

Andrea Gyger

From: Susan Corliss <susan.corliss@kitcarsoncounty.org>
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 3:26 PM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Cc: Elections
Subject: Comments for Proposed Rules DRAFT

Kit Carson County submits the following comments:

Comments for Proposed Rules:

~~6.1.3~~ **6.1.2 The county clerk must reasonably attempt to exhaust the list provided by the major parties before supplementing with ADDITIONAL MAJOR PARTY JUDGES OR minor party or unaffiliated judges, or staff.**

We would like to see "staff" remain and not be stricken. Does this rule remove the use of county staff as election judges entirely (exception Proposed Rule 6.4)? Does this rule prevent the major parties from approving staff as election judges?

6.1.3 IF A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY FAILS TO PROVIDE AN ADEQUATE LIST OF ELECTION JUDGES BY THE 60TH DAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY THE COUNTY CLERK MUST NOTIFY THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE COUNTY CLERK MAY CONSIDER A SUPPLEMENTAL LIST FROM A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY AFTER THE 60 DAY DEADLINE.

The 60th Day deadline is tight time frame, and we would like to see it extended to closer to 180-120 days before the election. (However this would conflict in even years with CRS 1-6-103 (1)(a)) Can the County Clerk request a list (per rule 6.1.1) to be provided earlier than the 60th day?

6.1.4 THE COUNTY CLERK MUST PROVIDE THE LIST OF ELECTION JUDGES, INCLUDING POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS, TO EACH APPOINTING PARTY NO LATER THAN THE 45-DAY JUDGE-TRAINING DEADLINE.

We often times use the election judge training to determine an election judge's qualifications and skills. We may not know a permanent assignment for each judge by the 45th day. A finalized list could be provided closer to the election (possibly the 22nd day before).

7.2.8 THE COUNTY MUST PRINT THE ELECTOR'S FULL NAME UNDER OR NEAR THE SELF-AFFIRMATION SIGNATURE LINE ON EACH BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE

Our vendor is unsure how they will accommodate this rule at the present time and the cost to us will increase.

~~7.8.1~~ **7.8.3 The election judges AN ELECTION JUDGE must compare the signature on the self-affirmation on each BALLOT return envelope with the ELECTOR'S signature in SCORE. The election judges must research the signature further if there is: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S SIGNATURE VERIFICATION GUIDE.**

~~(a) An obvious change in the signature's slant.~~

~~(b) A printed signature on one document and a cursive signature on the other document.~~

~~(c) A difference in the signature's size or scale.~~

~~(d) A difference in the signature's individual characteristics, such as how the "t's" are crossed, "i's" are dotted, or loops are made on "y's" or "j's".~~

~~(e) A difference in the voter's signature style, such as how the letters are connected at the top and bottom.~~

~~(f) Evidence that ballots or envelopes from the same household have been switched.~~

~~(g) Any other noticeable discrepancy such as misspelled names.~~

7.8.3 Will the items a-g be included in the Secretary of State's Training Guide?

8.1.2 THE COUNTY CLERK MUST CONFIRM A WATCHER'S ELIGIBILITY BEFORE ALLOWING THE WATCHER TO PERFORM HIS OR HER DUTIES. IF THE COUNTY CLERK IS UNABLE TO CONFIRM THE WATCHER'S ELIGIBILITY, HE OR SHE MUST PROMPTLY INFORM THE APPOINTING ENTITY.

It looks like the confirmation of the watcher should be listed prior to the 8.1 rule. The watcher should be approved before anything else happens.

8.1.5 A WATCHER MUST COMPLETE A TRAINING PROVIDED BY OR APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE BEFORE OBSERVING ELECTION ACTIVITIES WHERE CONFIDENTIAL OR PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION MAY BE WITHIN VIEW.

~~10.2(d) Watchers may be present during provisional ballot processing, signature verification, and UOCAVA ballot processing, but may not have access to confidential voter information.~~

8.1.5 & 10.2(d) This county is uncomfortable with watchers having access to confidential or personally identifiable information. It would seem best to not allow the watcher to believe that they should have access to confidential information. We feel that rule 8.1.5 should be eliminated and 10.2(d) remain and not be stricken.

If rule 8.1.5 is used, how will the certification of training be documented? It seems like the watcher should come with appropriate documentation without causing a lot of additional work for the county clerk.

Submitted by Crystal Richards and Susan Corliss of Kit Carson County.

Susan Corliss

Kit Carson County Clerk and Recorder
P.O. Box 249
251 16th Street Suite 203
Burlington, CO 80807
719.346.8638 ext. 301 (office) | 719.346.8721 (fax)
clerkandrecorder@kitcarsoncounty.org (email)

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Crystal A. Richards
Deputy Clerk
Elections Clerk

Kit Carson County Clerk and Records Office
251 16th Street Suite 203
PO Box 249
Burlington, CO 80807
Phone: 719-346-8638 ext 233
Fax: 719-346-8721