

Talbot County Board of Canvassers
215 Bay St., Suite 7
Easton, MD 21601

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Provisional Canvass Minutes

ATTENDEES:

Board of Canvassers

Name	Position	Party
Susan J. MacKinnon	Board President	Democratic
Denise Lovelady	Board Vice President	Republican
Barbara H. Perry	Board Secretary	Democratic
Gugy Irving, III	Board Member	Republican
Walter W. Black	Board Member	Democratic

Additional Attendee:

Lyndsey Ryan, Board Attorney.

Note: Lyndsey Ryan was in the building at 9 am. She arrived in the canvass room prior to any ballots being distributed.

LBE Staff (in person):

Name	Position
Tammy Stafford	Election Director
Donna Kegley-Hacker	Election Program Manager II
Fred Gleockler	Election Program IT Specialist II
Larry Thomas, Jr.	Election Program Assistant II
Jim Butts	County Tech

Public:

Name	Organization (if applicable)
Shari Wilcoxon	Citizen/Observer
Gary Judy	Citizen/Observer

All canvassing teams, duplicating team members, and ballot scanner operating team members in attendance are listed under the Canvass Participants section below.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 9:33 a.m. on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 in the Talbot County Board of Elections Training Room, 215 Bay St., Suite 7, Easton, MD 21601. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers, and at least one member of the Board of Canvassers who is a registered voter of the principal minority party was present.

CONFIRMATION OF OATH

Kathi Dulin Duvall, the Clerk of the Court for Talbot County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At its meeting on Monday, April 22, 2024, the Board of Canvassers elected Walter W. Black as Chairperson of the Board of Canvassers and Talbot County LBE staff member Donna Kegley-Hacker as Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Tammy Stafford noted that the public notice of the provisional canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by posting the notice on the main door to the building and the main door to the office, as well as posted on the website. In addition, written notification was provided to the Maryland State Board of Elections, the Democratic Central Committee, the Republican Central Committee, and candidates.

VERIFICATION OF SCANNING UNIT(S)

Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanner(s) being used in the Provisional canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on 09/24/2024. Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler reported that the memory devices(s) created for this canvass [was/were] placed in the ballot scanner(s) and sealed. Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler noted the Ballot Scanner Serial Number and Seal Number from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass.

Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler verified that the seal(s) on the ballot scanner(s) was/were intact and recorded the optical scan ballot scanner's serial number and seal number on the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report. Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler noted that the ballot scanner('s/s') serial number(s) and seal number(s) from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the ballot scanner('s/s') serial number(s) and seal number(s) before the canvass began.

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the count(s) on the ballot scanner(s) was/were zero. Tammy Stafford posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanner(s) on the inside wooden door, visible through the outside glass door of the training room. Tammy Stafford & Fred Gleockler printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanner(s). The Board of Canvassers signed the Zero Report attached to the ballot scanner(s). Tammy Stafford also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

A copy of the *Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report* is attached to the minutes.

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CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Overview of Canvass Process

Tammy Stafford explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass, provided an overview of the canvassing process, and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room.

Tammy Stafford explained that each provisional ballot application was reviewed prior to canvassing to determine the voter's eligibility to vote in this election and the voter's correct ballot style. At this canvass, the provisional ballot applications will be presented to the Board of Canvassers with a recommendation. The recommendations will be to:

1. Accept provisional ballot application in full – recommend counting all votes cast on the provisional ballot.
2. Accept provisional ballot application in part – recommend counting some but not all votes cast on the provisional ballot. This is because the voter voted in the wrong precinct.
3. Reject provisional ballot application – recommend not counting the provisional ballot.

The Board of Canvassers will vote to accept in full, accept in part, or reject the provisional ballots. The provisional ballots for which the Board voted to accept in full or accept in part are distributed to the bi-partisan ballot processing teams to open and review the ballots. The "accepted in full" ballots are scanned into the ballot scanner, and the "accepted in part" ballots are referred to a duplicating team. The duplicating team will copy onto the voter's correct ballot style the votes for the contests for which the provisional voter is eligible to vote.

Tammy Stafford explained that, to preserve the secrecy of the ballots, at least five mail-in ballots of each ballot style were held back to be canvassed with the provisional ballots. The held-back mail-in ballots are distributed to the ballot processing teams in batches. Each team reviews the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received. For timely received ballots, each team [*if the flap covering the oath has not been opened before canvassing: opens the flap on the envelope and*] determines whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each team opens the envelopes. With the envelope face down, each team removes the ballot, taking care that the envelope stays face down. After removing all of the ballots in the batch, the ballot envelopes are set aside. Each team reviews the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

Those timely ballots that are in compliance and can be read by the ballot scanner are referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance. All other ballots are placed in a plain envelope, with the team number, [*ballot style or district and precinct*], or other information identifying the group or unit to which the ballot belongs, and the reason(s) for the referral to the Board

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of Canvassers written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers.

The Board of Canvassers rules on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots.

Tammy Stafford explained that, to verify the accuracy of the voting system, some provisional ballots will be hand counted and the results of that hand count will be compared against the results from the voting system. The number of provisional ballots to be hand counted is at least 1% of the number of provisional ballots cast in the previous comparable general election. For this election, 15 provisional ballots will be hand counted. The first provisional ballot applications to be reviewed and ballots counted will be the provisional ballots randomly selected for this audit. Once these ballots are scanned, results will be printed and the results and the ballots will be stored for the manual audit. The manual audit will be conducted no later than 120 days after the general election.

Tammy Stafford explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

Canvass Participants

The members of the ballot processing, duplicating, and ballot scanner operating teams are listed below.

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing Team Members
Team #1	Susan J. MacKinnon & Denise Lovelady
Team #2	Barbara Perry & Gagy Irving, III
Team #3	Walter W. Black & Bill Ewing
Team #4	Cynthia Cooper-Smothers & Pam Harrison
Team #5	Virginia Hayman & Edward Forte

All teams served as duplicating teams.

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Fred Gleockler
Team #2	Jim Butts

Edward Forte & Larry Thomas operated the envelope opening machine.

Canvassing of Provisional Ballots

Tammy Stafford reported that 562 provisional ballots were cast. To preserve the secrecy of the ballots, Tammy Stafford explained that five mail-in ballots of each ballot style were held back for this provisional canvass and will be counted with the provisional ballots. 562 provisional ballots and 107 mail-in ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass.

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Denise Lovelady made a motion to begin presenting provisional ballot applications. Barbara Perry seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

ORIGINAL 11/13/2024

1. Tammy Stafford presented **427** provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in full. The recommendation was based on the fact that staff had confirmed that each provisional application was submitted by a registered voter and was cast in the correct precinct where that voter currently resides. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and accept and count the provisional ballots in full.
2. Tammy Stafford presented **101** provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in part. The recommendation was based on the fact that staff had confirmed that each provisional application was submitted by a registered voter and the provisional ballot was cast in the wrong precinct. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation, and the ballots were referred to the duplicating team.
3. Tammy Stafford presented **13** provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).
4. Tammy Stafford presented **21** provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant provided their driver's license or social security number but the number was not verified. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).

UPDATED 11/15/2024

On 11/15/24, Tammy Stafford presented 21 Provisional Ballots again to the Board of Canvassers. These had been rejected on 11/13/24. The voters have provided information at the time of voting and per guidance from SBE if their information verified, the ballots should be accepted. Of the 21, the Board of Canvassers approved to accept 19. One was rejected for no oath/signature and 1 was rejected because the DL/SS# did not verify.

On 11/15/24, Tammy Stafford clarified the rejection reasons for 13 provisional ballots that were originally recommended for rejection because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted. Of these, 9 were rejected because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted; 3 were rejected for no signature on oath or application; and 1 was rejected for an empty envelope/no ballot. The Board of Canvassers motioned and approved to amend these.

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CORRECTED TOTALS

1. Tammy Stafford presented **455** provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in full. The recommendation was based on the fact that staff had confirmed that each provisional application was submitted by a registered voter and was cast in the correct precinct where that voter currently resides. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and accept and count the provisional ballots in full.
2. Tammy Stafford presented **105** provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in part. The recommendation was based on the fact that staff had confirmed that each provisional application was submitted by a registered voter and the provisional ballot was cast in the wrong precinct. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation, and the ballots were referred to the duplicating team.
3. Tammy Stafford presented **1** provisional ballot with the recommendation to reject because staff could not confirm that the applicant was a registered voter. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).
4. Tammy Stafford presented **9** provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).
5. Tammy Stafford presented **6** provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the voter failed to sign the provisional ballot application. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).
6. Tammy Stafford presented **1** provisional ballot with the recommendation to reject because the applicant provided their driver's license or social security number but the number was not verified. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).
7. Tammy Stafford presented **1** provisional ballot with the recommendation to reject because there was no provisional ballot in the envelope. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).

Canvassing of Mail-In Ballots

Tammy Stafford distributed the mail-in ballots to canvassing teams to review for timeliness and signatures. Tammy Stafford presented 107 mail-in ballots with the recommendation to accept the mail-in ballots. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and voted to accept the ballot(s). Tammy Stafford presented 0 mail-in ballots with the recommendation to reject.

Challenges During Canvass

There were no challenges brought forth in the canvass.

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Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted in full and accepted in part provisional ballots and all accepted mail-in ballots, Fred Gleockler & Tammy Stafford locked the ballot scanner(s) and printed a Voting Results Report. The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the number of accepted in full and accepted in part provisional ballots and accepted mail-in ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanner(s). The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the inside wooden door, visible through the outside glass door of the training room.

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS- PROVISIONAL BALLOT CANVASS

Tammy Stafford & Donna Kegley-Hacker announced the results from the provisional canvass. Donna Kegley-Hacker announced the following statistics from the provisional canvass:

Provisional Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented at Provisional Canvass	669
B) Total Provisional Ballots Presented	562
C) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	107
D) Total Accepted Ballots	635
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots	427
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots	101
G) Accepted Mail-in Ballots	107
H) Total Rejected Ballots	34
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots	34
J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots	0

Tammy Stafford announced that provisional voters can find out if their provisional ballots were counted and if not, the reason why it was not counted by visiting the State Board of Elections' website or by calling the State Board at 1-800-222-8683.

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

The Board of Canvassers will meet on Friday, November 15, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. to canvass all remaining ballots.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

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NOTE: The Talbot County Board of Canvassers had intended to participate in a combined Provisional & Mail-in Ballot Canvass today. However, the Provisional Canvass ran longer than expected and due to scheduling conflicts, it was decided to just complete the Provisional Canvass.

Submitted by,



Walter W. Black, Board of Canvassers Chair



Denise Lovelady, Member

**Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report
2024 Presidential General Election**

State of Maryland

County/City: TALBOT COUNTY

Election Date: November 5, 2024

District/Ward/Precinct: PROV Provisional CANVASS November 13, 2024

1. Attach the Zero Report and Configuration Report from each scanning unit to this report.
2. Post a Zero Report from each scanning unit for public viewing.

Scanning Unit #	A. Main Ballot Box Security Seal #		B. New Main Ballot Box Security Seal #		C. Emergency Ballot Compartment Security Seal #		D. New Emergency Ballot Compartment Security Seal #		E. Left Case Seal # (Do Not Remove)		F. Right Case Seal # (Do Not Remove)	
	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record
FULL	6906117	n/a	6906100	n/a	6906951	n/a	6906915	n/a	0803133	0803134	0803136	0803138
PARTIAL	6906885	n/a	6906951	n/a	6906951	n/a	6906915	n/a	0803135	0803136	0803136	0803138
Ext HRS.	6906027	n/a	6906915	n/a	6906915	n/a	6906915	n/a	0803137	0803137	0803137	0803138

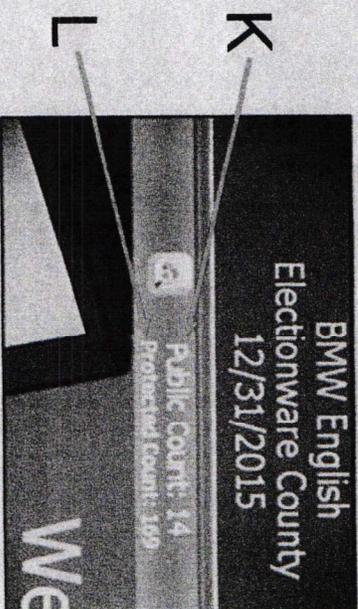
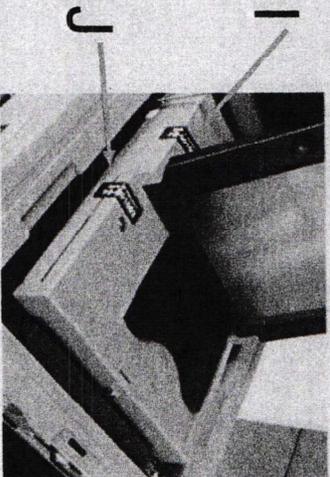
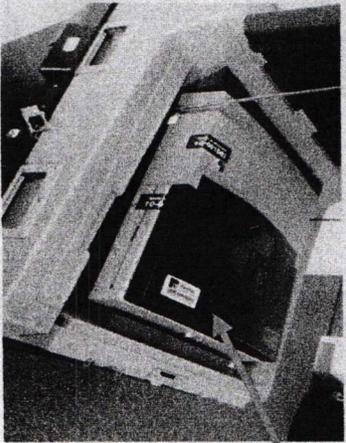
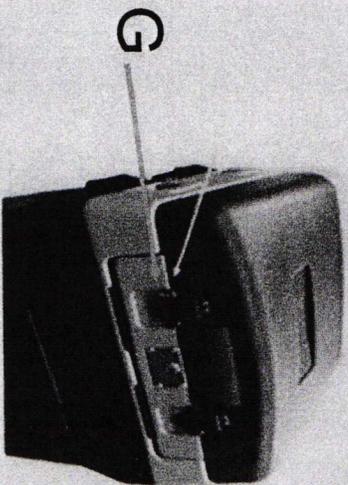
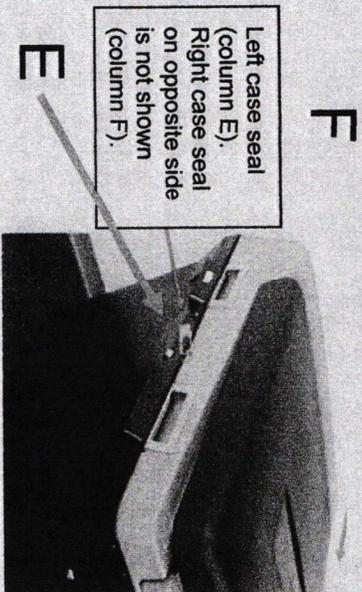
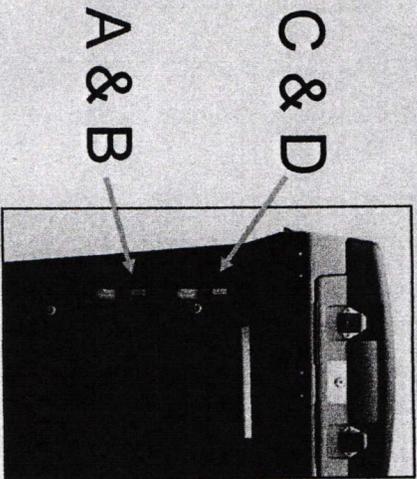
Scanning Unit #	G. Scanning Unit Lid Security Seal #		H. Scanning Unit Serial #		I. Rear Access Door Tamper Tape # (Do Not Remove)		J. Front Access Door Tamper Tape # (Do Not Remove)		K. Public Count		L. Protected Count	
	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record	Verify	Record
FULL	6906912	DS0323330437	21-211080	21-211081	0	389	0	389	0	389	0	389
PARTIAL	6906113	DS0315330824	21-211082	21-211083	0	1552	0	1552	0	1552	0	1552
Ext. HRS.	6906678	DS0315350396	21-211084	21-211085	0	8371	0	8371	0	8371	0	8371

To the best of our knowledge, the information on this report is true and accurate.

Democrat: *[Signature]*

Republican: *[Signature]*

Opening
Tamper Tape and Security Seal Location Diagram



Scanning Unit Closing Integrity Report
2024 Presidential General Election

State of Maryland

County/City: TALBOT COUNTY Election Date: November 5, 2024

District/Ward/Precinct: PROV Provisional CANVASS Wednesday, November 13, 2024

- Put all security seals you remove in the "Used Seals" bag in Chief Judges Binder.
- Complete all gray areas as needed for each table.

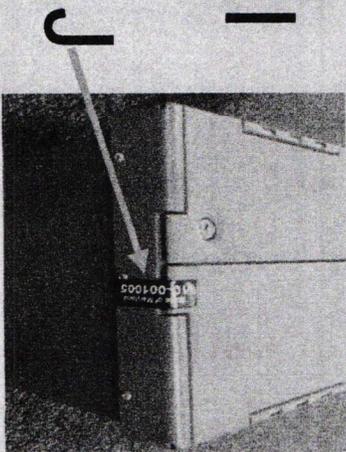
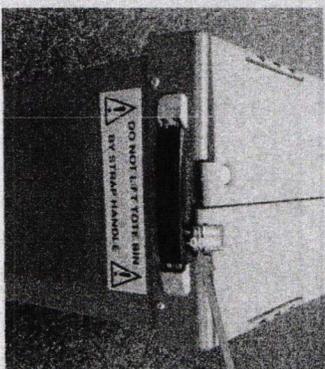
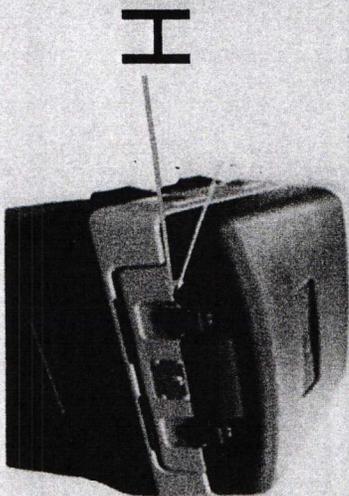
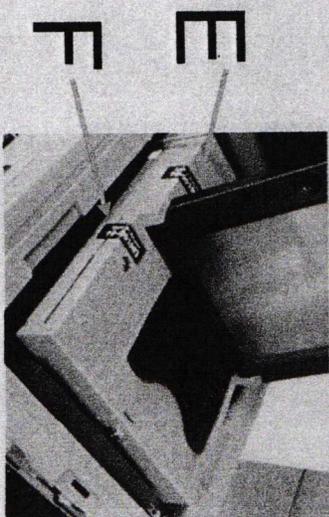
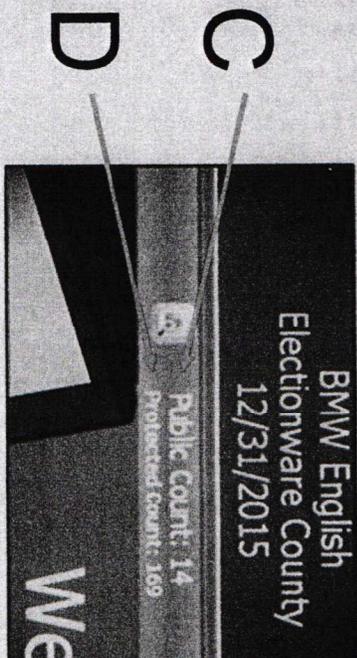
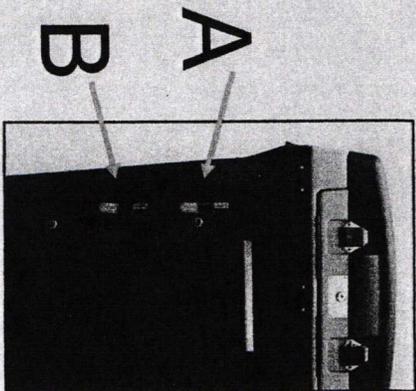
Scanning Unit #	A. Emergency Ballot Compartment Security Seal #	B. Main Ballot Box Security Seal #	C. Public Count	D. Protected Count	E. Rear Access Door Tamper Tape # (Do Not Remove)	F. Removed Front Access Door Tamper Tape #
	Record	Record	Record	Record	Record	Record
FULL	n/a	n/a	537	926	21-211080	21-211081
PARTIAL	n/a	n/a	98	1650	21-211082	21-211083
Ext. HRS.	n/a	n/a	0	8371	21-211084	21-211085

Scanning Unit #	G. Remove... but do not remove until all power lights are (off) dark Memory Stick Serial #	H. New Scanning Unit Lid Seal #	I. Tamper Tape on Front of Ballot Transfer Bin	J. Tamper Tape on Rear of Ballot Transfer Bin	Number of Scanned PROV Ballots
	Verify	Record	Record	Record	
FULL	AA04012700031238	3710881	21-20996	21-20995	537
PARTIAL	AA04012700034452	3709196	21-20997	21-20998	98
Ext. HRS.	AA04012700032868	3710950			0

To the best of our knowledge, the information on this report is true and accurate.

Democrat: [Signature] Republican: Josh Glendon 635

**Closing
Tamper Tape and Security Seal Location Diagram**



K

Count the number of VACs from the scanning unit VAC envelope.

**Front Compartment Tamper Tape
Place Here**