

# CECIL COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

## ELECTION BOARD

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January 10, 2019

**Subject: Post-Election Manual Ballot Tabulation Audit**

State law<sup>1</sup> now requires that election officials manually audit a sample of voted ballots. This audit must be performed after each general election.

The Cecil County Board of Elections will conduct the manual ballot audit of the 2018 General Election starting on January 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. This audit may take up to 2 business days and will take place at the Cecil County Board of Elections, located at 200 Chesapeake Blvd. Suite 1900, Elkton, MD 21921. This audit is open to the public.

The Cecil County Board of Elections will manually tally a sample of votes cast for the Office of the Comptroller 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 2018 General Election.<sup>2</sup>

The State Board of Elections randomly selected the early voting center and precinct to be audited, and the Cecil County Board of Elections randomly selected the absentee and provisional ballots to be audited. Starting on January 28<sup>th</sup>, the Cecil County Board of Elections will manually tally the votes for Comptroller on:

1. 585 ballots cast on one scanning unit on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of early voting at the Cecil County Administration Building.
2. 1,423 ballots cast on election day at the Rising Sun Elementary School (precinct 6-2)
3. 15 absentee ballots
4. 15 provisional ballots

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Before the 2018 General Election was certified, the State Board of Elections conducted an automated audit of all of the ballots cast in the 2018 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.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting_system/ballot_audit_plan.html)