



# COCHISE COUNTY ELECTIONS / SPECIAL DISTRICTS

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February 7, 2008

The Honorable Jan Brewer  
Secretary of State  
1700 West Washington, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Secretary Brewer:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-602, Cochise County conducted a hand count of ballots cast in the Primary Election held on September 2, 2008.

Per statute, the Cochise County Democrat Party Chair, Bob Bland and the Cochise County Republican Party Vice-Chair, Tito Ross met on Election Night and randomly selected two precincts from which the precinct ballots would be hand counted and one precinct of early ballots to be hand counted.

On September 3, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. eight designees from the Democrat Party and the Republican Party, four each, convened to perform the hand count.

The precincts selected were No. 01 BE BENSON, No. 48 SV MIDDLE SCHOOL and No. 51 SV RAMSEY. Precincts No 01 and 48 were selected for precinct ballots to be hand counted and No. 51 was selected for early ballots. There were only three contested races on the Cochise County ballot of the five categories per procedures for conducting a hand count, presidential elector, federal candidate, statewide candidate, statewide ballot issue, and one state legislative race. Per agreement with the Democrat and Republican Parties, the three contested races on the Cochise County Ballots that were used for the hand count were as follows:

- Statewide - Corporation Commission – Democrat
- Statewide – Corporation Commission – Republican
- State Legislative Race – Representative District 30 - Republican

All candidates for each of these offices were included in the hand count. The hand count total for of precinct ballots for No. 01 BE BENSON had an Absolute Difference of zero for all candidates in all races from the 249 ballots hand counted.

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The hand count results for precinct ballots in No. 48 SV MIDDLE SCHOOL were zero in Absolute Difference for both the Democrat and Republican candidates for Corporation Commission. In the State Legislative District No. 30 Republican race the Absolute Difference was zero for Antenori, Collins and Gowan, but an Absolute Difference of Plus one for Sposito. The hand count board was able to determine the "intent" of one voter when looking at the ballot that did not have the ovals completely filled in. This was out of 52 ballots cast at the precinct.

For the early ballots from precinct No. 51 SV Ramsey, 95 early ballots were hand counted and the Absolute Difference was again zero for all races counted.

The differences between the hand count and the machine count were well within the designated margins established by the Vote County Verification Committee.

Please contact this office if there are any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. Schelling". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Thomas W. Schelling  
Elections Officer