The Union County Board of Elections (UC BOE) performed a post-election audit consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:61-9 and the guidelines promulgated by the New Jersey Secretary of State’s Office on Tuesday, December 1, 2020. The audit was available to the public via zoom and livestream.

The UC BOE conducted a hand-to-eye count of the voter-verifiable paper records for the November 3, 2020 General Election for the offices of the United States President, United States Senate, United States House of Representatives, Union County Freeholder and Mayor. The County Clerk, County Sheriff, council, Board of Education elections and public questions were excluded from the audit.

Pursuant to the statute, “the audit shall be conducted in at least 2% of the election districts in which each audited election appears on the ballot.” Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, this election was conducted as a primarily paper election. The guidelines provided for this audit require 2% of the audit units in each of the congressional districts to be randomly selected.

Audit units included: voter verified paper audit trails from each voting machine, vote by mail ballots by municipality / ward; and provisional ballots by municipality / ward. In total, 1,553 audit units were created.

There are four congressional districts in Union County: the 7th, 8th, 10th and 12th. There are 610 audit units for the 7th Congressional District and therefore 12 batches were audited. There are 214 audit units for the 8th Congressional District and therefore 4 batches were audited. There are 533 batches in the 10th Congressional District and therefore 11 batches were audited. There are 199 batches in the 12th Congressional District and therefore 4 batches were audited.

As provided for in the statute, the following audit units were randomly selected for audit on Monday, November 30, 2020 at 10:00am via a publicly advertised and accessible zoom meeting:

1. 7th Congressional District: Berkeley Heights: Batch C0231: VBMs: 210 Ballots
2. 7th Congressional District: Summit Ward 2: Batch A0203: VBMs: 242 Ballots
3. 7th Congressional District: Summit Ward 2: Batch C0372: VBMs: 2 Ballots
4. 7th Congressional District: Westfield Ward 1: Batch A0142: VBMs: 233 Ballots
5. 7th Congressional District: Summit Ward 2: Batch C0143: VBMs: 294 Ballots
6. 7th Congressional District: Berkeley Heights: Batch B0009: VBMs: 271 Ballots
7. 7th Congressional District: Berkeley Heights: Batch C0182: VBMs: 211 Ballots
8. 7th Congressional District: Summit: Voting Machine Number 19407: 1 Ballot
9. 7th Congressional District: Cranford: Batch C0237: VBMs: 269 Ballots
10. 7th Congressional District: Summit Ward 1: Batch B0241: VBMs: 206 Ballots
11. 7th Congressional District: Springfield: Batch B0101: VBMs: 225 Ballots
12. 7th Congressional District: Berkeley Heights: Batch A0240: VBM: 201 Ballots
13. 8th Congressional District: Elizabeth: Voting Machine Number 19337: 1 Ballot
15. 8th Congressional District: Elizabeth Ward 3: Batch C0046: VBM: 236 Ballots
16. 8th Congressional District: Elizabeth Ward 3: Batch B0407: VBM: 8 Ballots
17. 10th Congressional District: Rahway Ward 3: Batch Y0033: Provisional Ballots: 113 Ballots
18. 10th Congressional District: Linden Ward 6: Batch B0067: VBM: 212 Ballots
20. 10th Congressional District: Roselle Park Ward 2: Batch E0014: VBM: 1 Ballot
22. 10th Congressional District: Linden Ward 5: Batch B0358: VBM: 178 Ballots
23. 10th Congressional District: Linden Ward 8: Batch B0279: VBM: 97 Ballots
24. 10th Congressional District: Union: Batch B0123: VBM: 274 Ballots
25. 10th Congressional District: Linden Ward 5: Batch X0053: Provisional Ballots: 184 Ballots
26. 10th Congressional District: Linden Ward 3: Batch B0276: VBM: 228 Ballots
27. 10th Congressional District: Roselle Park Ward 1: Batch C0299: VBM: 141 Ballots

In each district, the hand to eye audit was 100% consistent with the machine tally. The audit did not result in a change in the number of votes counted for any candidate. The voting machines do not allow for overvotes. Any paper ballot which contained an overvote for a particular contest recorded it as an overvote, but did not count a vote. Undervotes were recorded by the vote tabulation system and were reconciled during the course of the audit.

Respectfully Submitted on December 2, 2020 by:

Nicole L. DiRado, CMC, MPA, Administrator