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21	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA		
22	KARI LAKE,	No. CV2022-095403	
23	Contestant/Petitioner,	DECLARATION OF REY VALENZUELA	
24	Contestant/Fetitioner,	IN SUPPORT OF THE MARICOPA	
	VS.	COUNTY DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE OPPOSING LAKE'S RULE 60 MOTION	
25	KATIE HOBBS, et al.,		
26		(Expedited Election Matter)	
27	Defendants.	(Honorable Peter Thompson)	
28			
ZO UNTY	I, Rey Valenzuela, declare as follows	5.	
and the second			

MARICOPA COUNTY
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
CIVIL SERVICES DIVISION
225 WEST MADISON STREET
PHOBIOL ARZONA 85003

- 1. During the 2022 General Election, I was employed by Maricopa County in the Office of the Recorder. My official title was the Director of Elections, Mail-In Voting and Elections Services.
- 2. I have first-hand knowledge of the events about which I testify in this Declaration, and if called upon to testify to these matters at trial I would provide competent testimony.
- 3. I am over the age of 18 and suffer from no impairments that would affect my testimony, either in this Declaration or at trial.
- 4. I have specialized training, knowledge and expertise in election administration. Among other things, I am a Certified Elections Registration Administrator ("CERA"), have been an Arizona Certified Election Officer since 2008 and I have worked in election administration in Maricopa County for over thirty years.
- 5. During the 2022 General Election, and for all elections since at least 2003, I was responsible for overseeing the signature verification process at Maricopa County.
- 6. Among other things, I oversaw and assisted in the creation of the training materials used to train all individuals who conducted signature verification during the 2022 General Election. *See* Exhibit 1, Signature Verification Training General Election 2022.
- 7. Although Maricopa County is only *required*, by statute and the 2019 Elections Procedures Manual (the "EPM"), to conduct one level of review during the signature verification process, Maricopa County conducts three levels of review.
- 8. The three levels are respectively referred to as the User ("Level 1"), Manager ("Level 2") and Audit ("Level 3") level.
- 9. Maricopa County employed a total of 155, full-time and temporary employees, who conducted single verification during the 2022 General Election.
- 10. 112 of the 155 employees conducted only User ("Level 1") level verifications. The remaining 43 conducted all levels of signature verification.
- 11. All employees who verify signatures are required to attend, at a minimum, a four hour training and four hours of hands-on training, for a total of 8-hours minimum of

training. Attached as Exhibit 1 is the PowerPoint presentation used in the first four hours of

- Level 2 and 3 reviewers receive additional training on signature verification, including from the Arizona Secretary of State's Office.
- At the User level ("Level 1"), the verifier is comparing an electronic scan of the ballot affidavit envelope only and is limited to only reviewing the three most recent
- At the User level ("Level 1"), the verifier is limited to only two decisions: whether the signature is "good" or an "exception." A "good" signature is one the reviewer has concluded is consistent with a previous signature on file. An "exception" signature is one the Level 1 verifier has concluded that he or she cannot determine whether it is consistent with previous signatures on file to which the reviewer has access.
  - Reasons for exceptions include, but are not limited, to:
    - a. the voter did not sign in the signature box
    - b. the reviewer cannot verify signature when comparing to historical
    - c. the ballot affidavit envelope was signed by a different person
    - d. there is a marking not on the historical record, i.e. an X or a
    - e. there is a notification not on the historical record, i.e. unable to sign
    - g. there are written notes, i.e. moved, deceased or Power of Attorney
- If a User level reviewer deems a signature an exception, it is triaged to the
- All Level 1 exceptions are required to go to Level 2 for review. No ballots

- 18. At the Manager level ("Level 2"), the verifier is reviewing signatures deemed "exceptions" at the User level. At the Manager level, the verifier is comparing an electronic scan of the ballot affidavit envelope only. The Manager level reviewer has access to the voter's entire voter registration file, including the entire history of affidavits with previously determined good signatures.
- 19. If a Manager level verifier determines the signature is consistent with a signature on file, he or she deems the signature as "good." If the Manager is unable to determine the signature is consistent with previous signatures on file, then it is "dispositioned" as a questioned signature.
- 20. A "dispositioned" ballot affidavit envelope is then physically reviewed and will follow the curing process.
- 21. Consistent with the statute and the EPM, voters are given an opportunity to "cure" if a signature on his or her ballot affidavit envelope has not been determined to be "good" after the User and Manager level reviews.
- 22. Arizona law permits the voter five business days for the General Election, excluding holidays, to verify an inconsistent signature.
- 23. During the curing process, the voter is contacted either by text, by e-mail, by phone or by letter.
- 24. The Maricopa County Elections Department Signature Verification and Flagging team is responsible for carrying out these curing-related responsibilities.
- 25. The team makes reasonable and meaningful attempts to contact voters utilizing the information available in the voter's file and the affidavit. Each staff member utilizes a pre-approved letter and/or script when communicating with the voter about the available options for curing.
- 26. All attempts to contact voters are documented on Maricopa County's standardized preprinted voter contact label. There is one label used per contact. The label is placed on the affidavit side. The label includes the outcome of the communication, the date of the contact, and comments when necessary.

- 27. Each staff contacting voters by phone is provided a supply of labels, the approved script, the guide for the labels, a phone, and affidavits that require follow up with the voter.
- 28. The third level of review is the audit ("Level 3"). This, like the Manager Level review, is not required but is permitted by statute and the EPM.
- 29. The audit consists of a daily randomized review for consistency of 2% of the signatures reviewed in every batch (each batch contains 10,000 ballot affidavit records, broken into smaller "user review" sub-batches consisting of 250 ballot affidavit envelope images).
  - 30. A batch cannot be completed until a Level 3 (audit) occurs.
- 31. The audit includes records marked as "good" and records marked as inconsistent or missing a signature altogether.
- 32. I personally conducted signature verifications during the 2022 General Election, both at the User ("Level 1") and Manager ("Level 2") Levels.
- 33. I also personally observed Maricopa County employees conducting Level 1, 2 and 3 reviews during the 2022 General Election.
- 34. As set forth in Exhibit 2, Pending Status (QS, PQ & NS) Total vs. Cured, Maricopa County sent a total of 18,510 ballot affidavit envelopes for curing. Of those, 3099 were not cured and ultimately rejected and, therefore, those ballot affidavit envelopes were never opened, and the ballots contained in them were not tabulated.

Pursuant to Rule 80(c), Ariz. R. Civ. P., I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on May 16, 2023.

Rey Valenzuela

## EXHIBIT 1



Maricopa County Elections Department

# SIGNATURE VERIFICATION

**GENERAL ELECTION 2022** 



# AGENDA

#### **FUNDAMENTALS**

#### **ANATOMY OF THE EARLY VOTING PACKET**

- ✓ Affidavit envelope and ballot
- ✓ Instructions

#### **REVIEW CHARACTERISTICS**

✓ Broad and Local

#### **COMPUTER SYSTEM-Early Voting Return (EVRT)**

✓ Roles & Navigation

#### **SCENARIOS**

#### **CURING**

- ✓ Verified
- ✓ Not verified
- ✓ Investigations

#### **VOTER CONTACT LABEL**

#### **AUDITING**





## LAWS AND GUIDELINES

Secretary of State Signature Verification Guide (July 2020)

Arizona Elections Procedure Manual (EPM 2019)

Arizona Revised Statutes Title 16 Elections and Electors





## **FUNDAMENTALS**

#### SIGNATURE ON EARLY VOTING AFFIDAVIT=IDENTIFICATION

- ✓ Compare the signature on affidavit envelope with the voter's signature in the record
- ✓ Previous affidavits (voter registration forms and early voting affidavit envelopes, AEVL requests)

#### **VERIFIED SIGNATURES**

- ✓ Indicate a distinguishing mark
- ✓ Prepare for processing and official transfer to ballot tabulation center

#### **UNVERIFIED SIGNATURES (NO SIGNATURES)**

- ✓ A meaningful attempt to contact voter
- ✓ Packet remains sealed and secured

#### **CURING**

- ✓ No signature-Election Night 7PM (Arizona time)
- ✓ Questionable signature-November 16<sup>th</sup> 5PM (Arizona time)

#### **UNCURED PACKETS**

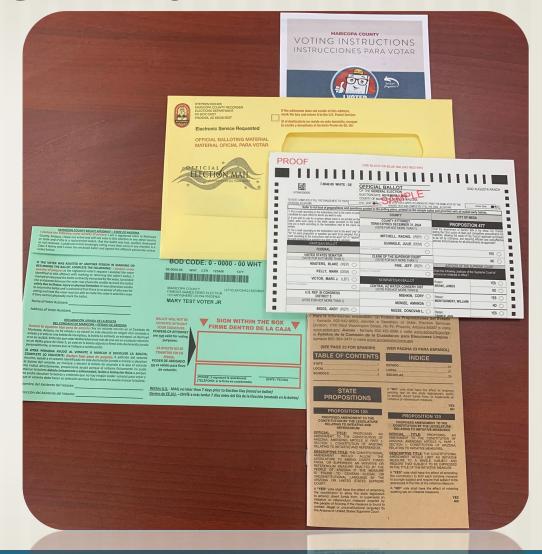
- ✓ Rejects on canvass (no signature and bad signature)
- ✓ Remain sealed and ballots not counted





# EARLY VOTING PACKETS

- General Election Ballot
- Early Voting Instructions and Sticker
- Green Affidavit Envelope
- Full Text Insert
- Yellow Carrier Envelope







# EARLY VOTING AFFIDAVIT-GE 2022

- (1) 07-Nonpartisan
- (2) 6911-Four Digit Precinct
- (3) 00-Two Digit Ballot Color
- (4) WHT-Three Letter Ballot Color
- (5) MOB-Three Letter Ballot Type
- (6) 123456-Voter ID#
- (7) 1389-Four-digit Election# unique to General 2022
- (8) 15-digit piece ID barcode
- (9) 15-digit piece ID
- (10) 1389-Four-digit Election# unique to General 2022
- (11) Affidavit Sequence #
- (12) Issuance # (number of ballots voter has been issued)

# I declare the following under penalty of perjury: I am a registered voter in Maricopa County, Arizona, I have not voted and will not vote in this election in any other county. or state and if this is a replacement ballot, that the ballot was lost, spoiled, destroyed or not received. I understand that knowingly voting more than once in any election is a Class 5 felony and I voted the enclosed ballot and signed this affidavit personally unless IF THE VOTER WAS ASSISTED BY ANOTHER PERSON IN MARKING OR

RETURNING THE BALLOT, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING: I declare under penalty of perjury: at the registered voter's request I assisted the voter identified in this affidavit with marking or returning the voter's ballot, I marked or returned the ballot as directly instructed by the voter, I provided the assistance because the voter was physically unable to mark the ballot solely due to illness, injury or physical limitation or was otherwise unable to return the ballot and I understand that there is no power of attorney for voting and that the voter must be able to make the voter's selection even if they cannot physically mark the ballot.

Name of Voter Assistant: Address of Voter Assistant:

#### **DECLARACIÓN JURADA DE LA BOLETA** DEL CONDADO DE MARICOPA - ESTADO DE ARIZONA

Declaro lo siguiente bajo pena de perjurio: Soy un votante inscrito en el Condado de Maricopa, Arizona, no he votado y no votaré en esta elección en ningún otro condado o estado y si esta es una boleta de reemplazo, la boleta se extravió, se estropeó, se destruyó o no se recibió. Entiendo que votar deliberadamente más de una vez en cualquier elección es un delito grave de Clase 5, yo voté en la boleta adjunta y firmé esta declaración jurada personalmente, a menos que se indique a continuación.

SI OTRA PERSONA AYUDÓ AL VOTANTE A MARCAR O DEVOLVER LA BOLETA, COMPLETE LO SIGUIENTE: Deciaro bajo pena de perjurio: A petición del votante inscrito, ayudé a el votante identificado en esta declaración jurada a marcar o devolver la boleta del votante, yo marqué o devolví la boleta de acuerdo a lo que el votante me indicó directamente, proporcioné ayuda porque el votante fisicamente no pudo marcar la boleta debido únicamente a enfermedad, lesión o limitación física o porque no podía devolver la boleta y entiendo que no hay ningún poder notarial para votar y que el votante debe hacer su selección aunque físicamente no pueda marcar la boleta.

Nombre del Asistente del Votante:	
Dirección del Asistente del Votante:	

07-6911-00 123456 1389 MARICOPA COUNTY

NOV 8 2022 GENERAL ELECTION 1234 ANYWHERE LN PHOENIX MARY TEST VOTER

**BALLOT WILL NOT BE** COUNTED WITHOUT

YOUR SIGNATURE. **POWERS OF ATTORNEY** are not valid for voting purposes.

> LA BOLETA NO SE TRAMITAR SIN SU FIRMA.

PODER DE ABOGADO no es válido para fines de votación.



Within U.S. - MAIL no later than 7 days prior to Election Day (noted on ballot) Dentro de EE.UU. - ENVÍE a más tardar 7 días antes del Día de la Elección (anotado en la boleta)





## SIGNATURE VERIFICATION

### **EVRT System**

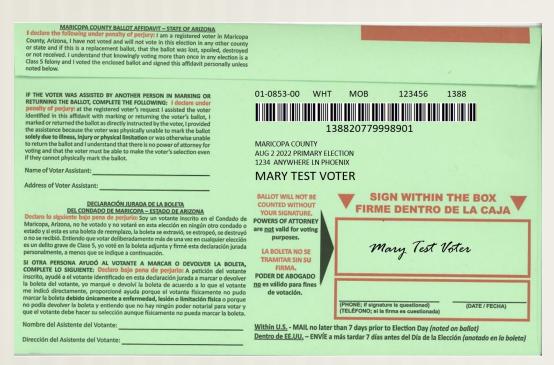


Image of the Green Affidavit Envelope









## SIGNATURE VERIFICATION

Maricopa County
has a robust multiple
tiered system to
review 100% of the
signatures on early
voting packets.

#### **Six Broad Characteristics**

- Type & speed of writing
- Overall spacing, size and proportion
- Position of Signature
- Spelling

#### **Five Local Characteristics**

- Internal Spacing
- Size and Proportion of letters/combo of letters
- Curves, loops, and cross points
- Presence or absence of pen lifts
- Beginning and Ending Stroke





## Evaluating the entire signature

- Type of writing
- Speed of writing
- Style of the writing
- Overall spacing

- Overall size & Proportion
- Slant
- Spelling
- Alignment





- Type of writing
  - Hand printed, cursive, or a mix of the two
  - Generational

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
John Doe	John Doe





- Speed of writing/Pressure
  - Dynamic due to repetition
  - Ink line (thick vs. natural)
  - Assess the appearance of the terminal stroke
  - Natural strokes tapered or blunt

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
Milland Fillnen	Millard Willmore
Danif	Danil





- Style of writing
  - Letterform
  - Style can vary but large shifts can happen over time
- Overall spacing
  - Space between the names

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
James Alfanfill.	Jamo Algarfied
John Adams.	John Adams





- Overall size & Proportion
  - The size of the signature in relation to the space available
  - Telescoping
  - Height of the uppercase to lowercase
  - Heights and widths of the strokes

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
mvanBuen	Marburn
Secretary	Secretary
Richard Mifm	Richard Kifon





Slant

Left, Upright, and Right

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
Richard Mifm	Richard Mijon
Secretary	Secretary.
Cynthia	agrithia





- Spelling
  - Is the name wrong (John vs. Jon, Sarah vs. Sara)

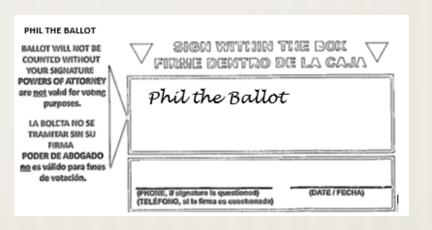
Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
John Adams.	Sonn Adams.





- Alignment
  - Placement of the signature relative to signature line or baseline
  - Middle, left justified, right justified









If the broad characteristics are clearly consistent you may accept the signature (marked as good). If not, move on to review the local characteristics.





Evaluating the specific letter or combination of letters.

- Internal Spacing
- Size and Proportion of letters/combo of letters
- Curves, loops, and cross points
- Presence or absence of pen lifts





- Internal Spacing
  - Relationship between successive letters should be reasonably similar.

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
Ronald	Ronald
Timung Carter	Fim my Carter





Curves, loops and cross points

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
Lu Lu	Pu
Herelf R. Ford	Surald & Gord





- Size and proportion of letters/combo of letters
  - Space between the letters

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
Janus Madrion	James Malion
Ang	Ana
Danif'	Danif





- Pen lifts
  - May be subtle or dramatic
  - Found in both genuine and fraudulent signatures

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
Va	Ve
SLOQ	Soll





Beginning and ending stroke

Genuine Signature	Questioned Signature
62_	20
Danif	Dand





# SIGNATURE VERIFICATION

100% of signature records reviewed by humans

#### **User Level**

- ✓ One decision point-Good or Exception
- ✓ Compare current affidavit image against a historical signature (up to three most recent in chronological order)
- ✓ Affidavits include voter registration forms and previous early voting affidavit envelopes
- ✓ All exceptions are triaged to the manager queue for further review

#### **Manager Level**

- ✓ Access to entire history of affidavits with a good signature
- ✓ Verifiable signatures are deemed good
- ✓ Signatures that can't be verified are dispositioned, will be physically reviewed and follow the curing process

#### **Audit**

- ✓ A randomized 2% audit is performed on every batch (approximately 10k records)
- ✓ Audit is required before the batch can be completed
- ✓ Includes records marked as good and exceptions





# SCENARIOS (EXCEPTIONS)

VOTER DID NOT SIGN IN THE SIGNATURE BOX

CAN NOT VERIFY SIGNATURE WHEN COMPARING TO HISTORICAL AFFIDAVITS

SIGNED BY A DIFFERENT PERSON

MARKING NOT ON HISTORICAL RECORD

- ✓ Fingerprint
- ✓ X (or other mark)

#### NOTIFICATION NOT ON HISTORICAL RECORD

✓ Unable to sign due to disability

SIGNATURE IS UPSIDE DOWN





# SCENARIOS (EXCEPTIONS)

#### **WRITTEN NOTES**

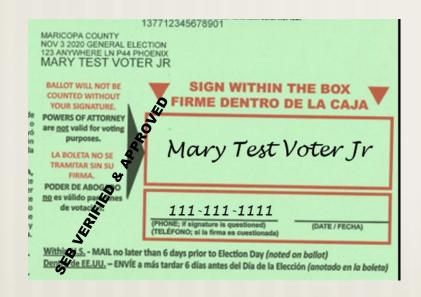
- ✓ Deceased
- ✓ Moved
- ✓ Power of Attorney (POA)
- ✓ Signed on behalf of
- ✓ Incapacitated





# SCENARIOS (GOOD)

SIGNATURE CAN BE VERIFIED WITH A HISTORICAL SIGNATURE CURED PACKETS (WITH A STAMP)









# SIGNATURE VERIFICATION DEMO STANDARD WORK DOCUMENT

# PHYSICAL REVIEW OF PACKETS & SIGNATURES

No signature

Preliminary questionable signature

**Need Packets** 

**Household Exchange** 

**Deceased** 





## CURING MATERIALS

- Scripts
- Labels
- Guide
- Phones
- Red Pens





## DOCUMENTING VOTER CONTACT

VOTER CONTACT LABEL GUIDE						
Action	Definition	Description				
LS	Letter Sent	Action selected when the EV staff send the signature verification letter to the voter.				
LM	Left message	Action selected when the EV staff leave a voice message on an automated voicemail for the voter to hear later or left message with another person. Only a voter can cure their own signature.				
PD	Phone Disconnected	Action selected when the EV staff attempt to call the voter using the number on the affidavit or voter file and it is disconnected/not in working order.				
WN	Wrong Number	Action selected when the EV staff attempt to call the voter using the number on the affidavit or voter file and the individual answering indicates it is the wrong phone number.				
NA	Not Answered	Action selected when the EV staff attempt to call the voter using the number on the affidavit or voter file and the line is not answered, does not have a voice message set up, or the voice mail box is full.				
EM	Email	Action selected when the EV staff attempt to contact the voter using an email on their voter file.				
NCI	No Contact Information	Action selected when the EV staff reviewed the voter's file and there is no contact information for them.				
NVS	Not Voter's Signature	Action selected when the voter indicates they did not sign the packet for the election. This requires immediate notification to supervisor.				
wv	Won't Verify	Action selected when staff reach the voter, but the voter does not verify the signature. Examples include the voter is unable to talk at that time, voter refuses to verify the signature or voter indicates they will call back.				
VNA	Voter Not Available	Action selected when the EV staff attempt to call the voter using the number on the affidavit or voter file and the individual indicates the voter is not available to verify the signature (i.e., in the hospital for extended stay and will not be reachable before deadline).				
SR	Shell Review	Action selected when the staff review history of voter signatures				
VER	Verified	Action selected when the voter verifies their signature				

Voter Contact Label Example

#### **ACTIONS (CIRCLE)**

LS, LM, PD, WN, NA, EM, NCI NVS, WV, VNA, SR, VER DATE:

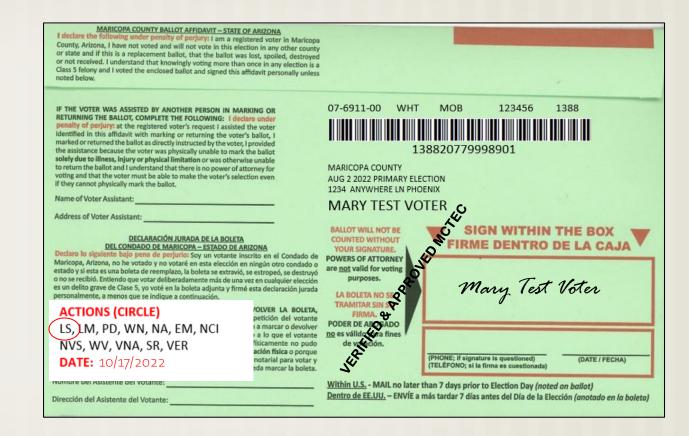
## VOTER CONTACT LABEL & STAMP

#### **Contact label**

- ✓ Placed on the signature side with the barcode
- Do not cover signatures or notes from the voter
- ✓ One label per contact
- ✓ Label only when action has been completed
- ✓ RED PEN ONLY

#### Verified & approved stamp

✓ Cured signature







## **AUDITING**

Audit trail is completed to capture all activity on a packet (signature)

Ballot History				
BALLOT EVENT	EVENT DATE	EMP/SYS ID	▲	
GOOD SIGNATURE	10/19/2021	NABORC		
EXCEPTION	10/19/2021	MARIED	П	
BALLOT RECEIVED BY POST OFFICE	10/18/2021	conVrasEV70B		
BALLOT SENT FOR SIG VER	10/18/2021	NABORC	П	
BALLOT MAILED	10/6/2021	conVrasEV70B		
PACKET PRINT DATE	9/24/2021	conVrasEV70B		
BALLOT SENT TO PRINTER	9/20/2021	oop\/racEuPoaCtr_MAII	I	

Exception (user)
Good Signature (manager)





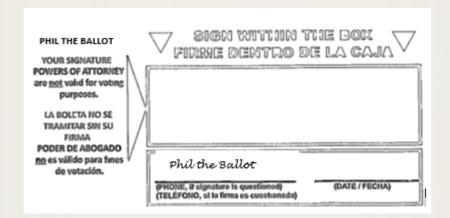
## Electronic Signatures from Arizona Motor Vehicle

Handwritten Signature	Electronic Signature	
Corlean To Thinley	an 27 lies	
hypelmls for	E-4	





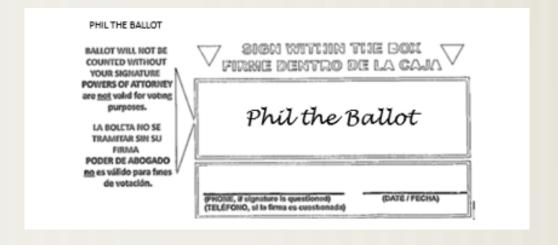
### Review the phone and date sections for signature







Signature can be Verified when Compared to the Historical Record

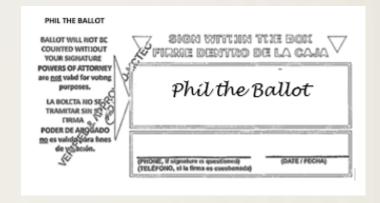








# "Verified and Approved MCTEC" Stamp

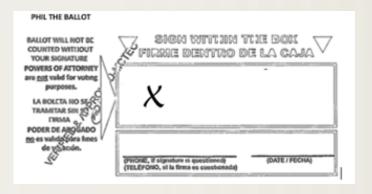








Mark, such as an X (Not on Historical Record being Compared) with a "Verified and Approved MCTEC" Stamp

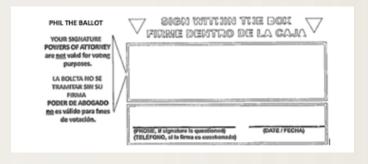


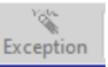






## No Signature

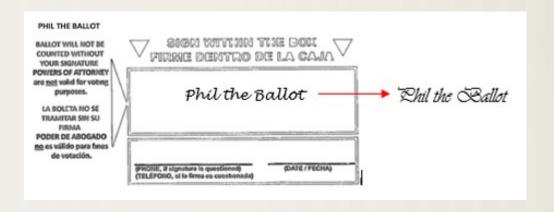








Signature Cannot be Verified with the Historical Record being Compared

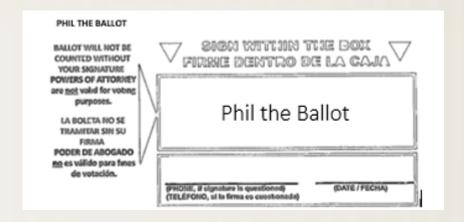








# Printed Name (Not on Historical Record being Compared)

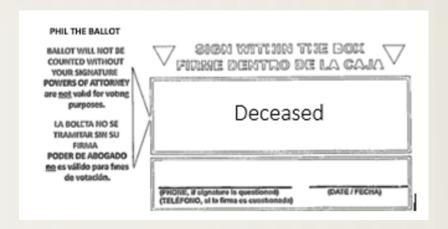








### Deceased noted by Household Member

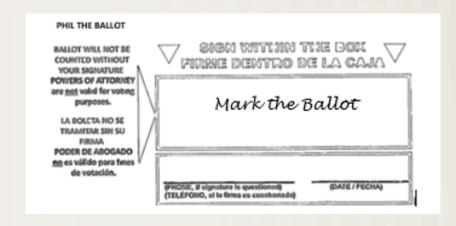








# Wrong Name is Signed in the Signature Box

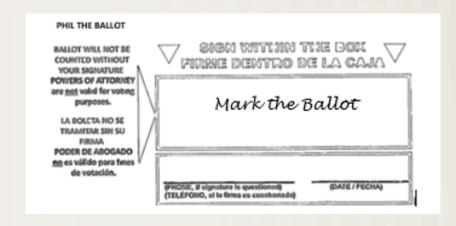








# Wrong Name is Signed in the Signature Box

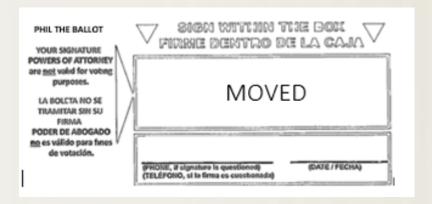








### Moved noted on Packet

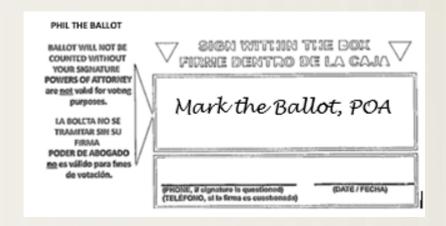








### Power of Attorney (POA)

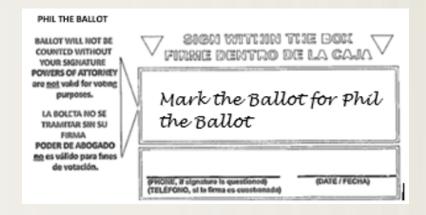








## Signing on behalf of the voter

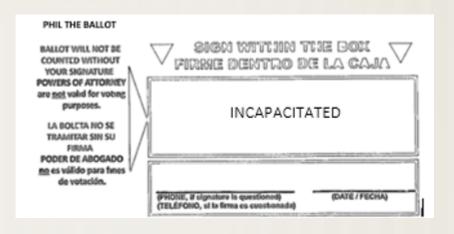


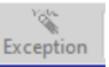






## Incapacitated noted on Packet

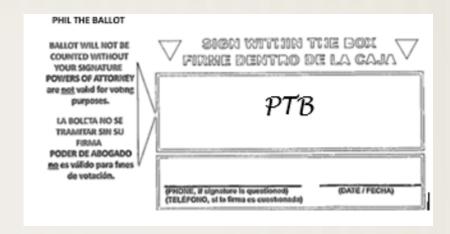








## Initials Only (Not on Historical Record being Compared)

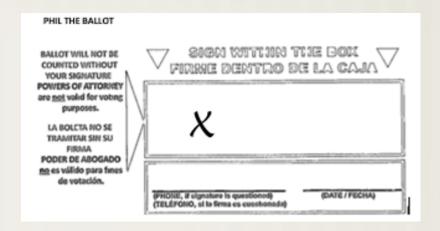








A Mark such as an X (Not on Historical Record being Compared)

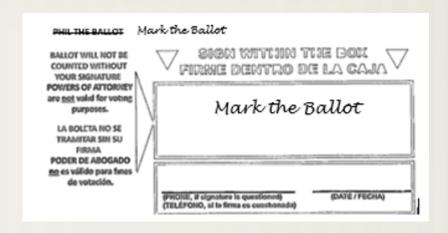








The Name <u>Printed</u> on the Affidavit does not Match the Signature or Historical Record

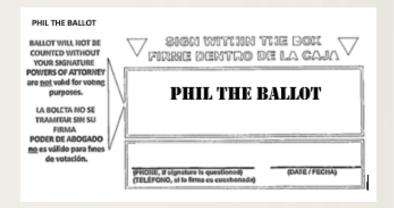




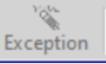




Stamped Signature (Not on Historical Record being Compared)



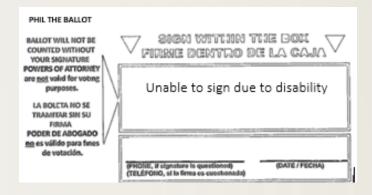








"Unable to Sign due to Disability" (not on the historical record)









## RECAP

#### **FUNDAMENTALS**

ANATOMY OF THE EARLY VOTING PACKET

#### **REVIEW CHARACTERISTICS**

✓ Broad and Local

#### **COMPUTER SYSTEM-Early Voting Return (EVRT)**

✓ Roles & Navigation

#### **CURING**

- ✓ Verified
- ✓ Not verified
- ✓ Investigations

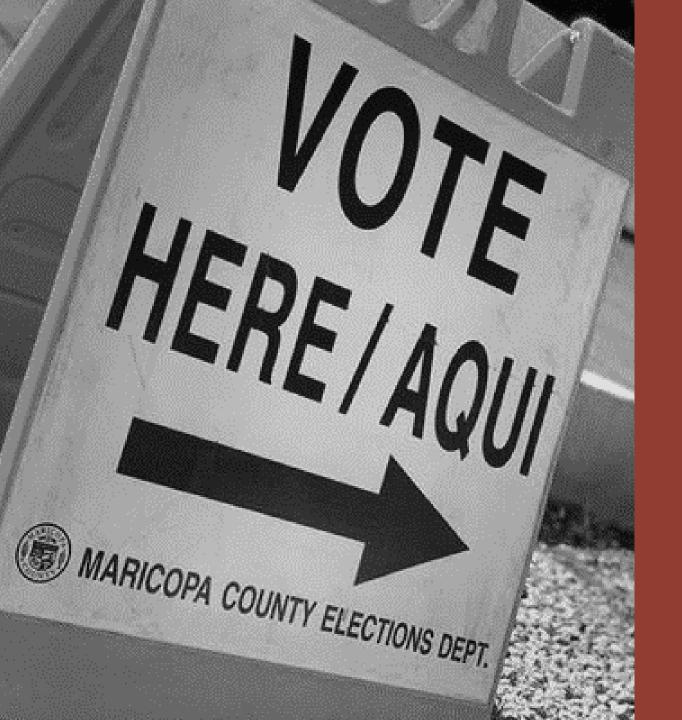
**VOTER CONTACT LABEL** 

**AUDITING** 

**SCENARIOS** 







## **QUESTIONS?**

Celia Nabor Assistant Director of Early Voting Maricopa County Elections Department





MaricopaRecorder

#### PENDING STATUS (QS, PQ & NS) TOTAL vs. CURED

#### **NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION**

STATUS CODE DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
TOTAL INITIAL 'QUESTIONED SIGNATURE' STATUS SET >	
TOTAL <u>INITIAL</u> 'NO SIGNATURE' STATUS SET >	2,164
TOTAL INITIAL PQ, QS & NS (minus Address Protected ) >	18,510

TOTAL TO BE 'CURED (QS & NS) >	18,510
QS SET AS <u>FINAL</u> 'BAD SIGNATURE' (UNCURED) >	1,800
NS SET AS <u>FINAL</u> 'NO SIGNATURE' STATUS (UNCURED) >	1,299
QS & NS CURED BY VOTER >	15,411

	BALLOT
BALLOT DISPOSITION DESCRIPTION	STATUS
	CODED
PENDING QUESTIONED SIGNATURE	PQ
QUESTIONED SIGNATURE	QS
NO SIGNATURE	NS
GOOD SIGNATURE	GS
DECEASED	DE
BAD SIGNATURE	BS
VOIDED (EV CANCELLED)	V3
VOIDED (EV REISSUED)	V6

<sup>\*</sup> Total 'Address Protected' Voters that were in the "cure" queue = 311

