



**WE THE
VOTERS**



OUR IMPACT ON 2020

CLEAN 
ELECTIONS

#wethevoters

The Life of a Ballot

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In the beginning there was...

- The Tree

- Most ballots start out as a seedling which turns into the majestic ... TREE
- After 100 years of sunshine and rain your ballot is ready to begin its journey through the magical electoral process

Timbeerrrr!



Fun Facts About Your Ballot

- Your ballot is comprised of
 - Pine - softwood adding strength
 - Ash, Birch, Cherry - hardwood for printing properties
 - 60% Hardwood
 - 40% Softwood
- Equals
 - 100% Love of Democracy!



Even Funnier Facts

- Drilling down a little deeper the breakdown is as follows:
- Softwood:
 - 74% Eastern White Pine
 - 3% Red Pine
 - 20% Eastern Hemlock
 - 3% Spruce
- Hardwood:
 - 25% American Beech
 - 24% Red maple
 - 15% Sugar Maple
 - 15% Yellow Birch
 - 8% Black Cherry
 - 13% other hardwood (oak, ash, aspen)



So.....

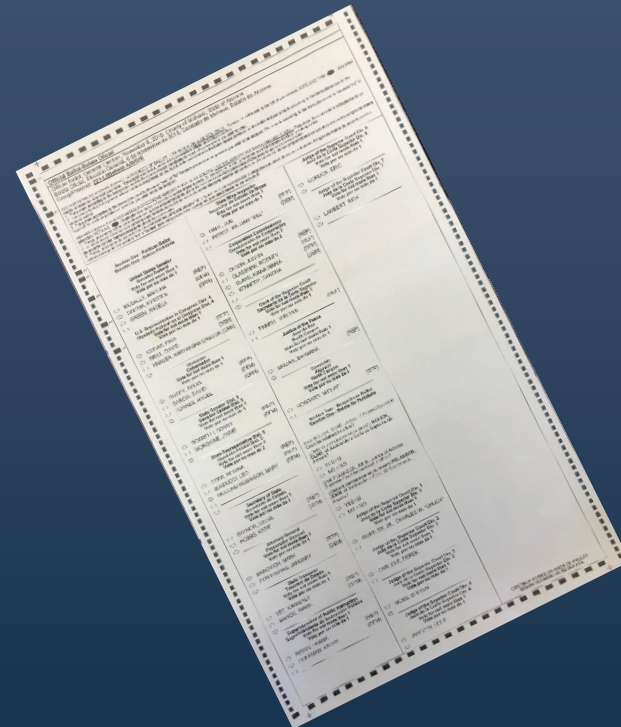
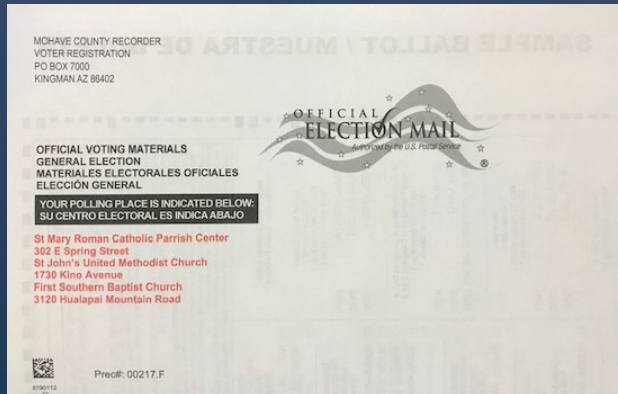
- Enough said about our friends the TREE.
- Electronic Ballots
 - Are comprised of 100% electricity
 - 186,000 miles per second
- Who says ballot results are slow
- Moving on!

What's On Your Ballot?

- Federal, State, and Local jurisdictions, and the electorate determine what is on your ballot
- Federal, State, City, Special District Offices and ballot questions are what is mostly included on a ballot in a general election year
- A general election year is an even numbered year
- Odd numbered years, or non-general election years are usually reserved for special elections

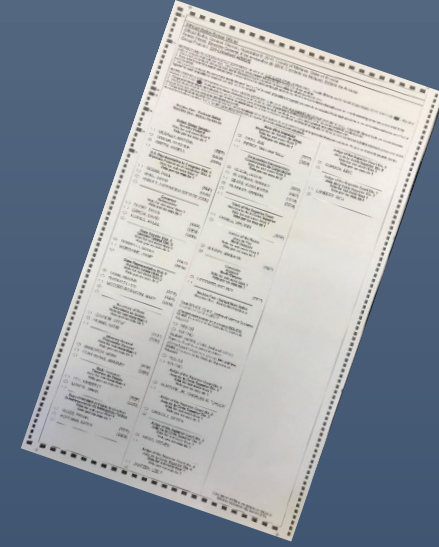
Types of Elections

- Poll Site elections and Mail Ballot elections
- Poll site elections are where people show up in person to vote
- Mail ballot elections are where people are sent a ballot and return them by mail



Ballot Types

- Paper ballots



- Physical pieces of paper are marked with the voters' choices
- Marked ballots are then deposited into a ballot tabulating machine located at the poll site or are deposited into a secured ballot box and brought back to a central location to be tabulated

Ballot Types

- Direct Record Electronic ballots (DRE)
 - Voters make their selections on a touch screen voting device where the voters' choices are tallied on that equipment
 - In Arizona DRE equipment is required to produce a voter verifiable paper audit trail record for the voter to verify their selections before casting their ballot



Who Creates The Ballot?

- The county or city election administrator does the ballot design, the ballot layout, and programs the races on the ballot to tally correctly

Verification Of What's On The Ballot

- Work with State and Local jurisdictions to determine what should be on the ballot
- Research to verify that what the State and local jurisdictions are requesting to be on the ballot are races that should be on the ballot
- Resolve any inconsistencies
- Work with candidates who will appear on the ballot as to how their names will appear on the ballot

Programming The Ballot

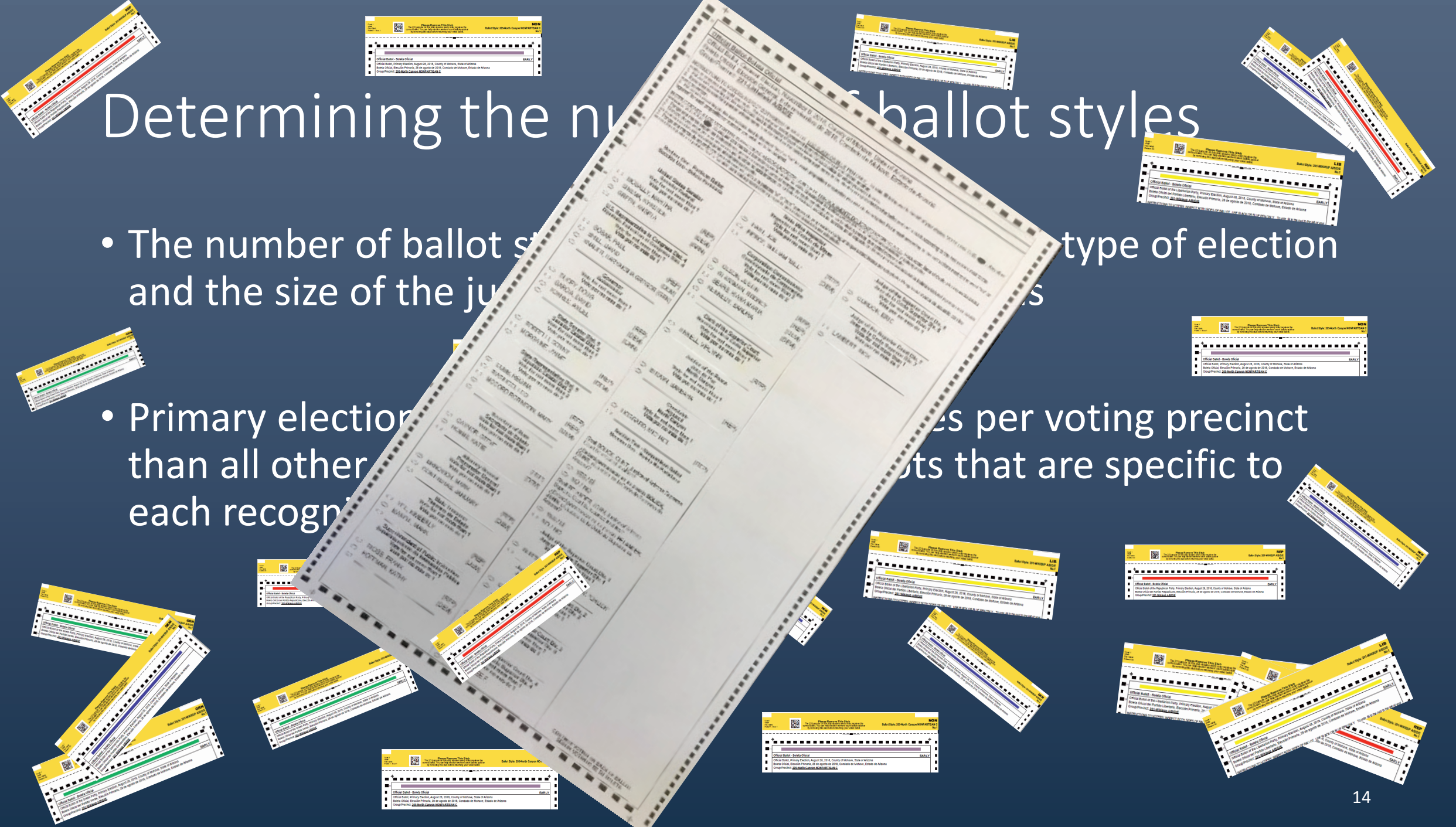
- Ballots are programmed at either the county or city election administrator's facility or are contracted out to be programmed by the voting equipment company that is used to tabulate the ballots
- Once the ballot program has been completed a thorough check of the ballot language is conducted
- Make any required edits to the ballot programming
- Make final approval of election programming

Approving Ballot Design

- Send the ballot faces off to the ballot printing facility
- Proof read all the ballot style proofs received back from the printer
- Make final approval of the ballot proofs

Determining the number of ballot styles

- The number of ballot styles is determined by the type of election and the size of the jurisdiction.
- Primary elections require more ballot styles per voting precinct than all other types of elections. Ballot styles that are specific to each recognized candidate are used.



Ordering Ballot Quantities

- Determine the quantities of ballots needed of each ballot style for each precinct and mail ballot voters
- Determine the quantities of ballots needed of each ballot style for testing, early voting, replacement and duplication

Testing The Logic And Accuracy Of The Ballot

- Test ballots are received and randomly marked representing votes for all the candidates and ballot measures.
- Test ballots from every ballot style are marked for use in this ballot logic and accuracy test
- All the ballots used in the test are hand tallied to use as a benchmark to compare the totals to the results after running them through the ballot tabulators
- After running the ballots through the ballot tabulators election results reports are printed and compared to the hand tallied benchmark figures

Receipt of Ballots, Distribution and Issue

- Ballots are inventoried
- Quantities are distributed to appropriate polling sites
- Ballots are distributed to early voting sites
- Ballots are sent to voters requesting an early ballot
- Ballots are issued to voters at early voting and polling sites

Processing Received Early Ballots

- Voted early ballots are received by the County Recorder via mail or by way of early voting sites
- Voter registration staff performs signature verification
- Verified ballots are sealed and sent to the county elections department for processing
- Election department ballot processing boards account for all ballots received from the county recorder's office
- Ballot processing boards prepare ballots to be tabulated
- Ballot tabulation boards count early ballots on central tabulation equipment
- Ballots are stored in a secure location until disposal

Processing Poll Site Election Day Ballots

- Voted Election Day ballots are received by the elections department on election night
- Voted ballots are counted on the central tabulation equipment that evening if poll site scanners are not used
- If poll site scanners are used on election day to tabulate ballots, received ballots are stored in a secure location until disposal

Ballot / Results Security

- Cameras
 - Continuous live video feed from the Tabulation Room from the time the tabulation board begins counting ballots until the last ballot is counted
- Chain of Custody
 - Logs kept of when ballots are received from voter registration
 - Sealed ballots then go to the tabulation board where the log is kept when the ballots are opened and closed.
- Counted ballots are stored in a fireproof vault
- Tabulation equipment is not connected to phone lines or internet (stands alone)
- Encrypted results are sent to the Secretary of State

Marking Your Ballot Correctly

- Follow instructions printed at the top of the ballot
 - Mark proper number of candidate choices, if **too many** candidates are selected race will not count (overvote)
 - If the ballot is **not marked as instructed**, the ballot or an individual race or races may not count
 - Use ink pen or ballot marking pen. Any other instrument used to mark the ballot may cause **unclear marks** requiring ballot duplication
 - Lightly marked or scribbled marks may **not be readable** by the tabulation equipment

Write In Ballots

- Write in must be legible and must be an official candidate otherwise the vote will not count
 - Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, your name or neighbors name will not be counted if they are not an official candidate

PPE = Presidential Preference Election

- Parties entitled to continuous representation on the ballot are Republican, Democrat, Libertarian
- PREFERENCE ELECTION is for presidential candidates only. It is the only office on the ballot
- Electors can only vote his/her party ballot
- Independents and Party Not Designated **cannot vote**

Primary Election

- Federal and State and County level partisan candidates
- Could include local nonpartisan candidates
- Registered Democrats receive a Democrat ballot with only Democrat candidates
- Registered Republicans receive a Republican ballot with only Republican candidates
- Registered Independents can choose only one ballot style either Democrat or Republican (or Green party, if on the 2020 ballot)

General Election

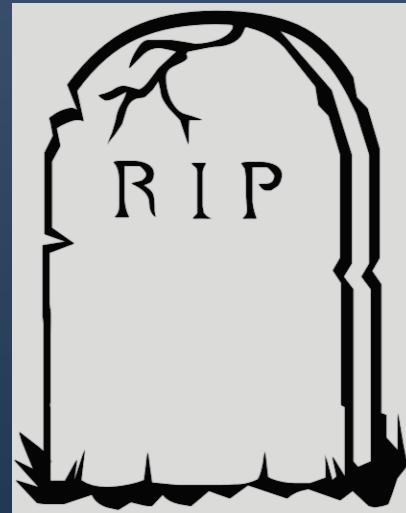
- Candidates from all parties represented on one ballot
- Elector may vote for any candidate on the ballot regardless of party

Poll Site Ballot Hand Count / Early Ballot Audit

- Ballots from randomly selected voting precincts and early ballots cast are hand tallied for federal, state and county races after each election
- Hand tallies of the ballots are compared to the machine counts to validate that the tabulation equipment performed correctly

Death of the Ballot

- After the election canvass ballots are stored in a secured environment for a period in accordance with the Arizona State Retention Laws
- When the retention period has ended ballots are disposed of in a manner consistent with record destruction policies



QUESTIONS ?