



Ethics, Elections & Open Government Subcommittee

**December 7, 2023
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Reed Hall (102 HOB)**

Meeting Packet

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ethics, Elections & Open Government Subcommittee

Start Date and Time: Thursday, December 07, 2023 01:00 pm

End Date and Time: Thursday, December 07, 2023 03:00 pm

Location: Reed Hall (102 HOB)

Duration: 2.00 hrs

Overview of the Certification Process for Voting Machines by the Department of State

To submit an electronic appearance form, and for information about attending or testifying at a committee meeting, please see the "Visiting the House" tab at www.myfloridahouse.gov.

NOTICE FINALIZED on 11/30/2023 3:51PM by Lacher.Tamara



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE

CORD BYRD

HOUSE ETHICS, ELECTIONS AND OPEN GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023



Statutory Authority

Section 101.5605, Florida Statutes

Examination and approval of equipment.—

(1) The Department of State shall publicly examine **all makes of electronic or electromechanical voting systems submitted** to it and determine whether the systems comply with the requirements of s. 101.5606.

(2)(a) Any person owning or interested in an electronic or electromechanical voting system may submit it to the Department of State for examination. The vote counting segment shall be certified after a satisfactory evaluation testing has been performed according to the standards adopted under s. 101.015(1). This testing shall include, but is not limited to, testing of **all software required for the voting system's operation; the ballot reader; the rote processor, especially in its logic and memory components; the digital printer; the fail-safe operations; the counting center environmental requirements; and the equipment reliability estimate...**



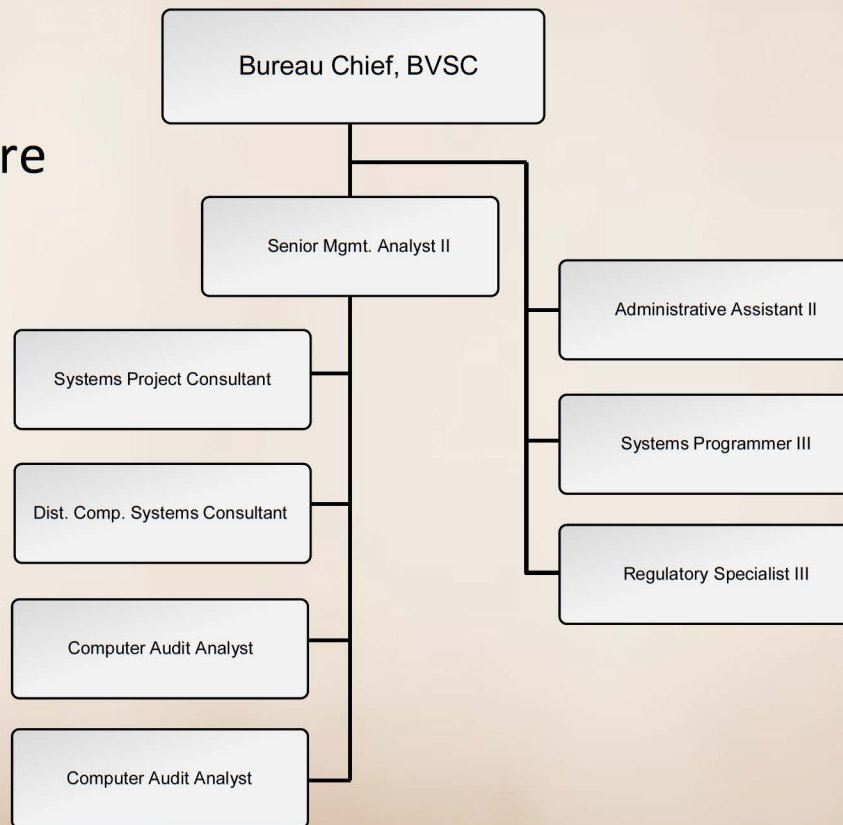
Nomenclature

- **BVSC** – Bureau of Voting Systems Certification
- **FVSS** – Florida Voting Systems Standards (Form DS-DE 101. Eff. 1-12-05)
- **ITA** – Independent Testing Authority (may be government, such as Elections Assistance Commission, or private firms)
- **TDP** – Technical Data Package – Manuals, technical & design documents, component lists, source code, vendor & third-party software, licenses & certificates, operating systems, libraries, etc. that comprise the voting system.

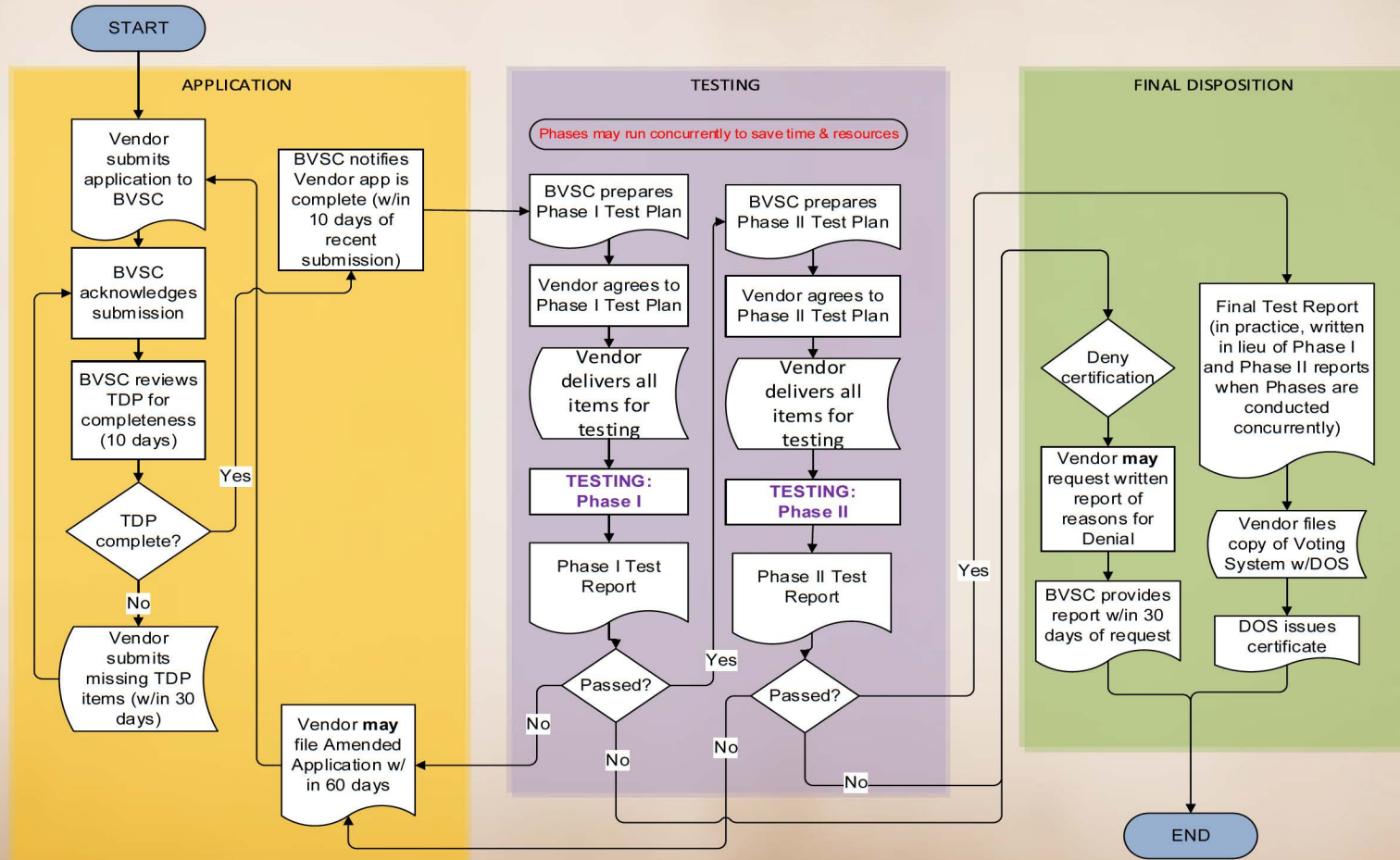


Florida Voting Systems Certification: An Overview

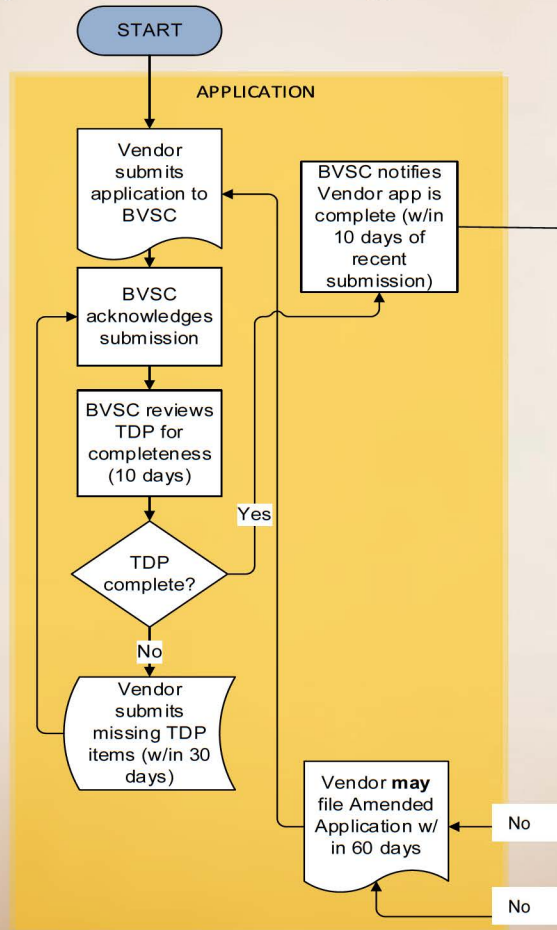
Bureau Organizational Structure



FVSS Voting Systems Certification Process



Application Stage - Process



- Vendor applies for a voting system to be certified
- BVSC reviews submission for completion against FVSS requirements
- Vendor has opportunity to remedy deficiencies
- Complete TDP includes initial voting system setup
- When submission is complete, BVSC notifies vendor— application can proceed
- Amended application (after Testing Stage) re-starts the process



Application Stage Responsibilities

Vendor

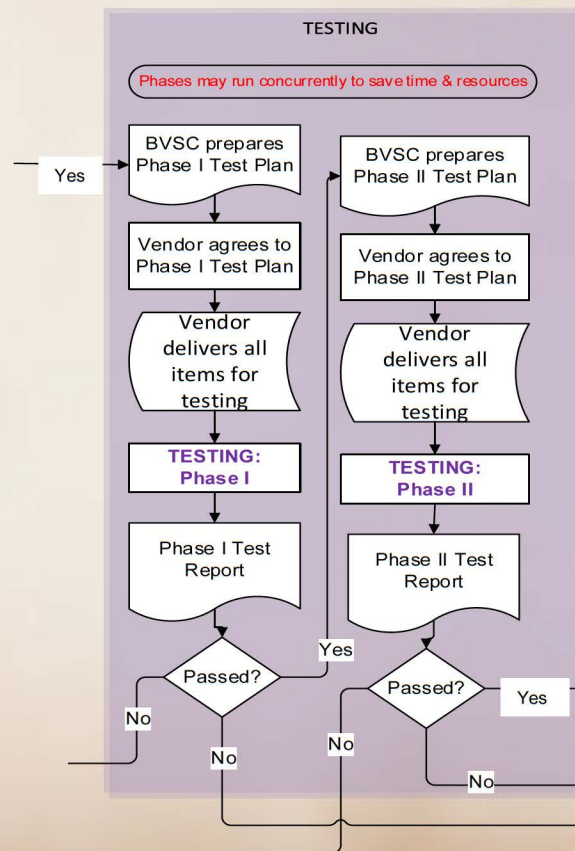
- Application
- DOS Form DS-DE 71
 - Description of system
 - Acquisition costs
 - Interchangeability (current & future)
- Technical Data Package
 - Manuals
 - Environmental requirements testing
 - Independent Testing Authority (ITA) tests
 - Authorizations for BVSC to review records with ITAs
 - Approved Parts List
 - Software/firmware documentation, utilities, hardware, installation instructions, licenses
 - Source code files
 - System component flow charts
 - Release IDs of all components
 - ID of all compilers, assemblers, DLLs, drivers, OS's, etc. to run system
 - ID of static and updatable program elements
- Complete setup of voting system

BVSC

- Receipt of application
- 10-day Review results (Complete / Incomplete)
 - Letter
 - Checklist

Testing Stage - Process

- BVSC prepares Test Plan with staff & vendor input, based on FVSS applicable tests
- Phase I and Phase II may run concurrently to save time & resources
- Vendor delivers any remaining items required in Test Plan
- BVSC inventories received items & prepares for testing activities
- Testing begins when ALL items necessary for testing are received



- BVSC sets up & conducts tests
 - Phase I—Physical Audit, functional audit (including mock elections, mass ballot counts)
 - Phase II—Additional testing (accessibility, recounts, force, system failure & recovery)
- During Testing Stage, BVSC reviews source code for security and other vulnerabilities
- At the end of each round of testing, if BVSC reports that voting system failed, vendor has option to submit Amended Application within 60 days. FVSS does not limit the number of times this remedy action may occur.



Testing Stage Responsibilities

Vendor

- Input & approval of Test Plan
- Securing test facility
- Provide any remaining equipment, supplies, election database files, media, etc. required in Test Plan
- Vendor's Statement of Equipment Readiness

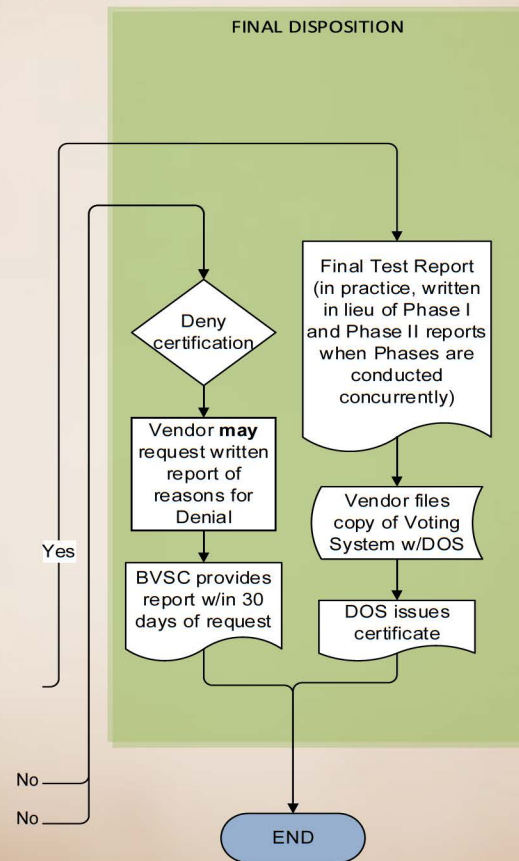
BVSC

- Test Plan
- Test Preparation—Project schedule, test scripts, election codes, expected results, testing forms, supplies, equipment inventory
- Test Results— Assessment of results, investigation of unexpected results, Pass/Fail recommendation, report write-up
- Phase Test Report – Pass/Fail. In the case of concurrent Phase testing, one report will be issued.



Final Disposition Stage - Process

- If Phase I/II test reports find non-compliance, and vendor does not submit Amended Application within 60 days, BVSC denies certification.
- Vendor may request written report of reasons for Denial. BVSC provides report within 30 days of request.
- If voting system passes (complies), BVSC creates a Test Report within 10 workdays of completing testing
 - Contains conduct of tests, test results, Division's findings
- Vendor submits entire software/firmware package in format that will be distributed to end users (Florida counties)
- Department issues voting systems certificate





Final Disposition Stage Responsibilities

Vendor

- Vendor may submit Amended Application in response to Test Report findings of non-compliance
- Vendor may also request written report stating reasons of Denial of Certification

BVSC

- Final Test Report
- Voting Systems Certificate
 - Signed / sealed Certificate
 - Letter to Vendor
- Memo to Supervisors of Elections
- Report of Denial Findings (if requested by vendor)



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THANK YOU.

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