



# OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

## ELECTIONS DIVISION

<b>Directive of the Secretary of State</b>	<b>Subject:</b> Tally of Ballots	<b>Directive Issued at the Request of:</b> Secretary of State	<b>Date:</b> 9/2/2022	<b>Number:</b> 2022-4
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The Secretary of State in carrying out the duties of the office shall issue detailed directives necessary to maintain uniformity in the application, operation and interpretation of Oregon election laws. (ORS 246.110 & 120). The information provided here is an official directive of the Secretary of State.

This directive has been issued in order to provide information related to the conduct of elections under existing best practices. As with all directives, the Secretary of State seeks to use this directive in a manner that supports the work of County Clerks and election administrators.

To ensure the uniform and accurate tally of all valid ballots cast, election officials in a jurisdiction where, on the 45<sup>th</sup> day before an election, the number of active registered voters eligible to vote in the election exceeds 500, must count all valid ballots cast in the election using a voting machine or vote tally system, that is approved for use under Oregon law.

If, on the 45<sup>th</sup> day before an election, the number of active registered voters eligible to vote in the election is 500 or less, the county clerk may perform a hand count of all valid ballots cast in the election.

Nothing in this directive impairs the ability of a county clerk to determine whether to conduct a post-election hand count or a risk limiting audit, for comparison with the results of a vote tally system, as described in ORS 254.529 and 254.532.

Shemia Fagan  
Secretary of State

By: Deborah Scroggin  
Director