

OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER
ELECTIONS DIVISION

Michael J. Scarpello, Director



Stephanie Y. O'Malley
Clerk and Recorder
Public Trustee

MEDIA KIT

COORDINATED ELECTION November 3, 2009

Denver Elections Division

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www.DenverVotes.org



CONTENTS

Mail Ballot Election.....	3
Election Day Voter Service Centers.....	3
Election Night	4
Ballot Processing	6
Ballot Content	8
Sample Ballot	9
2009 Election Model	10
Ballot TRACE	11
2009 Denver Elections by the Numbers	12
Provisional Voting	13
Media Contacts	14
Online Resources	15
Colorado Secretary of State Rules for Media Observers	16

Mail Ballot Election

- ◆ 347,573 mail ballots for Coordinated Election were mailed on October 16 to all eligible voters in Denver.
- ◆ Return postage is 61 cents.
- ◆ Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. Election Day. Ballots received after 7 p.m. will not be counted regardless of postmark.
- ◆ Active Military Overseas Electors have eight days after the election to return their ballots.
- ◆ The numbers of mail ballots returned will be posted on the website throughout the voting period.

Voter Service Centers

From Monday, Oct. 26 through Election Day (except on Sunday, November 1) voters may drop their ballot off at either of the two Voter Service Centers during their hours of operation.

At the Voter Service Centers, voters may also

- ◆ obtain a replacement for a lost or spoiled ballot
- ◆ emergency register if they qualify

Locations:

- ◆ Atrium, Wellington Webb Office Bldg., 201 W. Colfax Ave.
- ◆ Denver Elections Division, 3888 E. Mexico Ave.

Days and hours:

- ◆ 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Mon., Oct. 26-Sat, Oct. 31, and Mon., Nov. 1
- ◆ 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Election Day, Nov. 3

Both Voter Service Centers are wheelchair accessible and both have electronic voting machines for voters who wish to use them.

There will be a drive-through ballot drop-off on Mexico Ave. in front of the Elections Division, same dates and times as above.

Election Night

- ◆ Still photographers and videographers will be able to get shots of Election Day activity within the Election Division's large voter registration lobby from an area that will allow full line of sight while protecting voter privacy.
- ◆ After the close of polls on election night, the Denver Elections Division headquarters will remain open to the public while ballot counting is taking place.
- ◆ Secure mail-in ballot verification and mail-in ballot processing areas, as well as the ballot counting machines, will be visible to visitors through large windows.
- ◆ Due to the number of people that will be in the building, members of the media will need to keep their credentials visible at all times.
- ◆ A quiet area off the main registration lobby will be provided to the news media for writing or filing of stories.
- ◆ Live shots may be conducted in front of the building to the east of the main entrance or in the northeast corner of the voter registration lobby.
- ◆ Results will be updated on our website, www.denvervotes.org and on Denver's Channel 8. Results will also be "tweeted" from www.twitter.com/DenverElections.

Ballot Processing

There are five ballot processing areas at the Denver Elections Division, and all processing activity in each area is visible to the general public through large glass windows.

Ballot Receiving:

Voted ballots are received in one of two ways:

- Delivered by the U.S. Post Office;
- Delivered by ballot security teams from a Voter Service Center
- Mail-in ballots are delivered by the U.S. Post Office.
- Ballot envelopes are date and time stamped.
- A security tab that covers a voter's signature is removed.
- Ballots are counted, batched, and logged.

From here, the ballots are transferred by a ballot security team to the Mail Ballot Verification Area.

Ballot Verification:

- A voter's record is retrieved on the state of Colorado's SCORE voter registration database.
- The voter's signature on the ballot envelope is compared to the signature on record in SCORE.
- The voter's record is marked to indicate that a mail-in ballot has been returned.

Ballot Preparation:

1. The mail ballot envelopes are sliced open with a high speed envelope opener
2. A team of two people from different political affiliations work together to:
 - Remove a secrecy sleeve containing the ballot from the envelope
 - Remove the ballot from the secrecy sleeve
 - Remove any stray tabs left on the ballot by the voter
 - Flatten out the folds in the ballot
 - Place the ballots in a ballot transfer case
 - Place the ballot transfer cases on a rack
 - The envelope and tabs are placed in storage boxes to be stored in vault storage for 25 months.

Ballot Counting:

Paper Ballots:

- Ballots transfer cases are brought, one at a time, to a ballot scanning machine
- Teams of 5 people work at 8 Sequoia 400c ballot scanning machines to count ballots
- The ballot scanner counts most ballots but separates certain ballots that cannot be read by the scanner
- A Ballot Resolution Team consisting of people from different political affiliations examines separated ballots and determines which ballots should be sent to the Ballot Duplication Area
- The results from a ballot scanner are sent through an isolated and secure network to a ballot tabulation computer in the Ballot Tabulation Area.
- Counted ballots are re-boxed and put back on racks
After the ballots are counted, they are secured and stored for 25 months.
Uncounted ballots are transferred by a Ballot Security Team to the Ballot Duplication Area.

Electronic Ballots

- Results from Edge II touch screen voting machines are loaded into laptop computers and sent through an isolated and secure network to a ballot tabulation computer in the Ballot Tabulation Area.

Ballot Duplication:

- Ballots that have been selected for duplication by the Ballot Resolution Teams are reprinted on a ballot printer.
- Damaged and duplicated ballots are consecutively numbered with the same identifying number.
- Ballot Duplication Teams consisting of people from different political affiliations determine a voter's intent and then mark the duplicated ballot.
- The damaged ballot is stored for 25 months.
- The duplicated ballot is returned to the Ballot Counting Area to be counted.

Ballot Content

- ◆ The ballot for the November 3, 2009 Coordinated Election contains races for Denver Public Schools District Director At-Large, and Director Districts 2, 3 and 4. All races and candidates are listed on www.denervotes.org.
- ◆ The ballot also has one initiative, Initiated Ordinance 300, concerning motor vehicle impoundment.

Sample Ballot

- ◆ This year there are 4 different ballot styles, depending on which school director district a voter lives in.
- ◆ All four styles of sample ballots are available on the Sample Ballot Page at www.DenverVotes.org . The next page shows the “at large only” sample ballot.






Ballot Style: 202

Official Ballot City and County of Denver Coordinated Election Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Boleta Oficial de Votación Ciudad y Condado de Denver Elección Coordinada Martes 3 de noviembre de 2009

CO16-1-1310216202-0001

Optech 3PE4c
Version: 78
© Copyright 2009 Election Resources Corporation

Instructions		Instrucciones
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark your ballot using a pencil, or a black or blue pen. 2. To vote, complete the broken arrow  pointing to your choice with a single stroke, like this: . Circling names or making other marks may invalidate your vote. 3. If you make a mistake, do not cross out or erase. You may obtain a replacement ballot. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marque su boleta de votación utilizando un lápiz o una pluma de tinta negra o azul. 2. Para votar, complete con un solo trazo la flecha quebrada  que señala la opción de su elección, de esta manera: . Colocar un círculo sobre los nombres o hacer otro tipo de marcas puede invalidar su voto. 3. Si comete un error, no tache ni borre. Usted puede obtener una boleta de votación de reemplazo.

*Warning: Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both." 1-7.5-107(3)(b) C.R.S.


*Advertencia: toda persona que mediante el uso de la fuerza o mediante otro medio ejerza influencia indebida en un votante habilitado, para que éste vote de una forma en particular o para que se abstenga de votar, o que falsamente haga, altere, adultere o falsifique cualquier boleta de votación por correo antes o después de que el voto sea emitido, o que destruya, desfigure, mutilé o altere una boleta de votación, está sujeta, al ser hallada culpable, a encarcelamiento, a la imposición de una multa o a ambos." 1-7.5-107(3)(b) C.R.S.


**Denver Public Schools
(School District No. 1)**

Escuelas Publicas de Denver
(Distrito Escuelas No. 1)

Director At-Large
Director General

(Vote for One / Vote por Uno)

Christopher Scott 

Mary A. Seawell 



City and County of Denver Ballot Question Preguntas Sobre la Boleta de la Ciudad y Condado de Denver



Initiated Ordinance 300

Shall the voters for the City and County of Denver adopt an ordinance amending the Denver Revised Municipal Code and in connection therewith, requiring the immediate impoundment of a vehicle when the driver is driving without a valid operator's or chauffeur's license, or driving contrary to the restrictions imposed upon their license, or driving while their license has been denied, suspended, canceled or revoked, or when a driver of a vehicle is an illegal alien, while mandating the issuance of a summons without requiring the immediate impoundment of a vehicle when a validly licensed driver does not have such license in their immediate possession but has corroborating identification and proof of insurance, and allowing bond exemptions for rental cars, stolen vehicles, expired licenses renewed within 20 days, and lien holders when vehicles were sold to validly licensed drivers?

Ordenanza Iniciada 300

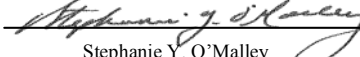
¿Deberán adoptar los votantes de la Ciudad y Condado de Denver una ordenanza que modifica el Código Municipal de Denver Revisado y que está relacionada con el mismo, exigiendo la incautación inmediata de un vehículo cuando el conductor maneja sin una licencia válida de operador o chofer, o maneja contrario a las restricciones impuestas en su licencia, o maneja cuando su licencia ha sido negada, suspendida, cancelada o revocada, o cuando el conductor del vehículo es un inmigrante indocumentado; ordenando al mismo tiempo que se expida un citatorio sin exigir la incautación inmediata del vehículo cuando un conductor con licencia válida no tiene dicha licencia en su posesión inmediata pero presenta identificación corroborante y prueba de seguro; y permitiendo exoneraciones de fianzas de garantía para autos de alquiler, vehículos robados, licencias vencidas que son renovadas dentro de los siguientes 20 días, y para personas con derecho de retención cuando los vehículos fueron vendidos a conductores con licencia válida?

YES/SÍ  

NO/NO  

CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Run Date: 09/25/2009 10:31:09 a
Last Printed: 9/25/09 10:32


Stephanie Y. O'Malley
Clerk and Recorder
Secretaria y Registradora

2009 Denver Election Model

Denver Clerk and Recorder Stephanie O'Malley announced on June 23, 2009 that the November 3, 2009 Coordinated Election would be conducted by mail.

Clerk O'Malley decided that with every city agency seeking ways to save money during these tough economic times that an all-mail-ballot election made the most sense. O'Malley also solicited feedback from the Elections Model Advisory Committee and members concurred that given Denver's current economic condition, a mail ballot election would be the best solution for the 2009 Coordinated Election.. Conducting a mail ballot election will cost less than a polling place election.

The estimated cost of the 2009 election is \$1 million to \$1.25 million. The two major sources of cost savings for the 2009 election are:

- ◆ \$225,000 saved by initiating a ballot printing RFP that resulted in reduced costs. Printing the ballots in Colorado also reduced freight costs.
- ◆ \$125,000 saved by conducting a mail ballot election.

Ballot TRACE

- ◆ Ballot TRACE (Tracking, Reporting, And Communication Engine) is an innovative ballot tracking service pioneered together by the Denver Elections Division, i3Logix (a local software company), and the U.S. Postal Service.
- ◆ This new service for Denver voters, is designed to give mail voters confidence that their mail ballot has been received and counted. Ballot TRACE is an opt-in service that notifies the voter by email or text message when their ballot has been mailed to them and when the ballot has been received back at the Denver Elections Division.
- ◆ This innovative new service, the first in the nation, is being “beta tested” this year to see how all of the moving parts function together, to work out any problems encountered and to optimize the service for voters. The intention is to roll it out to all eligible Denver voters in 2010.
- ◆ An additional benefit of this service is to give the Elections Division, for the first time, the ability to track the movement of mail ballots through the postal system. The U.S. Postal Service is using a new technology called Intelligent Mail Barcode to make Ballot TRACE work.
- ◆ Ballot TRACE is not connected to Denver’s official mail balloting process and will not affect the voter’s ballot in any way.



2009 Denver Elections by the Numbers

(Statistics as of November 2, 2009)

The November 3, 2009 Coordinated Election is a non-partisan election

- ◆ Registered voters – 419,503
- ◆ Ballots mailed to eligible voters – 347,601
- ◆ Democrats – 203,980
- ◆ Unaffiliated – 140,296
- ◆ Republicans – 71,626
- ◆ Libertarian – 1,871
- ◆ Green – 1,384
- ◆ American Constitution – 285
- ◆ Unity Party of America – 62
- ◆ Precincts – 426
- ◆ Voter Service Centers – 2

Note: Ballots were mailed to all active voters and to all inactive voters who were inactive due to failure to vote in the 2008 General Election. Inactive voters who were **not** mailed a ballot are those to whom address confirmation mailings have been returned as undeliverable. Inactive voters who were not mailed a ballot may receive one simply by requesting one at a Voter Service Center and confirming their current Denver address.

Provisional Voting

The Federal Help America Vote Act mandates that no voter be turned away without the ability to cast a ballot. Whenever a voter's registration, identification or residency is in question, the voter is given a ballot nevertheless. This voted and sealed ballot is then marked "provisional" and segregated from other ballots.

After Election Day, the voter registrations of provisional ballots are researched. If a registration is deemed valid, the ballot is counted. If deemed invalid, the ballot is not counted. All provisional ballots must be resolved by 14 days after the election.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Alton Dillard

Media and Public Relations Specialist

PHONE: (720) 865-4872

ELECTION DAY CELL PHONE: (303)638-3650

Nancy Reubert

Communications Director

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ELECTION DAY CELL PHONE: (303)330-1250

Tina Romero

Community Partnership Specialist/Spanish Language

PHONE: (720) 865-4873

ELECTION DAY CELL PHONE: (720)746-8802

Mike Vaughn

Chief Communications Officer, Denver Public Schools

PHONE: (720) 423-3707

ELECTION DAY CELL PHONE: (303)921-9350

- ◆ **Your fastest contact with Communications Division is 720-865-4872. This phone will be staffed throughout ballot drop-off period, Election Day and through the evening on election night as ballots are counted.**
- ◆ Visit www.denvervotes.org for current election results, daily tally of ballots returned, candidate/issue contact information, sample ballots and other news media resources.
- ◆ Election results are also posted on Denver cable Channel 8.
- ◆ Candidates, the media and the general public are invited to visit the Denver Elections Division throughout the ballot drop-off period, and the night of the election. The office is located at 3888 E. Mexico Ave.
- ◆ The first floor hallways at the Division are open to the media, candidates and public to watch ballot counting through large windows.
- ◆ You are advised to **bring a cell phone with you**, since access to public phones is limited.

Online Resources at

www.DenverVotes.org

The Elections Division website contains a lot of useful information. We update the website daily. Some of the things you will find include:

- ◆ sample ballot
- ◆ voter information on how to vote and where to vote
- ◆ important dates and deadlines
- ◆ voter forms
- ◆ historical election archives with past school board election results and school board director district maps
- ◆ information on the Ballot TRACE project
- ◆ links to other election resources
- ◆ map & directions to the Elections Division
- ◆ voter registration information
- ◆ ACCESO, the Spanish language voter advisory committee
- ◆ Spanish website that mirrors the English website
- ◆ ID requirements

In addition, there's a section with resources just for the news media. Some of the things you will find in the "For News Media" section:

- ◆ a daily tally of returned ballots
- ◆ news releases
- ◆ contact information for the Elections Division, candidates and issue committees
- ◆ bios and photos
- ◆ links to useful information within the website
- ◆ Clerk and Recorder public forum notices and minutes
- ◆ this media kit
- ◆ We'll post anything else we think might be useful.

Colorado Secretary of State Rule 8.12

8.12 Media Observers.

Media Observers with valid and current media credentials may be present to witness early voting, election day voting and the processing and counting of provisional, mail and mail-in ballots. However, at the discretion of the county clerk and recorder, Media Observers may be required to appoint one member of the media as a pool reporter, and one member as a pool photographer to represent all media observers in accordance with the Guidelines established by the Colorado Press Association in conjunction with the Colorado County Clerks' Association and the Secretary of State as set forth herein:

Guidelines for Members of the Media Who Observe Election Counts and Recounts (to be distributed to members of the Colorado Press Association):

The Colorado State Association of County Clerks and Recorders, Colorado Broadcasters Association and Colorado Press Association have collaborated to develop the following guidelines and protocols for use when members of the media observe the counting or recounting of ballots. You are strongly encouraged to follow these guidelines to allow meaningful media access while not disrupting the work of county clerks to count ballots or doing anything to compromise the integrity of the election process.

1. If practical, please contact the election official's office prior to coming to observe the counting of ballots. If the election official knows you are coming, it will be easier to accommodate your request for a place to observe the count or to interview an election official.
2. At the discretion of the election official, a specific viewing area for members of the media and other observers may be available. To the extent practicable, the area will have been designated with sight lines to allow you to observe and take pictures or video of the counting process. If there are insufficient sight lines for you to take the photos or video you need, the election official may be able to make arrangements to accommodate your needs.
3. Please observe counting procedures without disrupting the count. Please take pictures or video without the use of supplemental lighting. Do not talk to people participating in counting ballots. There may be workers who ask you not to include their images in your pictures or video. We encourage you to honor those requests if you can reasonably do so.
4. The Secretary of State's election rules state that if observers leave the area during a recount, they may not reenter without the consent of the election official. If you have occasion to leave the area, you may be denied re-admittance.

5. Please do not use the information you see when observing vote counts to report on partial election results. Please do not report anything that could be used to identify the person who casts a particular ballot.



The Colorado State Association of County Clerks and Recorders, Colorado Broadcasters Association and Colorado Press Association are all committed to working together to ensure the media has access to election counts and recounts, but that access is afforded in manners that do not disrupt the counts and do nothing to compromise the integrity of the process.

Your cooperation in following these standards will help us to meet all these goals.