



**DENISE MERRILL**  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

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- NEWS RELEASE -

**SECRETARY MERRILL DRAWS PRECINCTS TO  
HAVE AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup> PRIMARY RESULTS  
AUDITED**

10% OF ALL VOTING PRECINCTS USING OPTICAL SCANNERS WILL HAVE BALLOTS  
HAND COUNTED AND MATCHED AGAINST MACHINE TOTALS TO ENSURE INTEGRITY  
OF VOTING

**Hartford:** Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today joined Connecticut Voting Rights advocates at a news conference at the State Capitol to randomly select the voting precincts which will have election results audited following the August 14, 2012 statewide primaries. As required by Connecticut General Statutes 9-320f, ten percent of the polling precincts in the election using optical scan voting machines are subject to an audit. All told, 523 polling precincts used optical scan voting machines on August 14<sup>th</sup>, meaning that some 53 precincts were chosen to have their election results audited.

“Voters had their say on August 14<sup>th</sup> about who they want on the general election ballot,” said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut’s chief elections official. “Now, it is our duty to audit the machine totals from the statewide primaries to ensure the accuracy of our optical scanners. We are committed to making sure Connecticut voters have continued confidence that their votes were recorded accurately and that’s why these independent audits are so vital.”

The audits can begin as of today and must be completed by September 17, 2012.

“Auditing election results isn’t just a good idea, it’s absolutely essential in order to guarantee the integrity of our elections,” said Secretary Merrill. “We don’t just take the machines’ word for it. So we will have every ballot cast in a full 10% of precincts using optical scan machines hand counted and matched against the machine totals. Connecticut has the toughest elections audit law in the country and I am confident that following this audit the numbers will once again match.”

In total, audits will be conducted in sixty precincts. The law requires a hand audit 10% of all polling places where optical scan machines were used in all elections and primaries. (Polling precincts which are already part of a recount are exempt from audits by statute). In addition to the 53 precincts chosen for an audit, there were also 10 alternate precincts chosen. The provisions in the law, developed in close cooperation with the computer science department at the University of Connecticut, give Connecticut one of the strictest audit statutes in the country. Connecticut is the first state in New England to require a comprehensive audit of election results.

Connecticut General Statute 9-320f states that local Registrars of Voters, "... shall conduct a manual audit of the votes recorded in not less than ten per cent of the voting districts in the state, district or municipality, whichever is applicable. Such manual audit shall be noticed in advance and be open to public observation." The results of audits will be analyzed by the University of Connecticut and then presented to the Secretary of the State's Office and the State Elections Enforcement Commission, and ultimately made available to the public.

The law contains a detailed description of the audit process:

"The manual audit... shall consist of the manual tabulation of the paper ballots cast and counted by each voting machine subject to such audit. Once complete, the vote totals established pursuant to the manual tabulation shall be compared to the results reported by the voting machine on the day of the election or primary. The results of the manual tabulation shall be reported on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State which shall include the total number of ballots counted, the total votes received by each candidate in question, the total votes received by each candidate in question on ballots that were properly completed by each voter and the total votes received by each candidate in question on ballots that were not properly completed by each voter. Such report shall be filed with the Secretary of the State who shall immediately forward such report to The University of Connecticut for analysis. The University of Connecticut shall file a written report with the Secretary of the State regarding such analysis that describes any discrepancies identified. After receipt of such report, the Secretary of the State shall file such report with the State Elections Enforcement Commission."

List of polling precincts to be audited:

<b>Town</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>
Bethany	Town Hall
Bethel	Frank A. Berry School - 5
Bolton	Community Hall
Branford	Brandford Hill School - Voting District 4
Bridgeport	PARK CITY MAGNET
Bridgeport	BLACKHAM SCHOOL
Bristol	Stafford School 77 Dist. 3
Danbury	Pembroke School Gym - Ward 2
Durham	Korn School 2
East Hartford	Mayberry School
Ellington	Ellington High School
Farmington	West Woods School - District 1 Precinct 5
Greenwich	Central Middle School Dist. 8
Groton	City Of Groton Municipal Building Dist. 3
Haddam	Central Office
Hartford	Kennelly School

Kent	Town Hall
Killingly	South Killingly Fire Station Dist. 3
Ledyard	Juliet Long Elementary School - 2
Madison	District 1 (South)
Manchester	Manchester High School
Mansfield	Mansfield Fire Department #107 at Eagleville
Marlborough	Elmer Thienes Elementary School
Meriden	St. Rose Community Center Area 1
Montville	Town Hall-Gym-1
New Britain	STANLEY HOLMES SCHOOL District 11
New Britain	School Apartments District 5-1
New Haven	Mauro-Sheridan School Ward 26
New London	New London High School District 1
Newington	John Wallace Middle School---District 5
North Branford	Jerome Harrison Elementary School
Plainville	Linden Street School
Pomfret	Pomfret Community School
Ridgefield	Yanity Gym
Rocky Hill	West Hill School
Seymour	Paul E Chatfield School
Simsbury	Latimer Lane School
Southington	Plantsville School
Southington	Kennedy School
Stamford	SPRINGDALE SCHOOL (REAR ENT.)
Stonington	Deans Mill School
Thompson	Quinebaug Volunteer Fire Department
Torrington	Armory
Trumbull	Middlebrook School Dist. 4
Trumbull	St Joseph High School Dist. 2
Wallingford	Yalesville Elementary School
Washington	Town Hall
Waterbury	CROSBY HIGH SCHOOL
Watertown	Swift Middle School
Wilton	Wilton High School - District 1
Winchester	Pearson School
Windsor Locks	Windsor Locks High School
Woodbury	Senior/Community Center

List of Alternate Polling Precincts chosen:

<b>Town</b>	<b>Polling Place</b>
Bridgeport	THOMAS HOOKER L
Bethel	Frank A. Berry School - 3
Thompson	East Thompson Fire Station
Durham	Korn School 4
Derby	Irving Elementary School Ward 1 Dist 104

Greenwich	North Street School
Seymour	Seymour Old Middle School 1
Simsbury	Henry James Memorial School
Bridgeport	CESAR BATALLA
Killingworth	Killingworth Elementary School