Template Instructions

**Delete this page when you finalize your design**

* Replace the seal with your own jurisdiction’s seal or logo
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Audits are normal checks and balances that are part of every election. We use audits to check multiple parts of the election process, including that election equipment is programmed and operating correctly, that all ballots are accounted for, and that ballot scanners can accurately count votes.

**Election Audits**

**Why is auditing elections important?**

We work hard to have error-free elections, but errors can still happen from time to time. Election audits provide an opportunity to detect and, when necessary, correct any errors that we find.

**What types of audits does [Sample Jurisdiction] do?**

In [Sample Jurisdiction], we conduct several types of audits:

**Pre-election Testing**

Sometimes referred to as “Logic and Accuracy Testing,” before every election we test the voting equipment to make sure it works correctly. We do this by running a series of test ballots through each machine to check two things:

1. Logic: The machine follows the rules of the election, like only allowing one vote for races where there can only be one winner.
2. Accuracy: The machine correctly counts the votes on the ballots. For example, if 10 people vote for Candidate A and 5 for Candidate B on our test ballots, the machine must show those exact results.

(Note: results from test ballots are cleared before voters begin voting.)

**Ballot Reconciliation**

After the election, we verify that all eligible voted ballots were included in the count.

* We review documentation of security and chain-of-custody procedures, making sure that ballots and equipment are all accounted for.
* We compare the number of ballots issued to the number of ballots counted.
* We compare the number of voted ballots to the number of eligible voters.

**Post-Election Audit**

After the election, we select a sample of ballots and compare a hand count of those physical ballots to the initial electronic count. This audit checks that ballot scanners counted the sampled ballots accurately.****

**Observing**

If you’re interested in observing election audits in [Sample Jurisdiction], contact our office for more information:

Contact us by phone:123-456-7890 or email: samplejurisdiction@email.gov