Washington Facts: The Perfect Case Study

Voting Machine Anomalies, Unexplained Republican Vote Counts

The Washington State Case Study: The Proof is in the Recount

- Snohomish County Washington used different voting technologies on Election Day in the same precincts and the same races. This, combined with a gubernatorial race that was subject to an unprecedented hand recount (and good record keeping and reporting of paper and touch screen voting results on a precinct by precinct basis) makes it a perfect case for determining what effect these technologies may have had on voting patterns.

Sequoia “Repaired” Machines Vastly Favor Republican Candidate

- A new report found that problems of switched votes or machines freezing up occurred at more than 50 Washington polling places. Voters reported that touch screens would appear pre-voted, or would select the Republican box when the Democratic candidate’s box was pressed. Countywide, there were 19 formally reported instances of machine switching, each favoring the Republican.
- Two-thirds of Snohomish County voted with paper absentee and provisional ballots, favoring Gregoire by 2,000 votes (97,044 to 95,228). The remaining one-third, voting electronically, favored Rossi by an 8,000-vote advantage (50,400 to 42,145). The chances of this anomaly as a result of voters randomly choosing whether to vote by paper ballot or by touch screen is one in one trillion.
- The precincts with voting machines requiring repairs within two weeks of Election Day Rossi had a touch screen advantage in 56 out of 58 (96.6%). The average margin for Rossi at these polling places were 11.58% more favorable than the absentee votes, and averaged 10.8% more than Gregoire on Election Day.
- However, among 90 precincts with no reported machine problems 44 had touch screen vote counts more favorable to Rossi than paper ballots, while 46 had a touch screen favored Gregoire. This raises serious questions as to whether the machines requiring repairs were tampered with to improperly assign votes and/or undervotes to the Republican candidate (“switched” against voters’ intent).
- Snohomish County had the highest Election Day increase in vote for Rossi relative to absentee voters, while other nearby counties had either smaller increases or actually favored the Democrat Gregoire.
- More than 100,000 electronic votes were never recounted in Washington. More than 2.7 million paper votes statewide were recounted by optical-reader machine and by hand. But the 106,000 touch-screen ballots—constituting almost 4 percent of the state vote—were simply re-totaled without review and added in. The validity of many of those touch-screen votes suggest that Gregoire should have beaten Republican Dino Rossi in the initial tally.

The Final Analysis: Evidence of Fraud, Investigation of Sequoia Systems Needed

- A forensic analysis of the machines along with their impoundment is necessary to rule out the theory that Democratic votes were switched to the GOP. Researchers believe it was "a mathematical impossibility that Gregoire could have an 1,800-vote lead on absentee paper ballots but lose by 8,000-votes to Rossi on the Sequoia touch screens.
- Sequoia Voting Systems does not include a mechanism to recount and compare votes for error, and refuses to allow access to its machine source codes to determine the truth.


United For Secure Elections
for more facts and information on the 2004 Election see: election.solarbus.org