



N^{VOTE}**ORTH CAROLINA**

State Board *of* Elections

Presentation to Joint Legislative Elections Oversight Committee

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Voter Registration & Mail Verification

How SBOE Has Implemented Federal and State Law



Mail Verification

- SBOE Mail Verification Process is guided by State Law and the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA)



(d) Undelivered notices

If a notice of the disposition of a mail voter registration application . . . is sent by nonforwardable mail and is returned undelivered, the registrar may proceed in accordance with section 1973gg-6(d) of this title.

NVRA



(c) Verification of Address by Mail. - If the county board of elections tentatively determines that the applicant is qualified to vote at the address given, then the county board shall send a notice to the applicant, by nonforwardable mail, at the address the applicant provides on the application form. The notice shall state that the county will register the applicant to vote if the Postal Service does not return the notice as undeliverable to the county board. The notice shall also inform the applicant of the precinct and voting place to which the applicant will be assigned if registered.

GS 163-
82.7(c)

1st Verification
Mailing



(d) Approval of Application. - If the Postal Service does not return the notice as undeliverable, the county board shall register the applicant to vote.

GS 163-
82.7(d)

Verified



(e) Second Notice if First Notice Is Returned as Undeliverable. - If the Postal Service returns the notice as undeliverable, the county board shall send a second notice by nonforwardable mail to the same address to which the first was sent. If the second notice is not returned as undeliverable, the county board shall register the applicant to vote..

GS 163-
82.7(e)

2nd Verification
Mailing

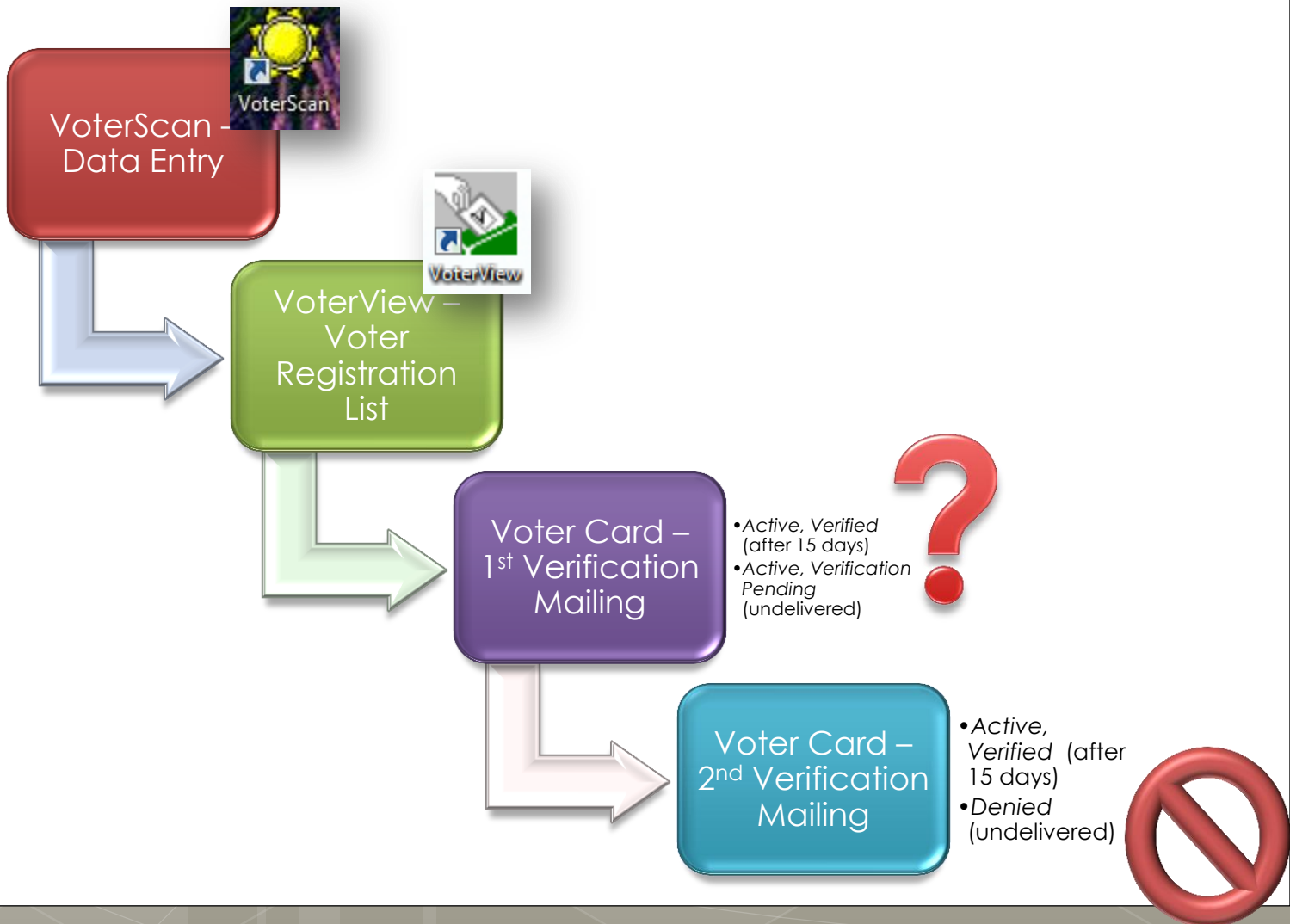


(f) Denial of Application Based on Lack of Verification of Address. - If the Postal Service returns as undeliverable the notice sent by nonforwardable mail pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, the county board shall **deny** the application. The county board need not try to notify the applicant further.

GS 163-
82.7(f)

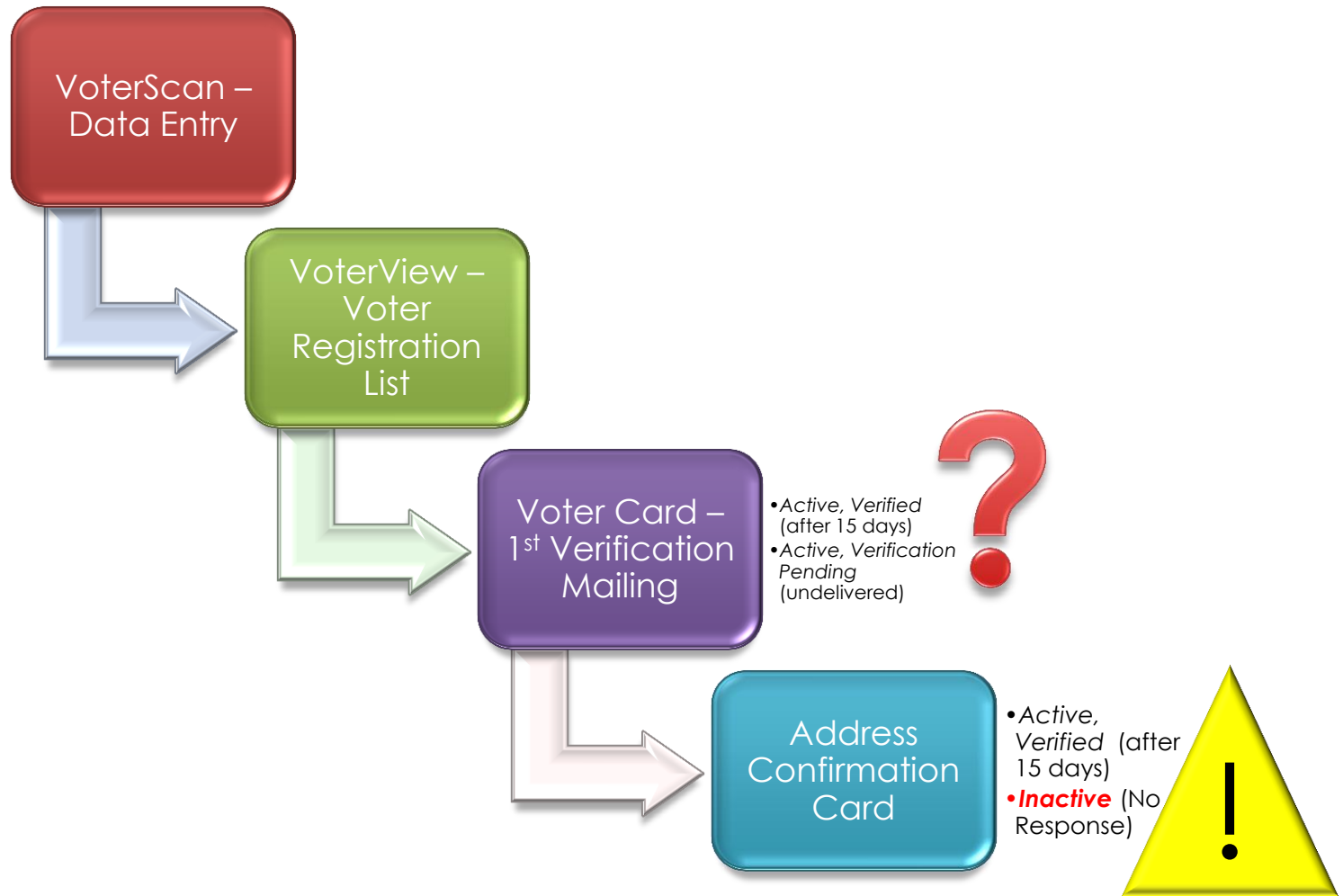
**DENIAL OF
REGISTRATION**

Mail Verification – New Registration Process





Mail Verification – Existing Registrations Process





Verification Mailing

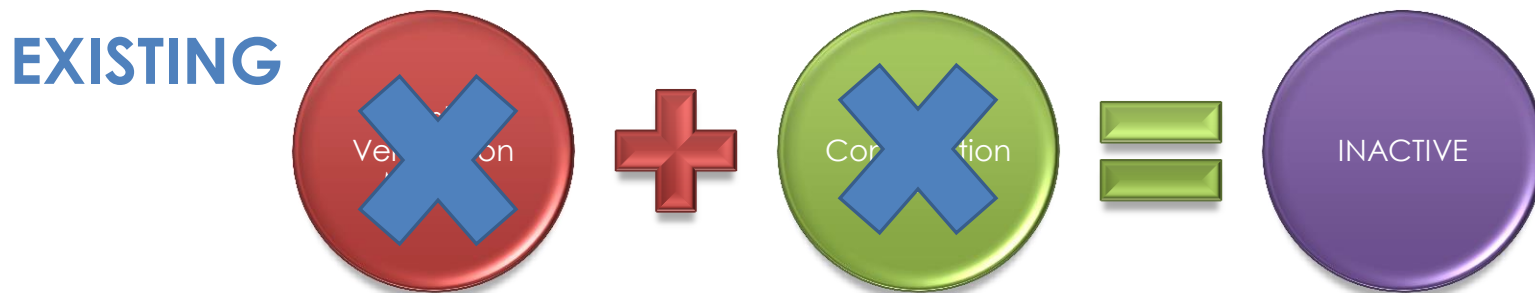
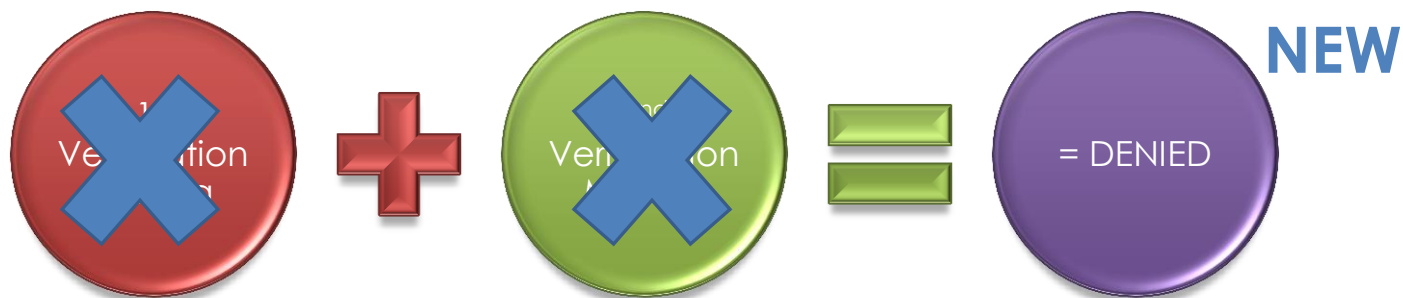
- Non-forwardable
- **Active** if Not Returned Undeliverable

Confirmation Mailing

- Forwardable
- Requires a Response from the Voter



Failing Mail Verification





Voter Registration & List Maintenance

A Review of SBOE's Implementation of State and Federal Law in Regards to Maintaining the List of Registered Voters in North Carolina.



(d) Undelivered notices

If a notice of the disposition of a mail voter registration application . . . is sent by nonforwardable mail and is returned undelivered, the registrar may proceed **in accordance with section 1973gg-6(d) of this title.**

NVRA



(1) A State shall **not remove** the name of a registrant from the official list of eligible voters in elections for Federal office on the ground that the registrant has changed residence unless the registrant—

(A) **confirms in writing** that the registrant has changed residence to a place outside the registrar's jurisdiction in which the registrant is registered; or

(B)(i) has **failed to respond** to a notice described in paragraph (2); and (ii) has not voted or appeared to vote (and, if necessary, correct the registrar's record of the registrant's address) in an election during the period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the date of the second general election for Federal

§ 1973gg-6(d)

NVRA

Removal of
names from
voting rolls



§ 1973gg-6(a)(3)

The name of a registrant may not be removed from the official list of eligible voters except—

(A) at the request of the registrant;

(B) as provided by State law, by reason of criminal conviction or mental incapacity; or

(C) as provided under paragraph (4);

NVRA

Removal Methods



The State must
“conduct a general
program that makes
a reasonable effort
to remove the
names of ineligible
voters from the
official lists of eligible
voters by reason
of—

(A) the death of the
registrant; or

(B) a change in the
residence of the
registrant”

NVRA

Uniform
Program



Reasons for Removal Under NVRA

- Voter requests to be removed
- Voter is deceased
- Voter loses citizenship rights due to felony conviction
- Voter moves



Statutory Sources of Removal

Voter Requests

- VR Forms, Requests in Writing

Death

- DHHS, Near Relatives

Felony Conviction

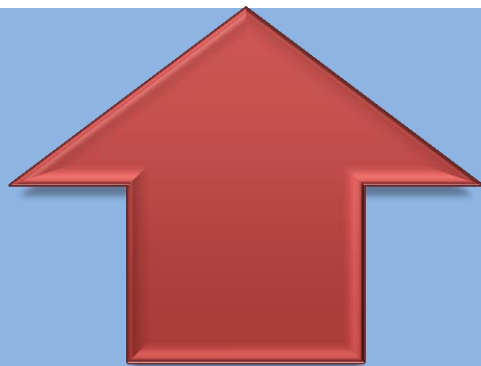
- DOC, US Attorney

Change of Address

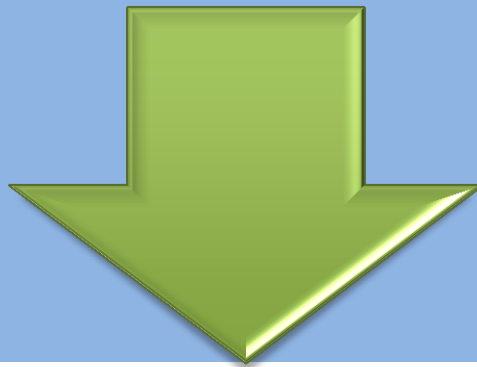
- Voter, Cancellation Notice, NCOA, Confirmation Mailings



List Maintenance Overview



To **update** the addresses and other necessary data of persons who remain on the official lists of eligible voters.



To **remove** the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of eligible voters



NC's Systematic & Uniform List Program

Daily

New Registrations

- VR Applications

Registration Changes

- VR Applications
- Voter Cards
- Other Change Forms

Cancellation Notices

- VR Applications
- Cancellation notices
- Death Notifications

Monthly

Deaths

- DHHS

Felony Convictions

- Corrections

Duplicate Registrations

- SBOE Report (potential matches)

Quarterly

Felony Convictions

- US Attorneys Offices

Semi-annual

Unreported Moves

- NCOA Data

Biennial List Maintenance

No-contact

- Voter Registration/History Data



Identifying Ineligible Voters

Voter Moves

- Voter Registration Applications
- Cancellation Notices
- Authorization to Vote Form
- One-stop Applications
- Requests for Absentee Ballots
- Personal Notification by Voters
- Petitions
- National Change of Address (NCOA)
- Authorization to Vote Form/One-stop Change Form

Deaths

- DHHS (State Vital Records)
- Family Notification
- Register of Deeds

Felony Convictions

- NC Department of Corrections
- US Attorneys Office

No-contact for Two Federal Elections Mailings

- List Maintenance Mailings

Not a US CitizenLegal Presence

- DMV
- S.A.V.E. (Department of Homeland Security)



Understanding NC Voter Registration Data

Voter Status Overview

- Address verified

Active 

- Address not verified

Inactive 

- Military
- Overseas

Temporary 

- No longer qualified
- Voter's choice

Removed 

- Never qualified

Denied 



Registration State & Voter Status

Status Options

New Registration

- Active
- Temporary
- Denied

Registration Changes

- Active
- Inactive

No Longer Qualified

- Removed

Not Qualified

- Denied

Removal Reasons

Deceased

Felony Conviction

Moved Within State

Moved From County

Duplicate

Removed After 2nd Federal General Election in Inactive Status

Removed due to Sustained Challenge



NC List Maintenance – Periodic Accuracy Checks

- Date of Birth
 - DMV
- Duplicate Registrations/Voting
 - Interstate Cross-checks
- Death
 - DMV
 - DHHS



2012 List Maintenance Activity

REMOVAL REASON	Count
ADMINISTRATIVE	873
DECEASED	76,622
DUPLICATE	2,243
FELONY CONVICTION	8,327
FELONY SENTENCE COMPLETED	1,003
MERGED DUPLICATE	174
MOVED FROM COUNTY	46,207
MOVED FROM STATE	25,461
MOVED WITHIN STATE	2,697
REMOVED AFTER 2 FED GENERAL ELECTIONS IN INACTIVE STATUS	48,650
REMOVED DUE TO SUSTAINED CHALLENGE	130
REMOVED UNDER OLD PURGE LAW	13
REQUEST FROM VOTER	693
TEMPORARY REGISTRANT	198
Total	213,291



2013 List Maintenance Activity

REMOVAL REASON	Count
ADMINISTRATIVE	610
DECEASED	66,917
DUPLICATE	1,967
FELONY CONVICTION	9,847
FELONY SENTENCE COMPLETED	520
MERGED DUPLICATE	69
MOVED FROM COUNTY	31,409
MOVED FROM STATE	26,014
MOVED WITHIN STATE	697
REMOVED AFTER 2 FED GENERAL ELECTIONS IN INACTIVE STATUS	185,607
REMOVED DUE TO SUSTAINED CHALLENGE	355
REMOVED UNDER OLD PURGE LAW	2
REQUEST FROM VOTER	563
TEMPORARY REGISTRANT	3,979
Total	328,556



Mail Verification & List Maintenance Challenges



Mail Verification & List Maintenance Fallacy

Verification of Address
by Mail verifies that a
person lives where
they say that they live.



Mail Verification & List Maintenance Fact

Verification of Address by Mail only verifies that a mailing can be sent to the registrant and is not returned as undeliverable – It does not verify that the person lives where they say that they live.



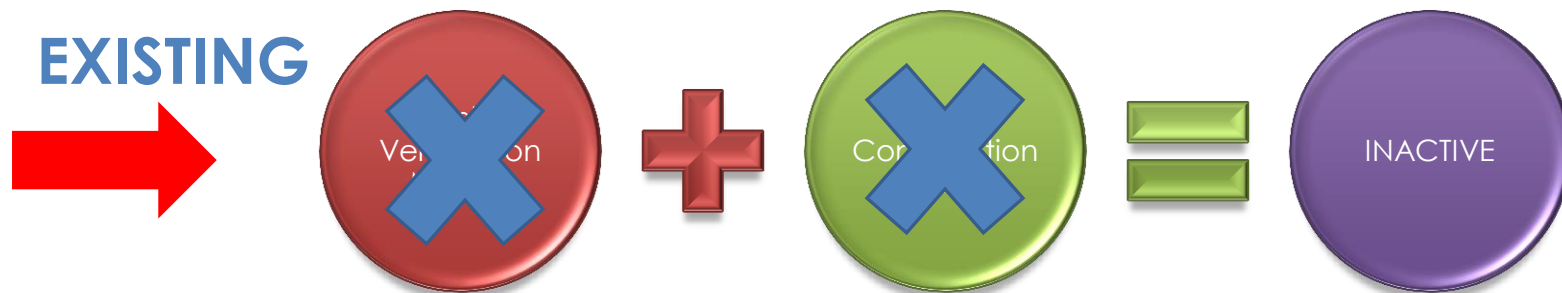
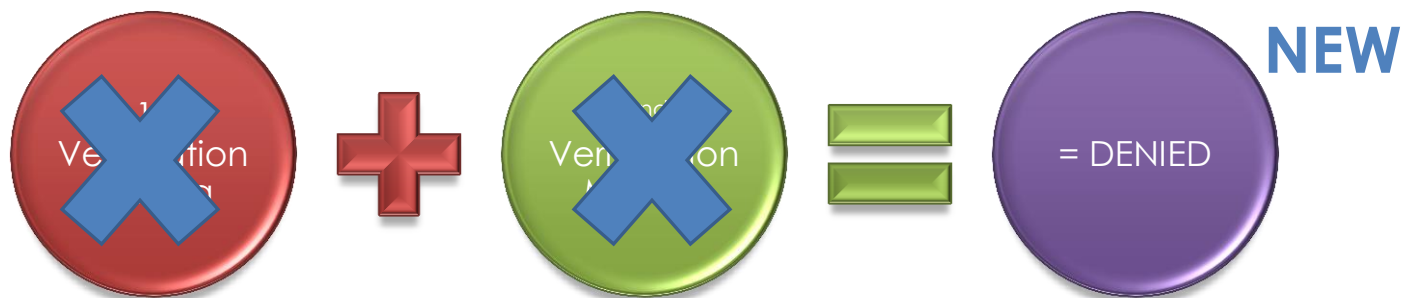
Mail Verification Flaws

Purpose of verification is to verify that the voter is eligible at the address they provide on voter registration form.

- Dependent on the mail being returned undeliverable
- Not always verifying residence
- Postal issues
- If someone votes before mail verification is complete, the voter cannot be **DENIED**.



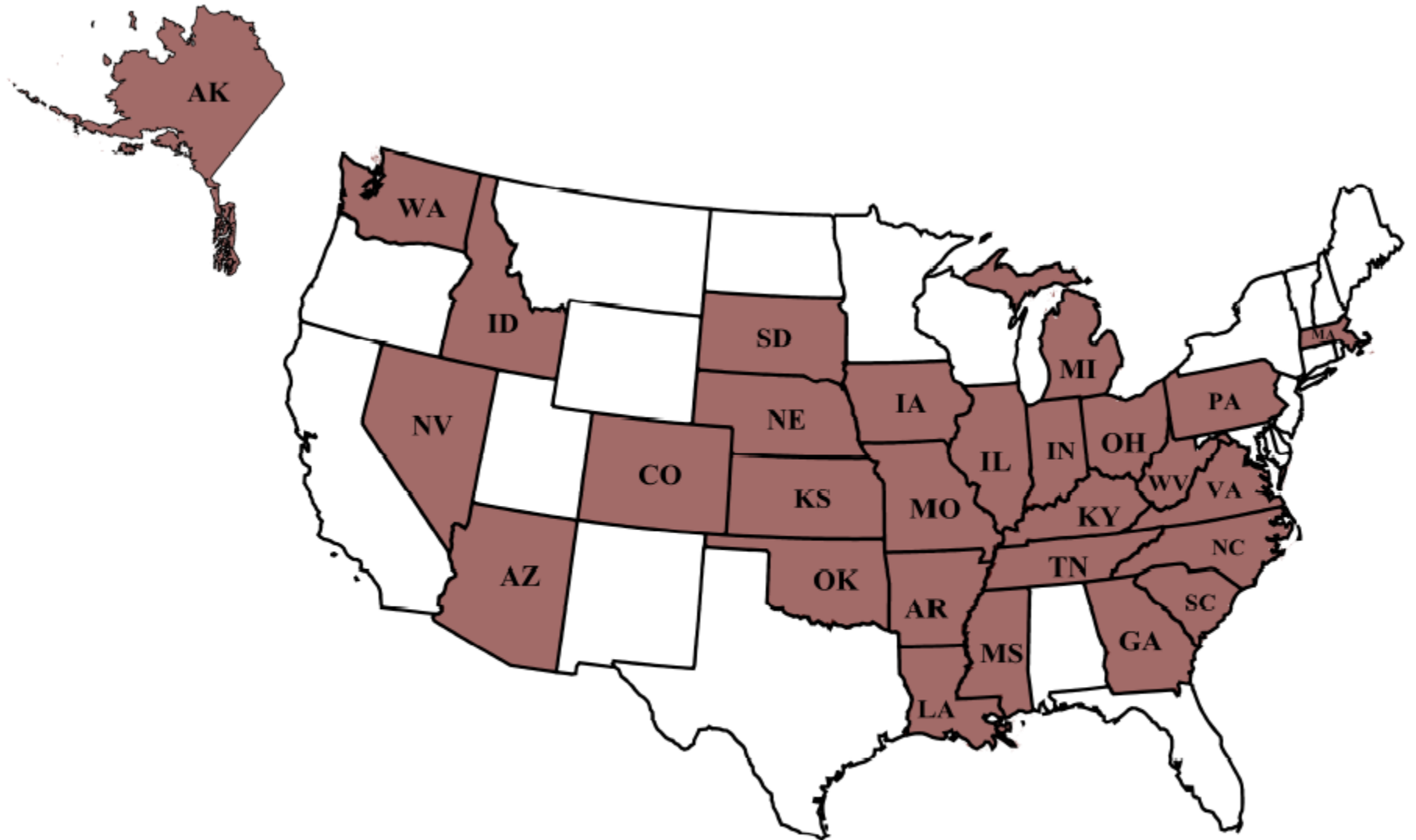
Failing Mail Verification





Recent Improvements to List Maintenance Procedures

- Voter Moves
 - NCOA – 2010
 - Interstate Crosscheck – 2014
 - DMV Address Changes - 2014
- Deaths
 - DMV – 2013
 - DHHS – 2013
 - Notice of Deceased Relative Forms - 2013



2014 Interstate Crosscheck

- 28 States Participated
- 101 Million records



Results:

- **765** voters exact match of first and last name, DOB and last four of SSN---registered in NC and another state and voted in NC and the other state in 2012 general election.
- **35,750** voters with first and last name and DOB match that are registered in NC and another state and voted in both in 2012 general election.
- **155,692** voters exact match of first and last name, DOB and last four of SSN---registered in NC and another state and NC is not the latest date of registration or activity.

These results are being investigated by our office.



10-year Death Audit

- Identified 50,000+ new death records from DHHS that had not previously been provided to SBOE.
- Audit identified 13,416 deceased voters on voter rolls in October 2013. These votes were subsequently removed.
- **Data:** 81 deceased voters have voter history later than the date of their death.



Future Improvements to the List Maintenance Process – The New SEIMS

Modernization

Centralization

Integration



Implementing the use of Electronic and Digital Information at the Polling Place



Legislative Request

- Obtaining digital photographs of registered voters and verifying identity of those voters.
- Maintaining information stored electronically in a secure fashion.
- Utilizing electronically stored information, including digital photographs and electronic signatures, to create electronic poll books.
- Using electronic poll books to assist in identifying individuals attempting to vote more than once in an election.
- A proposed plan for a pilot project to implement electronic poll books, including the taking of digital photographs at the polling place to supplement the electronic poll books.
- Any other related matter identified by the State Board impacting the use of digital and electronic information in the voting place.



Current Capabilities

The State Board of Elections currently has an Electronic Poll Book for use in all Elections. With our current software we can do the following:

- Maintain information stored electronically in a secure fashion. Current information is encrypted before it leaves the server to and from the electronic poll book.
- Utilize electronically stored information, including digital photographs and electronic signatures, to create electronic poll books. We currently have electronic information in our current poll book; adding photographs and signatures would merely be an enhancement.
- Assist in identifying individuals attempting to vote more than once in an election. (Currently data is audited for double voting after the election.)



Data Needed

The State Board of Elections has the ability to upgrade our software to include photographs of voters obtained by DMV and supplement them with photographs taken at the polling site.

To accomplish: (1) Obtaining digital photographs of registered voters and verifying identity of those voters.

We are currently working with DMV to obtain Driver License Photographs and signatures. Even though we have two completely different IT systems (mainframe vs. Microsoft) there should be no issues. We currently receive data and images from DMV on a daily basis.



New Functionality

To accomplish: A proposed plan for a pilot project to implement electronic poll books, including the taking of digital photographs at the polling place to supplement the electronic pollbooks.

We would need to add an enhancement to our current electronic pollbook system to add the ability to take a picture at the polling place to either supplement missing images or capture all images.

To have 100% of the voter images, we can collect any photographs that we could not match with DMV records at the time a voter presents to vote.



Project Plan to Pilot

1

- Obtain DMV photographs and signatures and enhance Statewide Voter Registration System to store and link to registered voters.
Current Status: Working with DMV on method and timeframe to transfer images with current data updates.

2

- Enhance current electronic poll book to include linked photographs and signatures.
Current Status: In the planning phase, looking to pilot during 2015 municipal election cycle.

3

- Costs would be minimal to the state since we would utilize internal resources to complete and our current software is already designed to handle images. County costs would include laptops, printers, and web cameras for those not using our electronic poll book.



E-Poll Book Considerations

Connectivity

- There are currently over 2,700 polling locations in North Carolina. Obtaining internet connection for a day at every site would not only be expensive, but difficult in many locations.

County Investment

- Not all counties are using electronic poll books. Counties would need to procure printers, laptops, and web cameras to use our software.

Efficiencies & Integrity

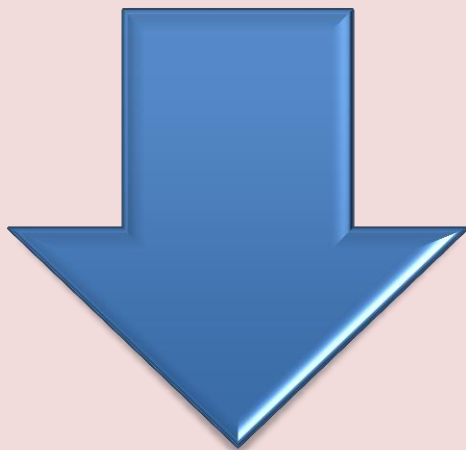
- All counties using electronic poll books would allow for faster data entry of voter history, thus allowing for duplicate checking prior to canvass.

The following is a summary of the poll book method utilized by North Carolina counties in the 2012 General Election:

Poll Book Method	Counties
SBE Electronic Poll book	38
Third Party Vendor	9
Manual Entry/Paper Poll book	53

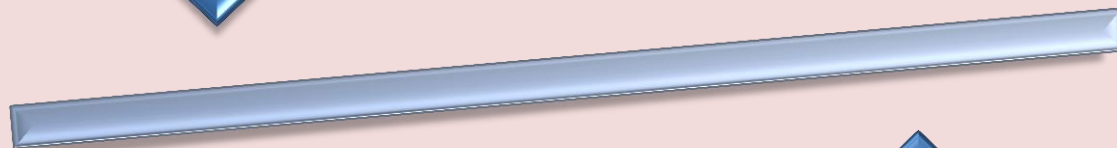


The Future?



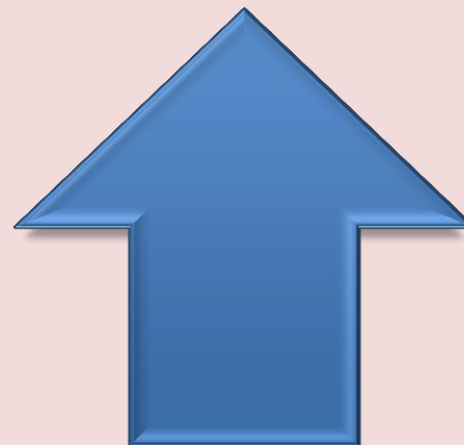
Challenges:

- List maintenance for duplicate voter registrations and voting is challenging since matching on names and birth dates are not always exact.



Solution:

- Utilize facial recognition or biometrics to check for multiple voter registrations and voting.





Implementation of the Voter Information Verification Act



HB 589 Implementation Partners

NC DMV

NC Department of
Vital Records

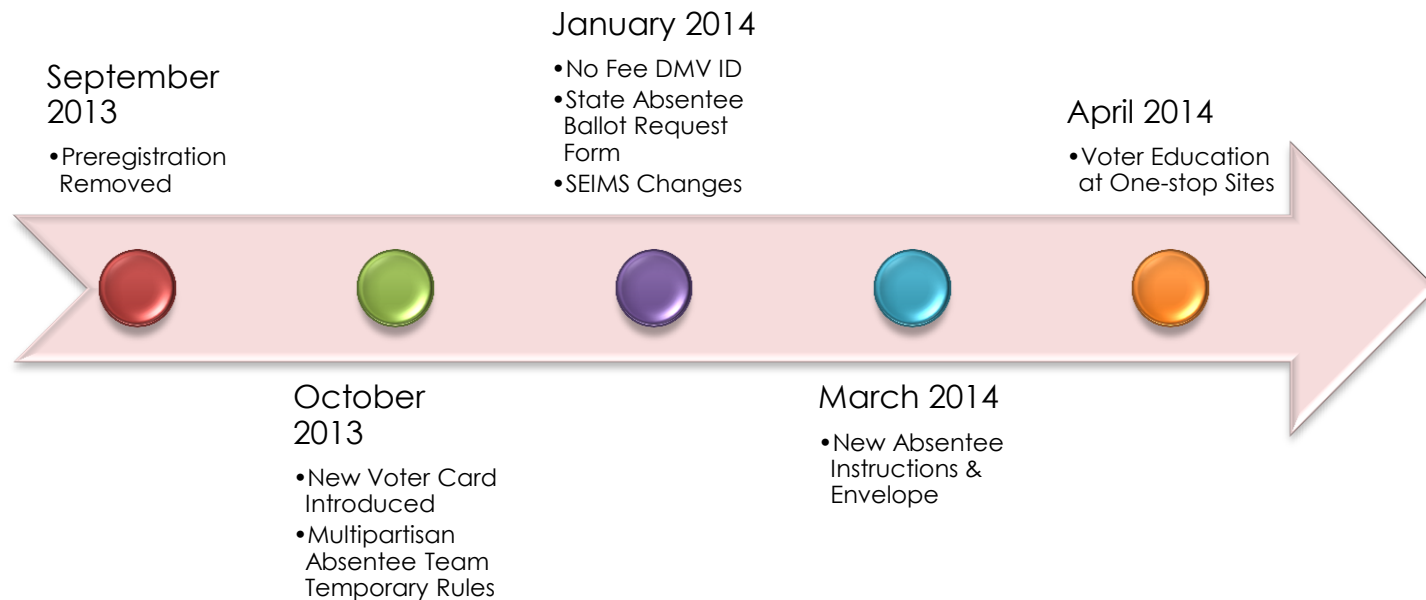
Thank You

Registers of Deeds
Offices

100 County Boards
of Elections



Implementation Timeline





SBOE Voter ID Webpage



[Voter Registration Form](#)

[Registering to Vote](#)

[Military and Overseas](#)

[Updating Registration](#)

[Notification of Deceased Voter Form](#)

[Voter ID](#)

[Voter Tools](#)

[FAQ](#)

Voter ID Requirements in NC

General Requirements -

Beginning in 2016, North Carolina will require voters to show a photo identification (photo ID) when they present to vote in person. This change is a result of the Voter Information Verification Act or "VIVA." ([S.L. 2013-381](#)). Until 2016, *most* voters will not be required to show any form of identification when they vote.

Help America Vote Act (HAVA) +

Voter Information Verification Act (VIVA) +

Outreach and Education +

Other Outreach Efforts +



Please tear across perforated edge.

THE NC STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

2014 Primary Election Voter Guide

KEY ELECTION DATES

Monday, March 17, 2014

- Absentee voting by mail begins

Friday, April 11, 2014

- Voter registration deadline (voter registration forms must be postmarked or delivered in person by 5:00 p.m. for the May 6 Primary)
- Last day to change party affiliation before the May 6 Primary

Thursday, April 24, 2014

- One-Stop early voting begins for May 6 Primary. For locations, check with your county elections office or the State Board of Elections website.

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

- Last day to request absentee ballots by mail

Saturday, May 3 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

- One-Stop early voting ends

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

- Primary Day (polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.)
- Last day to return voted absentee ballots (by 5:00 p.m.)

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2014 PRIMARY VOTER GUIDE



SUMMARY OF RECENT ELECTION LAW CHANGES

NO SAME DAY REGISTRATION

Persons who are not registered to vote in a county can no longer register to vote in person during the one-stop early voting period. Same day registration is no longer an option. Qualified persons who wish to vote in an election must register to vote no later than 25 days before the date of the election.

ONE-STOP VOTING

One-stop early voting will now begin on the second Thursday prior to the date of an election instead of the third Thursday prior to the date of the election. Unless a county board of elections requested an exception, the number of total cumulative hours for one-stop voting in the 2014 Primary or General Election will be comparable to the total cumulative hours for one-stop voting offered during the 2010 Primary or General Election, respectively.

NO OUT OF PRECINCT VOTING

Voters who vote on Primary Day must vote at the polling place for their correct precinct based on their residential address as of 30 days prior to the date of the election. County boards of elections will not be able to count any provisional ballot for a voter who does not vote at his or her correctly assigned polling place on Election Day.

PROVISIONAL VOTING

Whenever a voter is offered a provisional ballot, the election official issuing the ballot will now mark in writing or other means on the ballot that it is a provisional ballot. If a provisional ballot is incorrectly placed into the voting equipment at the voting site, any ballot that is marked as a provisional ballot will be retrieved.

Any provisional ballot that is cast outside of a voter's correctly assigned precinct on Election Day will not be counted.

PHOTO ID

Voters will not be required to show a photo ID in order to vote during the 2014 Primary and General Election. When presenting to vote, a voter simply needs to state his or her current name and current address. As long as his or her name is on the list of registered voters in the precinct, he or she will be given a regular ballot and permitted to vote. Voters who present to vote in person (during one-stop early voting or on Election Day) this year will be given instructions that starting in 2016, voters will be required to show a photo ID when voting in person. Voters will be provided with a list of the types of photo ID that are acceptable for purposes of voting in this State. Voters will be asked whether they have one or more of these types of ID. If a voter indicates that he or she does not have a photo ID that will be acceptable for purposes of voting, the voter will be asked to sign an *Acknowledgment of No Photo ID*. These voters will be given instructions on how to obtain a no-fee photo ID from the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

Will I need to show photo ID when I vote in the primary this year?

Photo ID will not be required until 2016.

2014 PRIMARY VOTER GUIDE



State Absentee Ballot Request Form

North Carolina

NC STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
P. O. BOX 27253
RALEIGH, NC 27611-7253

PHONE: 1-866-522-4723 FAX: 919-715-0133
elections.sboe@ncsbe.gov

FRAUDULENTLY OR FALSELY COMPLETING THIS FORM IS A CLASS I FELONY UNDER CHAPTER 163 OF THE NC GENERAL STATUTES.

I am requesting an absentee ballot for the: _____ on _____
Election Type (Primary, General, Municipal, Special, etc.) Election Date

Voter Information					
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Suffix	Date of Birth	
Home Address (NC Residential Address.)			Mailing Address (if different than home address.)		
City	State	Zip Code	City	State	Zip Code
Have you lived at this address for more than 30 days? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			County of Residence	Previous Name (if applicable)	
If "No," indicate the date of your move: / /					
You must provide at least one identification number below. (or see instructions) <small>NC License or ID Number</small>			Voter Registration No.	Phone (optional)	Email (optional)
SSN X X X - X X - []					

Absentee Voting Information				
Absentee Mailing Address (Where should the ballot be mailed?)		City	State	Zip Code
If voter is registered as Unaffiliated and requesting a ballot for a partisan primary, choose a primary ballot preference. <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Non-partisan				
If voter is a patient in a hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home, please indicate whether you will need assistance in marking your ballot. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
If "Yes," what is the name and address of the hospital or facility:				
If requesting an absentee ballot on behalf of a near relative, list your name, address, contact information and relationship to the voter:				
Requestor's Name		<input type="checkbox"/> spouse <input type="checkbox"/> brother/sister <input type="checkbox"/> parent <input type="checkbox"/> grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> stepparent <input type="checkbox"/> child <input type="checkbox"/> grandchild <input type="checkbox"/> stepchild <input type="checkbox"/> mother-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> father-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> son-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> daughter-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> legal guardian		
Requestor's Address		Name of Corporation (if appointed legal guardian)		
City	State	Zip Code	Requestor's Phone	Requestor's Email

For Military/Overseas Citizens Only (may only be signed by the voter; may not be signed by a near relative/guardian)	
Select one of the options below to qualify as a military or overseas voter: <input type="checkbox"/> Member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty and currently absent from county of residence or an eligible spouse/dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S. temporarily or indefinitely	
Current Address (Address where you are currently stationed or living overseas.)	Transmit my ballot by: (Military/Overseas Voters Only) <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email
	Fax Number or Email Address

Signature of Voter (voter only)	Signature of Near Relative/Guardian (if applicable)
X _____ <small>Date</small>	X _____ <small>Date</small>

TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, PLEASE REMOVE THIS PAGE AND CUT ALONG THE LINE TO THE RIGHT. COMPLETE THE FORM AND MAIL TO YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS. THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS MAY BE FOUND ON PAGES 11-13 AND ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.NCSBE.GOV AND CLICK ON COUNTY OFFICES IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER OF THE HOME PAGE.

TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, PLEASE REMOVE THIS PAGE AND CUT ALONG THE LINE TO THE LEFT. COMPLETE THE FORM AND MAIL TO YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS. THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS MAY BE FOUND ON PAGES 11-13 AND ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.NCSBE.GOV AND CLICK ON COUNTY OFFICES IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER OF THE HOME PAGE.



Implementation Projects

- VIVA Outreach Team
- DMV Mobile Units
- Outreach Pamphlets & Posters