



*Butler County*  
***Board of Elections***

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***NEWS RELEASE***

**August 11, 2016**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO JOURNAL-NEWS  
ARTICLE CONCERNING SECURITY OF VOTING  
SYSTEM**

Hamilton – The Butler County Board of Elections issued the following statement by Deputy Director Jocelyn Bucaro concerning the security of Butler County’s voting system:

“Butler County voters should rest assured that the voting system we have used since 2005 is completely secure from any possible hacking. The election management system on which all ballots are created and tabulated is housed in a secure room under 24-hour surveillance. In compliance with both federal and state regulations, the system has absolutely no Internet or other network connection and therefore cannot be ‘hacked’ by any outside sources. The system further is housed under double lock and key, with keys held by employees of opposite major political party.

All aspects of the election are fully tested before deploying for an election, including all voting units used in the election as well as all scanners used to tabulate paper ballots. Each voting unit is individually test voted and then sealed for delivery to polling places. The tamper-evident security seals must remain intact, with seal numbers recorded on documentation and verified by two poll workers of opposite party before inserting memory cards on Election Day morning. If any unit is found to have had a security seal tampered with, that unit will be removed from service before a memory card is inserted and any votes are cast.

Following all federal elections, the Board of Elections conducts an audit, or hand recount, to ensure the results were tabulated correctly. Our post-election audit accuracy rate for electronic voting is 100%. The only inaccurate result the Board of Elections has ever found through a post-election audit or recount was caused by an error scanning paper ballots,

not by any error or problem with an electronic voting unit or vote cast electronically.

We invite the public and news media to observe our voting system testing for both the September 13, 2016 special primary election and the November 8, 2016 presidential election, and hope that by observing our procedures we can further reassure the public that our elections are secure.

Public testing for the September 13, 2016 election will be at 10:00am on Thursday, August 18 at the Board of Elections Warehouse at 1802 Princeton Road, Suite 600, Hamilton, OH 45011.

Public testing for the November 8, 2016 election will be at 10:00am on Thursday, October 13, 2016 also at the Board of Elections Warehouse at 1802 Princeton Road, Suite 600, Hamilton, OH 45011.”

### **Background**

The Butler County Board of Elections has deployed Accuvote Touchscreen (TSX) voting units as its primary method of voting in all elections since November 2005. All voting units are equipped with a state-mandated Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail, on which all voters may view their votes before casting their ballot. This paper receipt is used to audit the electronically tabulated results in all recounts and audits.