The Union County Board of Elections (UC BOE) convened for the purpose of performing 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 Monday, November 22, 2021. The audit was available to the public via zoom and in-person observation.

The UC BOE conducted a hand-to-eye count of the voter-verifiable paper records for the November 2, 2021 General Election for the offices of the New Jersey Governor, New Jersey State Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, Union County Commissioners and Municipal Council / Township Committee. Public Questions and Boards of Education elections 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.” The guidelines provided for this audit require 2% of the audit units in each of the legislative districts to be randomly selected.

Audit units included: voter verified paper audit trails from each voting machine used on Election Day and during Early Voting, vote by mail ballots by municipality / ward; and provisional ballots by municipality / ward. In total, 1,135 audit units were created.

There are three legislative districts in Union County: the 20th, 21st, and 22nd. There are 348 audit units for the 20th Legislative District and therefore 7 batches were audited. There are 399 audit units for the 21st Legislative District and therefore 8 batches were audited. There are 388 batches in the 22nd Legislative District and therefore 8 batches were audited.

As provided for in the statute, the following audit units were randomly selected for audit on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 10:00am via a publicly advertised and accessible zoom meeting and in-person observation:

1. 20th Legislative District: Elizabeth Ward 2 District 8: Election Day Machine Ballots
2. 20th Legislative District: Elizabeth Ward 3 District 13: Election Day Machine Ballots
3. 20th Legislative District: Elizabeth Ward 3 District 8: Election Day Machine Ballots
4. 20th Legislative District: Elizabeth Ward 4: Vote by Mail Ballots
5. 20th Legislative District: Elizabeth Ward 4 District 7: Election Day Machine Ballots
6. 20th Legislative District: Elizabeth Ward 6: Provisional Ballots
7. 20th Legislative District: Union Vote by Mail Ballots
8. 21st Legislative District: Berkeley Heights District 9: Election Day Machine Ballots
9. 21st Legislative District: Berkeley Heights Vote by Mail Ballots
10. 21st Legislative District: Kenilworth Vote by Mail Ballots
11. 21st Legislative District: Mountainside Provisional 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 November 23, 2021:

Nicole L. DiRado, CMC, MPA, Administrator
Union County Board of Elections