



**DENISE MERRILL**  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

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- STATEMENT -

## **MERRILL ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING RESULT OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR PRIMARY**

**Hartford** – Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today issued the following statement regarding the results in the Republican primary for Lieutenant Governor that took place yesterday, August 12, 2014, and resulting questions whether the total triggers an automatic statewide recount.

“We had a very close primary for Lieutenant Governor yesterday. Under state law, an automatic close vote recount is triggered for a statewide primary if the margin between the candidates is either 1) less than 0.5% of the total votes cast, but not more than 1000 votes; or 2) less than 20 votes. With all towns reporting their primary election returns to my office, the numbers show that a total of 78,421 registered Republicans voted in yesterday’s primary for Lieutenant Governor. Therefore, the margin between the candidates required to trigger an automatic statewide recount would be 393 votes, roughly equivalent to 0.5% of the total Republican votes cast for Lieutenant Governor. As it stands now, Republican Heather Somers received 27,083 votes for Lieutenant Governor, while candidate Penny Bacchiochi received 26,312 votes. Republican David Walker received 25,026 votes. The current margin between Republican candidates for Lieutenant Governor Somers and Bacchiochi is 771 votes. While this margin is less than 1000 votes, it is greater than the 393 vote margin of 0.5% of the total votes cast for Lieutenant Governor. So while this is an incredibly close result in the Republican primary for Lieutenant Governor, it is not close enough to trigger an automatic statewide recount in the race. Therefore, I have determined that there will be no statewide recount of the votes for Lieutenant Governor. If anything, this close election result stresses the point that every vote truly does count. I congratulate all the winners from yesterday’s primaries and look forward to an exciting general election in November.”