Sharing Pictures of Sampled Ballots

As they say, a picture is worth a thousand words.

One audit step that could take just a few moments, but convey a huge amount of compelling and useful information, would be for counties to take a picture of each sampled ballot.

Most any sort of picture would be worthwhile. It should include the back side for two-sided ballots. But it would not be hard to write a smart phone app which could know which ballot had been selected, and automatically tag the images with that information and upload them to Audit Central.

Comparing the pictures to the CVRs would provide compelling evidence for the audit. Comparing them to the original scans would provide useful feedback on the scanning process. Sharing them in tweets would help celebrate voting, auditing, transparency and election integrity.

I'm sure we have the resources to do it, but this could also be a great little project for the Go Code Colorado events.

Neal McBurnett, based on conversations with our Colorado Risk-Limiting Audit team and others.
2017-04-10