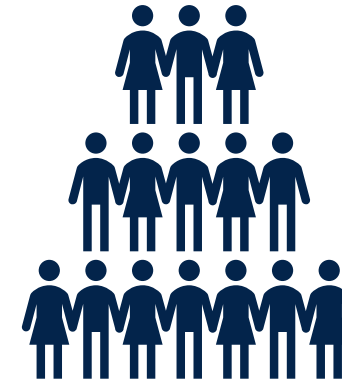
Polling place paperwork

Ballot container labels



Ballot Manifest – Election Day Locations

	A	B
1	Batch Name	Number of Ballots
2	EV Library	762
3	EV City Hall	244
4	EV Main Office, Bag 1	2357
5	EV Main Office, Bag 2	1549
6	ED Library	285
7	ED Main Office	963
8	ED City Hall	174
9	ED NW Community Center	189
10	Mail	102





Ballot Manifest – Early Voting Locations

	A	B
1	Batch Name	Number of Ballots
2	EV Library	762
3	EV City Hall	244
4	EV Main Office, Bag 1	2357
5	EV Main Office, Bag 2	1549





Ballot Manifest – Mail Ballots

	A	B
1	Batch Name	Number of Ballots
2	Scanner 1, Batch 1	100
3	Scanner 1, Batch 2	100
4	Scanner 1, Batch 3	100
5	Scanner 1, Batch 4	100
6	Scanner 1, Batch 5	47

BBM Batch Sheet

Scanner: #1

Batch: 4

of Ballots: 100



Supplies

Removable mailing labels
1" x 2 5/8"

Letter size color paper

Computer with Chrome or
Safari

Seals, scissors, and chain of
custody documents

Rubber bands, binder clips,
sticky notes

Rubber fingertips



Staffing - RLA Roles

Jurisdiction Manager - county level coordinator of the audit; uploads and downloads files

Audit Boards - teams of 2-3; retrieve ballots and enter ballot information into the audit software



Staffing – Audit Boards

Anyone eligible to be
a poll worker

Can use office staff

Party parity recommended



Review

Create a ballot manifest

Retrieve random ballots

Hand count ballots



During the Election



Chain of Custody



Reconciliation



Ballot Storage



Available Support



WEBINARS



TRAINING



RESOURCES

elections@sos.texas.gov

800-252-VOTE • 512-463-5650

sos.texas.gov