

Recount 2016 Philadelphia
Observations from paper ballot recount
12/4/2016, 10am-12:30pm
Camille

Location: Board of Elections office
520 Delaware Ave, Philadelphia, PA, 6th floor

Officials conducting recount for my group of 29 divisions:
Joe Lynch, Assistant Administrator
Kathy Odom, Supervisor of Data Processing

Observers for the Green Party:
Camille
Linda
Dot

Procedure:

There were two BoE workers for each group. One went through the paper ballots one at a time calling out the president and senate votes (Joe Lynch). The other worker had a tally sheet (Kathy Odom). They went division-by-division, doing all the absentee ballots. Military absentee ballots were emailed or faxed to the Board of Elections. The BoE then filled out a machine readable ballot for each military absentee ballot. Both were stapled together. We did not check that these were filled out correctly.

Because another group finished before ours, they were given the provisional ballots for our divisions.

Most of the observers kept a tally also. When the workers were done with a division, we would all (Kathy Odom and observers) compare our numbers to the official count. If they didn't match, we went through the whole stack again. In my group, there were **five** divisions where we were not able to resolve the counts with the official count. In those divisions, they were off by only one vote. I don't know what will happen in those divisions. Don't know if they will correct the official count.

Detailed Counts by ward/division:

01/01: tally count matched official count

01/12: tally count matched official count

01/14: discrepancy found. Official count has Clinton 11,
Our tallies agreed Clinton 12.

01/20: tally count matched official count; needed to count twice

02/07: tally count matched official count

02/11: tally count matched official count

02/15: tally count matched official count; needed to count twice

02/16: tally count matched official count

02/19: tally count matched official count

02/20: tally count matched official count

02/24: discrepancy found. Official count has Clinton 23,
Our tallies agreed Clinton 22.

02/25: discrepancy found. Official count has Clinton 30, Toomey 2
Our tallies agreed Clinton 31, Toomey 3

02/26: tally count matched official count

03/04: tally count matched official count

05/01: tally count matched official count

05/03: tally count matched official count

05/04: tally count matched official count

05/08: tally count matched official count

05/22: discrepancy found. Official count has Clinton 14, McGinty 12
Our tallies agreed Clinton 15, McGinty 13

05/27: tally count matched official count

08/07: tally count matched official count

08/09: tally count matched official count; needed to count twice

09/03: tally count matched official count

09/04: tally count matched official count

09/06: tally count matched official count

09/09: tally count matched official count

09/12: discrepancy found: Official Count has Clinton 35
Our tallies agree Clinton 34

09/14: tally count matched official count

09/15: tally count matched official count; needed to count twice

I missed one division recount (bathroom break) but it was observed by the others. It is not listed here.

My observations:

- In total we found 5 cases where the official tally (machine scanned) did not agree with the hand count.
- There did not seem to be a systematic bias. Two errors added votes to Clinton and three took away votes.
- I am concerned that the machine scan had so many errors. Errors in 17% of our divisions is not acceptable, even without a bias in the errors.
- Joe Lynch and Kathy Odom were very careful and professional. They made the process very transparent and were non-partisan from start to finish.