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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ELECTION EQUIPMENT TESTING TO ENSURE ACCURACY Public Test of Vote by Mail Counting Equipment on October 23

The Elections Division is programming and testing every piece of voting equipment that will be used in the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election to ensure that every Contra Costa ballot is counted completely and accurately.

Three types of equipment are subject to testing: 1) the central-count scanners for Vote By Mail ballots, 2) the ballot scanners located at each polling place, and 3) the ballot-marking equipment used at Regional Early Voting locations and at polling places on Election Day.

The series of tests starts by confirming that all machines are in working order and functioning properly, programmed and then tested to make sure they are properly programmed. The central-count and polling place ballot scanners are also tested to ensure they recognize, tabulate and report the intended ballot marks.

There are eight central count machines that will record results for approximately 3 million Vote By Mail ballot cards, along with about 153 ballot scanners at polling places throughout the County.

The public is invited to observe equipment testing. A public test of the central count voting equipment is scheduled for 10:00 am on October 23, 2020, at the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder-Elections Office, 555 Escobar Street in Martinez. Visitors are asked to check-in at the Elections lobby and will be required to follow COVID-19 protocols. For more information, call 925-335-7800. ###