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# Elections Department

## Santa Cruz County

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TO: Katie Hobbs, Arizona Secretary of State  
FROM: Alma Schultz, County Elections Director  
RE: Hand Count Report – General Election – November 8, 2022 Automatic Recount  
DATE: December 15, 2022

Pursuant to A.R.S. §16-602, the Santa Cruz County Elections Department conducted the statutorily required hand count audit of the November 8, 2022 General Election Automatic Recount of Attorney General and Superintendent of Public Instruction races.

On Friday, December 9, 2022 the Santa Cruz County Party Chairs or designees from the Democratic and Republican parties took part in the random drawing of lots for early ballot batches and vote centers to be counted during the Hand Count Audit. There were 13,308 ballots cast, so a minimum of 267 ballots formed the basis of the hand count. Prior to drawing the lots, a coin toss determined which party (Democrat or Republican) would draw the first lot. Four batches of early ballots, two from each tabulation machines (A and B), were selected for the count and two vote centers to meet or exceed the minimum of ballots.

The following batches were selected:

- Tabulation Machine A - Early Batches 314 and 157
- Tabulation Machine B – Early Batches 210 and 60

The four batches were a total of 116 early ballots.

The following vote centers were selected:

- VC 5 – Patagonia (Cady Hall, 346 Duquesne Ave. Patagonia, Arizona)
- VC 6 – Elgin (Elgin Community Hall, 475 Elgin Road, Elgin, Arizona)

The two vote centers were a total of 294 election day ballots.

The Hand Count Boards convened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 14, 2022. There were two boards made up of three members; one board had one Democrat, one Republican and one Independent and the other board had two Republicans and one Democrat. Each board had an alternate available should the need arise. The stacking method was used for counting.

The batches of early ballots were tabulated on two different machines; therefore, the hand count provides information on the tabulation accuracy of each machine. For each machine, the hand count results matched the tabulated results; there were 0 (zero) discrepancies. The results are shown in the tables below.

TABULATION MACHINE A	Early Ballot Batch 314		Early Ballot Batch 157	
Race	Machine Count	Hand Count	Machine Count	Hand Count
<b>Attorney General</b>				
Mayes, Kris	4	4	2	2
Hamadeh, Abraham "Abe"	3	3	0	0
<b>Superintendent of Public Instruction</b>				
Hoffman, Kathy	4	4	2	2
Horne, Tom	3	3	0	0
TABULATION MACHINE B	Early Ballot Batch 210		Early Ballot Batch 60	
Race	Machine Count	Hand Count	Machine Count	Hand Count
<b>Attorney General</b>				
Mayes, Kris	3	3	64	64
Hamadeh, Abraham "Abe"	4	4	36	36
<b>Superintendent of Public Instruction</b>				
Hoffman, Kathy	3	3	60	60
Horne, Tom	4	4	36	36

As stated above, the Election Day ballots for two (2) Vote Centers were hand counted. Vote Center 6 had no discrepancies between the hand count and the machine tabulation. Vote Center 5 had two (2) discrepancies, all of which were within the designated margins (1% or 3 votes whichever is greater) set by the Vote Count Verification Committee for polling places. The results are shown in the tables below.

VOTE CENTERS	Vote Center 5 - Patagonia		Vote Center 6 – Elgin	
Race	Machine Count	Hand Count	Machine Count	Hand Count
<b>Attorney General</b>				
Mayes, Kris	70 <sup>1</sup>	71	20	20
Hamadeh, Abraham "Abe"	87	87	109	109
<b>Superintendent of Public Instruction</b>				
Hoffman, Kathy	75 <sup>2</sup>	76	25	25
Horne, Tom	84	84	103	103

The percent margin is calculated as follows:  $\text{Margin} = \text{Absolute Difference} \div \text{Machine Count} \times 100$ . In all cases except one, the margin is less than 1%. In one case the margin is 1.1%, but still less than the 3 votes set by the Vote Verification Committee.

The Election Official and Hand Count Board members concurred that the likely cause of discrepancies where the hand count exceeded the machine count was improperly marked ballot races (i.e., use of checks, slashes or misplaced markings that the machine would not detect).

<sup>1</sup> Discrepancy =  $1/70 \times 100 = < 1\%$

<sup>2</sup> Discrepancy =  $1/75 \times 100 = < 1\%$