

BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY

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To: Election Stakeholders

From: Wendy Adkins, Election Director

Re: Date Change for the 2024 Presidential General Election Manual Audit

State law¹ requires that election officials manually audit a sample of voted ballots. This audit must be performed after each general election.

Due to pending inclement weather the St. Mary's Board of Elections will conduct the manual ballot audit of the 2024 General Election starting on February 24, 2025 at 9:00 am. This audit will take one day to complete and will take place at the St. Mary's Board of Elections, located at 23250 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. The audit is open to the public.

The St. Mary's Board of Elections will manually tally a sample of votes cast for U.S. Senator and compare the results of the manual tally against the results from the voting system. This process will determine whether the voting system accurately counted ballots during the 2024 General Election.²

The State Board of Elections randomly selected the early voting center and election day vote center to be audited, and the St. Mary's County Board of Elections randomly selected the mail in and provisional ballots to be audited. Starting on February 24, 2025, the St. Mary's County Board of Elections will manually tally the votes for U.S. Senator on:

- 1. 371 ballots cast on one scanning unit on the 1st day of early voting at the Mechanicsville Firehouse
- 2. 1210 ballots cast on election day in Precinct 08-03 Greenview Knolls Elementary School
- 3. 234 mail in ballots
- 4. 24 provisional ballots

¹ See Election Law Article, §11-309 of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*. This requirement introduced as House Bill 1278 of the 2018 Legislative Session and is reported as Chapter 523 of the 2018 Laws of Maryland.

² Before the 2024 General Election was certified, the State Board of Elections conducted an automated audit of **all** the ballots cast in the 2024 General Election. The results of this audit confirmed the accuracy of the voting system. The results of the automated audit are at: https://elections.maryland.gov/voting-system/ballot-audit plan automated.html