

## **Election 2008: Protect the Count Action**

*“America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.”*  
– Abraham Lincoln

### **Election 2000: Volusia County, Florida.**

Voters cast their votes on paper ballots. Those paper ballots were then fed for counting to computerized optical scanners made by Diebold Election Systems (aka Premier).

#### **Diebold computers counted negative 16,022 votes for Candidate Al Gore.**

Because there was no citizen oversight at the Volusia County polls, this error was not discovered until the wheels of election fraud had already been put into full gear, ultimately resulting in a Supreme Court ruling that handed George Bush the presidency.

### **Election 2004: Miami County, Ohio.**

The CEO of Ohio-based firm Diebold, Wally O’Dell penned a letter pledging his commitment "to helping Ohio deliver its electoral votes to the President."

Richard Hayes Phillips, citizen investigator, compares unofficial precinct level results with the official results after central tabulation by the Ohio Secretary of State, finding statistical anomalies, if not impossibilities, ultimately resulting in Diebold voting machines delivering the improbable margin of victory for Candidate George Bush of exactly 16,000 votes.

### **Election 2008: AnyState, USA**

Citizens fan out across the nation, stationing themselves at polling places to observe, video, and broadcast live precinct-level results for the nation.

- Negative vote counts are caught and challenged and corrected on election night before they become official results.
- Statistically anomalous and unbelievable results are challenged and documented on election night and delivered to a court of law as post-election evidence of election fraud.
- Would-be election fraudsters are alerted to the “candid camera” citizen brigades: try to commit fraud, and any time, any where, when you least expect it, we will catch you in the act.

**This year, it’s not enough to vote. This year, citizens are taking back our elections.**

**This toolkit will guide you in joining, or continuing to be among, the ranks of citizens actively engaged in the mechanics of democracy: our elections.**

- Learn about the *four categories of voting systems* used in the nation
- Identify the category of voting system used in *your state*
- Learn how to protect the integrity of the *ballot chain of custody* and the *vote count* against vulnerabilities in the category of voting system used in your state
- Follow *step-by-step instructions* to become a citizen election watchdog
- Learn how to be part of the 2008 Election *Poll Tape Posse, Seal Tracker, Switch Monitor, and Problem Child Watcher* citizen watchdog teams, observing, documenting, and broadcasting precinct-level election results

## **PRIVATE INTERESTS, CORPORATE TRADE SECRECY, AND THE LOSS OF DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS**

In the past two decades, most American citizens have sat on the sidelines while the government has given away our public elections to private interests. Today, the private e-voting industry controls the vast majority of American elections with no public oversight whatsoever, programming the computers that cast our votes for us, count our votes for us, and even regulate who is able to vote through computerized voter registration databases.

**Is this any way to run a democracy?**

In the 2006 Elections, computers programmed and controlled by private corporations using trade secret proprietary software cast and/or counted nearly **90% of America's votes**.

**This year will be different. In Election 2008, you can join citizens everywhere to actively protect the vote count.**

- Become an engaged citizen election watchdog
- Be a hands-on participant and learn how our elections work and don't work
- Document the vote count and publish it for all to see
- Put public officials on notice that We the People are watching them
- Put would-be election fraudsters and tamperers on notice that We the People are watching them
- Protect the vote count in your state
- Share your evidence and experiences with the nation and the world

## **I. STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROTECT THE COUNT 2008**

1. Sign up to be part of the project at [BlackBoxVoting.ORG](http://BlackBoxVoting.ORG)
2. View a 3-minute training video and obtain the downloadable toolkit

3. Determine which category of voting system is used in your state
4. Find a buddy for your posse
5. Make sure your video equipment is fully charged and working
6. Review the instructions for the category of voting system you will be observing
7. Prepare with gas, snacks, cell phones, whatever
8. As soon as your video is ready, upload it here: WEBSITE URL
9. Problems? Call the legal assistance hotline: 866-xxx-xxxx

## **RESOURCES**

### **The US Constitution**

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/index.html>

### **State Constitutions**

<http://www.constitution.org/cons/usstcons.htm>

<http://www.findlaw.com/11stategov/indexconst.html>

### **Black Box Voting**

<http://www.BlackBoxVoting.ORG>

### **Election Defense Alliance**

<http://www.ElectionDefenseAlliance.org>

## II. QUICK START GUIDE TO PROTECTING THE VOTE COUNT IN YOUR STATE

<p><b>Category I: Polling place counts &amp; Computerized central tabulator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Electronic or paper ballots counted at polling place</li><li>• Electronic counts sent to computerized central tabulator</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poll Tape Posse</li><li>• Seals Tracking</li></ul>	<p><b>Poll Tape Posse</b> Video results tapes at polling place.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Get list of polling places.</li><li>2. Buddy up with a partner.</li><li>3. Pick 10 locations.</li><li>4. Map out, practice driving route at poll closing time a week before election.</li><li>5. Make sure to get clear image of<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. building identity</li><li>b. poll tape header</li><li>c. date stamp</li><li>d. key race results</li><li>e. signature block</li></ol></li></ol> <p><b>Seals Tracking</b> Video seals for memory cards/cartridges, ballots.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Buddy up, choose a polling place.</li><li>2. Make sure to get clear image of:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. box/envelope identifier</li><li>b. polling place ID</li><li>c. seal number</li><li>d. seal placement</li></ol></li><li>3. Station another set of buddies at central elections headquarters and document the same seals on intake (for comparison).</li><li>4. Make sure to get clear image of:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. box/envelope identifier</li><li>b. polling place ID</li><li>c. seal number</li><li>d. seal placement.</li></ol></li></ol>
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**Category II: Polling place votes with Computerized central count only**

- Electronic or paper ballots cast but not counted at the polling place
- Electronic counts sent to computerized central tabulator

- Seals Tracking
- Switch Monitoring
- Problem Child Watch

**Seals Tracking**

Video seals for memory cards/cartridges, ballots.

1. Buddy up, choose a polling place.
2. Make sure to get clear image of:
  - a. box/envelope identifier
  - b. polling place ID
  - c. seal number
  - d. seal placement
3. Station another set of buddies at central elections headquarters and document the same seals on intake (for comparison).
4. Make sure to get clear image of:
  - a. box/envelope identifier
  - b. polling place ID
  - c. seal number
  - d. seal placement.

**Switch Monitoring**

Monitor and video each time ballots are transferred from one set of hands to the next.

1. Make sure each time they switch hands the following is logged, and get a clear image of:
  - a. a name of person handling the ballots
  - b. the quantity of ballots.
2. Think of it exactly like supermarket checker transferring a stack of \$1 bills from one register to the next.

**Problem Child Watch**

Document and video each time a ballot is treated differently during central count scanning.

1. Can be due to jam and/or
2. When someone decides ballot won't be accepted by scanner for some reason.

<p><b>Category III: New England Style</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic or paper ballots counted at polling place</li> <li>• Polling place results sent for manual central tabulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poll Tape Posse</li> <li>• Secretary of State Paper Chase</li> </ul>	<p><b>Poll Tape Posse</b> Video results tapes at polling place.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Get list of polling places.</li> <li>2. Buddy up with a partner.</li> <li>3. Pick 10 locations.</li> <li>4. Map out, practice driving route at poll closing time a week before election.</li> <li>5. Make sure to get clear image of       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. building identity</li> <li>b. poll tape header</li> <li>c. date stamp</li> <li>d. key race results</li> <li>e. signature block</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>SoS Paper Chase</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Go to Secretary of State office the morning after election.</li> <li>2. Copy or examine/video every page submitted by towns &amp; cities.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Category IV: Heavy absentee counting (forced or encouraged mail-in voting)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballots mailed in to precinct or centralized locations</li> <li>• Ballots sorted and counted at precinct or centralized locations       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oregon</li> <li>○ Washington</li> <li>○ California</li> <li>○ Arizona</li> <li>○ Colorado</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ohio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Switch Monitoring</li> <li>• Problem Child Watch</li> </ul>	<p><b>Switch Monitoring</b> Monitor and video each time ballots are transferred from one set of hands to the next.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make sure each time they switch hands the following is logged, and get a clear image of:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a name of person handling the ballots</li> <li>b. the quantity of ballots.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Think of it exactly like supermarket checker transferring a stack of \$1 bills from one register to the next.</li> </ol> <p><b>Problem Child Watch</b> Document and video each time a ballot is treated differently during central count scanning.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can be due to jam and/or</li> </ol> <p>When someone decides ballot won't be accepted by scanner for some reason.</p>