



## Special Review Report

TO: King County Canvassing Board

FROM: Sheryl Moss  
Elections Certification and Training Program Manager  
Office of the Secretary of State

RE: Special Election Review – Legislative District 41, State Senator Recount

DATE: January 10, 2011

---

Pursuant to Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 29A.04.570, the Office of the Secretary of State Elections Certification and Training Program conducted a special review of King County's post-election procedures for the November 2010 General Election. The closeness of the race for Legislative District 41, State Senator, required a mandatory machine recount.

The review consisted of an interview with Evelyn Arnold, Elections Supervisor, and other election staff as well as the examination of supporting documents.

The reviewer met with Ms. Arnold and her staff on November 30, 2010. The rules, addressing recounts as prescribed by Washington Administrative Code Chapter 434-264, the processes used in the 2010 General Election regarding accountability and reconciliation of ballots, manual inspection of ballots, and ballot security were discussed.

The following documents specific to the 2010 General Election were provided: certification and recount procedures, notifications required by RCW 29A.64.030; recount rules for observers and visitors, office procedures used by the King County Elections Department, ballot duplication documents, security documents, ballot reconciliation forms, and DRE audit procedures.

Based on the information provided, ballot security was maintained throughout the entire election by the utilization of sealed containers, locked cages accessed only by authorized key card and thumb prints, and 24 hour security cameras. Procedures require unsecured ballots to be accompanied by two election staff members. The same security measures were applied to duplicating ballots and post-tabulation storage.

King County Special Review Report

January 10, 2011

Page 2

The King County Elections Department is a well run organization with exceptional staff and leadership. The staff is knowledgeable and dedicated to preserving the integrity of elections. In all cases, the security requirements were met or exceeded. The reviewer did not find any recommendations or suggestions to make in this report.

This report does not contain any recommendations, so the county is not required to provide a written response.