



Washington  
Secretary of State  
SAM REED



## WASHINGTON STATE ELECTIONS

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February 9, 2010

Garfield County Canvassing Board  
c/o The Honorable Donna Deal, Garfield County Auditor  
P.O. Box 278  
Pomeroy, WA 99347-0278

Dear Canvassing Board Members:

In accordance with RCW 29A.04.570, the State Election Certification and Training Program conducted a comprehensive review of election procedures in Garfield County during the 2008 Primary Election.

The RCW also requires a follow-up visit prior to the next Primary or General Election to verify the County Auditor's Office has taken the steps necessary to correct the changes recommended in the review report.

I visited Garfield County Elections Department in December 2009 and found that they have changed their procedures to comply with the recommendations in the review report with the exception of those listed below.

**Recommendation (in part):** Updating the form and content of the Confirmation Notice will improve the department's voter registration procedures.

Follow-up: At the time of the visit, the elections department was in the process of updating this notice and expected to have it finished soon.

**Recommendation (in part):** The Garfield County Auditor must provide an off-site deposit location for voters to drop off voted ballots.

Follow-up: The elections department was in the process of locating a site for a second drop off box at the time of the visit.

**Recommendation (in part):** Creating and adopting an updated Canvassing Board Manual must be a high priority for the Board and the County Auditor's Office.

Follow-up: At the time of the follow-up visit, the County Auditor had started the Canvassing Board Manual, but it was not yet complete.

**Recommendation (in part):** A second staff member of the Garfield County Auditor's office must be certified (as an election administrator).

Follow-up: As of the date of this letter a second member of the Garfield County Auditor's Office had not applied for certification.

I commend the elections department for their obvious dedication to the election process and their desire to improve an already good operation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 360.725.5770 or [libby.nieland@sos.wa.gov](mailto:libby.nieland@sos.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Nieland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Libby Nieland  
Elections Program Specialist