

Greg Mackay
Administrator of Elections
Knox County, TN
300 Main Street, Room 218
Knox County Courthouse
Knoxville, TN 37902
865-215-2480



Dear Knox County Voters:

After several months of careful review, a new voting system has been selected for use in Knox County. Beginning with early voting for the August 3rd Primary Election, the **eSlate** will replace our optical scan system. If you are an absentee voter, you will vote on a paper ballot. If you vote in person, you will vote on a state-of-the-art voting system on which many million votes have been cast accurately and securely.

The purchase of this new system is necessary to comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) signed into law by the President on October 29, 2002. This law requires voting systems to be accessible so that all voters can cast a vote privately and independently, including those who are blind or who have mobility impairments. It also appropriates funds to assist counties with the purchase of new systems. Federal funds will pay \$1,003,750 of the \$1,596,866 cost of the system.

I want to take this opportunity to share some system facts with you and to provide simple instructions on using the new system as detailed on this website.

Our system is secure. From the generation of the ballot to the tabulation of votes at our centralized counting center, security measures are in place to ensure no unauthorized individual has access to the system. Neither the vote tabulation program nor any other component of the voting system is ever connected to the Internet or an external network at any time.

Our system is accurate. The eSlate uses a state-of-the-art optical encoder, called the SELECT wheel to navigate through the ballot. This technology provides 100% positional accuracy at all times.

Our system is durable. Because the eSlate is not a touch screen, it is extremely durable, withstanding most harm from rough treatment, thus eliminating the costs of repair.

Our system is easy to use. Whether voting absentee on our new paper ballot or in person on the eSlate, the system is easy to use. Take a test drive of the eSlate at <http://www.hartintercivic.com/files/eSlate.swf>. The eSlate also meets all federal and accessibility requirements. Special accessibility features are also available.

If you have questions about the new system or would like to find out more about becoming a poll worker, please call us at 865-215-2480.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Mackay", written in a cursive style.

Greg Mackay
Administrator of Elections
Knox County Election Commission