Working Draft of Proposed Rules

Office of the Colorado Secretary of State Election Rules 8 CCR 1505-1

May 8, 2015

Disclaimer:

The following is a working draft concerning the Election Rules. The Secretary values your input and is seeking feedback about the proposed revisions before a formal notice of rulemaking.

Please send your feedback by May 15, 2015. Please reference the specific page and line number in your comments. We will consider all comments submitted by this date for inclusion in the official rulemaking draft.

Please note the following formatting key:

Font effect	Meaning
Sentence case	Retained/modified current rule language
SMALL CAPS	New language
Strikethrough	Deletions
Italic blue font text	Annotations
Amendments to 8 CCR 1505-1 Amendments to Rule 1.1.46(a)	also reference C.R.S. 1-7-107, Watchers

1.1.46 "Watcher" has the same meaning as in section 1-1-104(51), C.R.S.

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A watcher may be appointed for a recall election in the same manner as in (a) a primary election. A RECALL ISSUE COMMITTEE MAY ALSO APPOINT A WATCHER.

[*The remainder of Rule 1.1.46 is retained unaltered*]

Amendments to Rule 2.3 through 2.5: 8

9 2.3 When an elector registers to vote, the elector must provide a verifiable driver's license or state identification card number, or last four digits of his or her social security number. If 10 THE ELECTOR PROVIDES A NUMBER THAT DOES NOT VERIFY OR the elector states that he or 11 she does not have a driver's license, state identification card number, or social security 12

1 2		number, the county clerk must register the elector and mark the registration record "ID required".					
3 4 5		2.3.1 A COUNTY MUST PROCESS THE HELP AMERICA VOTE VERIFICATION FILE OMONTHLY BASIS FOR VERIFYING SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS AND REMOVE THE REQUIRED" FLAG FOR THOSE NUMBERS THAT ARE VERIFIED.					
6 7		2.3.1-2.3.2 As used in section 1-1-104(19.5), C.R.S., government document mean document issued by a city, county, state or federal government.					
8			[The remainder of New Rule 2.3.2, formerly Rule 2.3.1, is retained unaltered]				
9 10 11		2.3.2- 2	A.3.3 As used in section 1-1-104(19.5)(a)(VII), C.R.S., current means that the date of the document is within 60 days of the date submitted for identification purposes unless the document states a longer billing cycle.				
12 13 14		2.3.3 -2	.3.4 Documents issued under section 42-2-505, C.R.S., are not acceptable forms of identification for any purpose under the Uniform Election Code of 1992 and these rules.				
15 16	2.4	Treatm inform	nent of NEW REGISTRATION applications where the elector fails to provide required ation				
17		[The re	emainder of Rule 2.4 is retained unaltered]				
18	2.5	Change	es to an elector's EXISTING voter registration record				
19 20 21 22 23 24 25		2.5.1	If an elector submits a change to his or her voter registration record and fails to include the information required by sections 1-2-216 or 1-2-219, C.R.S., the county clerk must MAY not make the requested change unless the county clerk can confidently identify the voter ESTABLISH MINIMUM MATCHING CRITERIA. The IF THE county clerk CANNOT ESTABLISH MINIMUM MATCHING CRITERIA, THE COUNTY CLERK MAY NOT CHANGE THE ELECTOR'S STATUS AND must notify the voter of the additional information that is required to process the request.				
26		[The remainder of Rule 2.5 is retained unaltered]					
27	Amena	ndments to Rule 2.7.1:					
28	2.7	Minimum matching criteria					
29 30 31 32 33 34		2.7.1	Except as provided in section 1-2-302.5, C.R.S., the county clerk must not transfer, consolidate, or cancel a voter registration record unless the APPLICABLE minimum matching criteria as set forth in sections 1-2-603 and OR 1-2-604, C.R.S., are met. If the minimum matching criteria are not met the county clerk must send a letter to the voter requesting confirmation of the missing or non-matching information in order to transfer, consolidate, or cancel the record.				
35		[The re	emainder of Rule 2.7 is retained unaltered]				

1 Amendments to Rule 2.10:

2	2.10	20-day applicants NEW VOTER NOTIFICATION under section 1-2-509(3), C.R.S.
3 4 5 6		2.10.1 When a county clerk deems an applicant "not registered" upon receipt of an undeliverable new voter notification in accordance with section 1-2-509(3), C.R.S., the county clerk must mail a confirmation card. The confirmation card must meet the requirements of section 1-1-104(2.8), C.R.S.
7 8		2.10.2 If the applicant returns the signed confirmation card within 90 days the county clerk must register the applicant using the date of the original application.
9 10 11 12		2.10.3 During the 22 days before an election, the county clerk must defer processing undeliverable 20 day NEW VOTER notifications. After the election is closed, the clerk must deem an applicant "not registered" under section 1-2-509(3), C.R.S., only if the applicant did not vote in the election.
13 14 15 16 17 18 19		2.12.1-2.10.4 When IF AFTER THE 20-DAY PERIOD OUTLINED IN SECTION 1-2-509(3), C.R.S, EXPIRES the United States Postal Service returns a new voter notification or confirmation card to the county clerk as undeliverable, or provides the clerk with a postcard notice of mail forwarding, the county clerk must mark the voter's record "Inactive – returned mail" and mail a confirmation card. Where a confirmation card sent under this Rule is returned as undeliverable, the county is not required to mail another card.
20		[Current Rule 2.12.1 is amended and recodified as New Rule 2.10.4]
20 21	Amena	[Current Rule 2.12.1 is amended and recodified as New Rule 2.10.4] ments to Rules 2.12 and 2.13:
	<i>Amena</i> 2.12	
21		ments to Rules 2.12 and 2.13:
21 22 23 24 25 26 27		ments to Rules 2.12 and 2.13: List Maintenance under section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 2.12.1 When the United States Postal Service returns a new voter notification or confirmation card to the county clerk as undeliverable, or provides the clerk with a postcard notice of mail forwarding, the county clerk must mark the voter's record "Inactive – returned mail" and mail a confirmation card. Where a confirmation card sent under this Rule is returned as undeliverable, the county is not required to mail
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29		 ments to Rules 2.12 and 2.13: List Maintenance under section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 2.12.1 When the United States Postal Service returns a new voter notification or confirmation card to the county clerk as undeliverable, or provides the clerk with a postcard notice of mail forwarding, the county clerk must mark the voter's record "Inactive – returned mail" and mail a confirmation card. Where a confirmation card sent under this Rule is returned as undeliverable, the county is not required to mail another card.

1 2 3		2.12.3-2.12.2 In accordance with section 1-2-605(7), C.R.S., no later than 90 days following a General Election, the county clerk in each county must cancel the registrations of electors:
4		[The remainder of New Rule 2.12.2, formerly Rule 2.12.3, is retained unaltered]
5 6		2.12.4-2.12.3 The county must process all records designated for cancelation by the Secretary of State within 21 days of receipt.
7 8 9		2.12.5-2.12.4 The county must process and mail all confirmation cards using SCORE so that the elector's voter registration record audit log shows the date on which the county printed or extracted the confirmation card.
10 11 12		2.12.6-2.12.5 To the extent a county has records of confirmation cards it has generated and sent outside of SCORE, the county must retain those records as election records under section 1-7-802, C.R.S.
13	2.13	Voter registration at a voter service and polling center
14 15		2.13.1 A person registering voters or updating voter registration information in a voter service and polling center must:
16 17		(a) Be a permanent or temporary county employee, state employee, or temporary staff hired by the county clerk;
18		(b) Successfully pass the criminal background check described in Rule 6.5; and
19		(c) (B) Complete a training course provided by the Secretary of State.
20		[Current Rule 2.13.2 is retained unaltered]
21	Amena	lments to Rule 6.4 and repeal of Rule 6.5:
22	6.4	A supervisor judge in a voter service and polling center must:
23 24 25 26		6.4.1 Successfully pass the criminal background check described in Rule 6.5. Any person who has been convicted of an election offense or an offense with an element of fraud is prohibited from handling voter registration applications or conducting voter registration and list maintenance activities.
27 28		6.4.2 Complete COMPLETE a training course provided by OR APPROVED BY the Secretary of State.
29 30	6.5	The county clerk must arrange for a criminal background check on a supervisor judge and each staff member conducting voter registration activities.
31 32 33		(a) The criminal background check must be conducted by or through the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the county sheriff's department in accordance with section 24-72-305.6(3), C.R.S., or similar state or federal agency.

1 2	(b)	A person convicted of an election offense or an offense containing an element of fraud may not:					
3 4		(1) Handle voter registration applications or conduct voter registration and list maintenance activities; or					
5 6 7 8 9	Repeal of Rul	 (2) Have access to a code, combination, password, or encryption key for the voting equipment, ballot storage area, counting room, or tabulation workstation. 1-7.5-107 (3) (c) seems to still require the mailing of a ballot to property owners who are on the property owner list. Removing this Rule has no effect. (c) In coordinated elections, the county clerk must mail ballots to all active 					
10		eligible electors of each political subdivision.					
11	Amendments	to Rules 7.2.5 through 7.2.7:					
12 13 14	7.2.5	Effective January 1, 2015, each EACH mail ballot return envelope and mail ballot instruction must include a statement informing voters that it is a violation of law to drop off more than ten ballots in any election.					
15 16 17 18 19	7.2.6	Effective January 1, 2015 JANUARY 1, 2016, each mail ballot return envelope must include the following: "For third party delivery: I am voluntarily giving my ballot to (name and address) for delivery ON MY BEHALF. I have marked and sealed my ballot in private and have not allowed any person to observe the marking of the ballot, except for those authorized to assist voters under state or federal law."					
20 21 22	7.2.7	A COUNTY CLERK WHO USES A THIRD PARTY VENDOR TO MAIL BALLOTS IS CONSIDERED TO BE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALLOTS FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 1-5- $403(1)$, C.R.S., WHEN THE VENDOR HAS PREPARED THE BALLOTS FOR MAILING.					
23	Amendments	to Rule 7.5.1:					
24	7.5 Receip	pt and processing of ballots					
25 26 27	7.5.1	All-THE COUNTY CLERK MUST ADEQUATELY LIGHT ALL drop-off locations must be monitored by AND USE EITHER an election official or A video security surveillance recording system, as defined in Rule 20-1.1.42 TO MONITOR EACH LOCATION.					
28		[The remainder of Rule 7.5.1 and Rules 7.5.2 through 7.5.4 are retained unaltered]					
29	Amendments	to Rule 7.5.5:					
30 31	7.5.5	Election officials must record the number of ballot packets returned as undeliverable AND RECEIVE THE BALLOT PACKETS IN SCORE upon receipt.					
32	Amendments	to Rule 7.7:					
33	7.7 Missin	ng signature.					

1-7.5-107.3 (2) (A) requires counties to send these unsigned envelopes to the DA for investigation. With no signature,	7.7.1 If a mail or provisional ballot return envelope lacks a signature, the election official must contact the elector in writing no later than two calendar days after election day. THE ELECTION OFFICIAL MUST FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES FOR DISCREPANT SIGNATURES OUTLINED IN SECTION 1-7.5-107.3(2)(A), C.R.S. The designated election official must use the letter and form prescribed by the Secretary of State and keep a copy as part of the official election record. Nothing in this Rule prohibits
what will the DA have to investigate?	the designated election official from calling the elector, but a phone call may not substitute for written contact. If the designated election official calls any elector he or she must call all electors whose affidavits are unsigned.
10	[Sections 1-7.5-107.3 and 1-8.5-105(3)(a), C.R.S.]
11 12 13	7.7.2 The letter must inform the elector that the elector must sign the affidavit and return the form in person or by mail, fax, or email, and that the county must receive the form no later than eight calendar days after the election.
14 15 16	7.7.3 The election official must use the letter and the signature verification form approved by the Secretary of State. The letter and missing signature affidavit form does not violate section 1–13–801, C.R.S.
17 Ame	ndments to Rule 7.9.3:
18	7.9.3 Voter check-in at the voter service and polling center
19 20	(a) Each voter service and polling center must include an adequately staffed designated voter check in table or area.
21 22	(b) The check-in judge must verify each elector's registration information, including address.
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	(c) If an elector has moved or is not registered, the check in judge must direct the elector to the registration area. If the elector is registered and has no updates, the check in judge must direct the elector to the voting table. COUNTY CLERKS MUST CONFIGURE VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS, AND PROVIDE SUFFICIENT ELECTION JUDGES, SCORE WORK STATIONS, VOTING EQUIPMENT, BALLOTS, AND OTHER SUPPLIES, IN ORDER TO ASSIST REGISTRANTS AND ELECTORS EFFICIENTLY.
30 <i>Ame</i>	ndments to Rule 7.11:
31 7.11	Voter service and polling center connectivity
32 33	7.11.1 The county must have real-time access to SCORE AND WEBSCORE at every voter service and polling center designated by the county clerk.
34 35	7.11.2 The county clerk must instruct election judges and, if appropriate, election staff, to:

Counties should be	
given the flexibility	
to choose using	
SCORE or issuing	
a provisional ballot.	(A) USE WEBSCORE TO REGISTER VOTERS; UPDATE EXISTING VOTER
The purpose of	
developing WEB	REGISTRATIONS; ISSUE AND REPLACE MAIL BALLOTS; AND ISSUE, SPOIL, AND
SCORE was to not	REPLACE IN-PERSON BALLOTS.
use existing	(B) OFFER AN IN-PERSON VOTER THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN A REPLACEMENT
SCORE at a	MAIL BALLOT RATHER THAN A PROVISIONAL BALLOT IN THE EVENT THE
VSPC. This Rule is	
now requiring	BUT RETAINS CONNECTIVITY TO SCORE.
counties to train	bernenning confident fir fo beore.
judges in both	2-7.11.3 At no time may an election official open SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS OF both
systems.	the SCORE voter registration screen and the voting module WEBSCORE on a
10	single workstation.
	.3-7.11.4 Every voter service and polling center designated by the county clerk must
12	meet the minimum security procedures for transmitting voter registration data as
13	outlined in section 1-5-102.9, C.R.S., and Rule 2.16.
14 Amendment	ts to Rule 11.1.3 concerning voting system access:
15 11.1	.3 In accordance with section 24-72-305.6, C.R.S., all permanent and temporary
16	county staff and all vendor staff who have access to the voting system or any voting $\frac{1}{2}$
10	or counting equipment must pass the A criminal background check described in
18	Rule 6.5. A PERSON CONVICTED OF AN ELECTION OFFENSE OR AN OFFENSE
19	CONTAINING AN ELEMENT OF FRAUD MAY NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A CODE,
20	COMBINATION, PASSWORD, OR ENCRYPTION KEY FOR THE VOTING EQUIPMENT,
21	BALLOT STORAGE AREA, COUNTING ROOM, OR TABULATION WORKSTATION.
22 Current Ru	ile 16.1.5, concerning voting by military and overseas electors, is repealed and
	rules are renumbered as follows:
24 16.1	.5 In accordance with sections 1-8.3-111 and 1-8.3-113, C.R.S., all ballots cast must
25	be voted and mailed or electronically transmitted no later than 7:00 p.m. MT on
26	election day, and received by the county clerk or the Secretary of State no later than
27	the close of business on the eighth day after election day.
28 16.1	.6-16.1.5 Ballots received by the Secretary of State
29	[The remainder of New Rule 16.1.5, formerly Rule 16.1.6, is retained unaltered]
30 16.1	
31	60 days before the Primary Election to each elector whose record is marked
32	"Inactive." The correspondence may be sent by email or mail and, at a minimum,
32	must notify the electors of:
55	
34	[The remainder of New Rule 16.1.6, formerly Rule 16.1.7, is retained unaltered]
35 16.1	
36	Secretary of State the number ballots transmitted to military and overseas electors
37	by the 45-day deadline.

16.1.9- 16.1.8 C.R.S	Failure to meet the 45-day ballot transmission deadline in section 1-8.3-110, 5.				
[The	[The remainder of New Rule 16.1.8, formerly Rule 16.1.9, is retained unaltered]				
Amendments to Rule 16.2.1(c), concerning electronic transmission:					
(c)	In accordance with section 1-8.3-113(1), C.R.S., an elector who chooses to receive his or her unvoted ballot by online ballot delivery ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION may return his or her ballot by fax or email ONLY IF THE ELECTOR DETERMINES THAT A MORE SECURE METHOD, SUCH AS RETURNING THE BALLOT BY MAIL, IS NOT AVAILABLE OR FEASIBLE. "NOT FEASIBLE" MEANS CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE ELECTOR BELIEVES THE TIMELY RETURN OF HIS OR HE BALLOT BY MAIL IS NOT CERTAIN.				
Amendments to Rule	<i>e 16.2.3:</i>				
Over name by re my ri BALL	self-affirmation must include the standard oath required by the Uniformed and seas Citizen Voting Act (42 U.S.C sec. 1973ff(b)(7) and 1(a)(5)), the elector's e, date of birth, signature, and the following statement: I also understand that turning my voted ballot by electronic transmission, I am voluntarily waiving ght to a secret ballot AND THAT COLORADO LAW REQUIRES THAT I RETURN THIS OT BY A MORE SECURE METHOD, SUCH AS MAIL, IF AVAILABLE AND FEASIBLE.				
Amendments to Rule	20.4:				
20.4 Individuals w	with access to keys, door codes, and vault combinations				
in the	mployees with access to areas addressed in Rule 20.4.3, the county must state e security plan each employee's title and the date of the criminal background c WAS performed under Rule 6.5 . [Section 24-72-305.6, C.R.S.]				
[Current Rul	le 2.4.2 is retained unaltered]				
comb	loyee access. The county may grant employees access to the codes, binations, passwords, and encryption keys described in this Rule in accordance the following limitations:				
(a) [<i>Cur</i> i	Access to the code, combination, password, or encryption key for the voting equipment, ballot storage areas, counting room, or tabulation workstations is restricted to employees who have successfully passed the A criminal background check described in Rule 6.5. Any person who has been convicted of an election offense or an offense with an element of fraud is prohibited from having access to a code, combination, password, or encryption key for the voting equipment, ballot storage areas, counting room, or tabulation workstations.				
	C.R.S. [The Amendments to Rule (c) Amendments to Rule 16.2.3 The s Over name by re my ri BALL (Sect Amendments to Rule 20.4 Individuals v 20.4.1 For e in the check [Current Rul 20.4.3 Empl comb with (a)				

1	Amend	ments t	o Rule I	20.5.2(f), concerning internal controls for the Voting System:	
2 3 4			(f)	a wire	component of the voting system is equipped with Wi-Fi capability or eless device, the county must disable the wireless capability or device SS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE.	
5 6	Amend boxes,			20.9.1	(c), concerning transportation of equipment, memory cards, ballot	
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14			(c)	equip must 6.5. A with a equip custor	portation by contract. If a county contracts for the delivery of ment to remote voting locations, each individual delivering equipment successfully pass the A criminal background check described in Rule my person who has been convicted of an election offense or an offense an element of fraud is prohibited from handling or delivering voting ment. Two election officials must verify, sign, and date the chain-of- dy log upon release of the equipment to the individual(s) delivering uppendent.	
15	New Rule 23:					
16	R ule 2	23. Co	OMMISS	SIONS		
17	23.1	BIPAR	fisan E	LECTIO	N ADVISORY COMMISSION	
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		23.1.1	ADMIN ENSUR FAIR, 2 ELECT LIGHT ACCES ESTAB IDENTI SUPPOI RECOM	IISTRAT E THAT ACCESS IONS AF OF THE S AND I LISH A FY PRO RT IN T IMENDA	ARY OF STATE RECOGNIZES THAT OPEN DISCUSSION ABOUT THE TION AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS IN COLORADO IS NECESSARY TO CEVERY ELIGIBLE CITIZEN HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN SIBLE, AND IMPARTIAL ELECTIONS, AND HAS THE ASSURANCE THAT RE CONDUCTED WITH INTEGRITY AND HIS OR HER VOTE WILL COUNT. IN COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUNSETTING THE COLORADO VOTER MODERNIZED ELECTION COMMISSION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BIPARTISAN ELECTION ADVISORY COMMISSION (THE COMMISSION) TO OCESSES FOR IMPROVEMENT AND WORK TO OBTAIN BIPARTISAN THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS. THE COMMISSION WILL MAKE ATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT ON OF BEST PRACTICES, ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND LEGISLATIVE	
31		23.1.2	Memb	ERSHIP	OF THE COMMISSION	
32 33			(A)		SECRETARY OF STATE WILL APPOINT AT LEAST 13 MEMBERS TO THE MISSION. THE COMMISSION MAY INCLUDE:	
34 35				(1)	A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT ADVOCATES ON BEHALF OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES;	
36 37				(2)	A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND AT LEAST ONE LEGISLATOR FROM EACH PARTY;	

1 2 3			(3)	Two County clerk and recorders representing the Colorado County Clerks Association presidential line of leadership;
4 5 6			(4)	IF BOTH CLERKS IN (3) ARE FROM THE SAME PARTY OR IF NOT ALL COUNTIES ARE MEMBERS OF THE CCCA, ADDITIONAL CLERKS MAY BE APPOINTED;
7 8 9			(5)	TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING COUNTIES, MUNICIPALITIES, AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS;
10 11			(6)	CHAIR, PARTY OFFICER, OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR EACH MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY; AND
12 13			(7)	Two members with expertise on voting rights and/or election integrity.
14 15	((B)		CRETARY OF STATE OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, WILL BE A MEMBER AND AS CHAIR THE COMMISSION.
16 17	((C)		ECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE WILL PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO THE ISSION AS MAY BE DIRECTED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
18	23.1.3	MEETIN	NGS	
19	((A)	THE CO	DMMISSION WILL MEET NO FEWER THAN THREE TIMES ANNUALLY.
20 21 22	((B)	OR REC	EETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE GIONAL LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AS THE COMMISSION APPROPRIATE.
23 24	((C)		NGS WILL COMPLY WITH COLORADO OPEN MEETINGS LAW AND WILL AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.
25 26 27 28 29	((D)	SUBMIT WEBSIT	ES, RECORDS OF MEETINGS, WRITTEN COMMENTS, AND DOCUMENTS TTED TO THE COMMISSION WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE OFFICIAL TE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE. HOWEVER, DOCUMENTS THAT ARE WISE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NEED NOT BE POSTED. ANY SUBMISSION INING INFLAMMATORY OR OTHERWISE INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT WILL
30 31				E POSTED, INCLUDING ANY MATERIAL THAT IS DEFAMATORY, VANT, DUPLICATIVE, OR OBSCENE.