



Cochise County, Arizona Hash Verification Project

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission's (EAC) [Field Services Program](#) supports state and local election officials by verifying that EAC-certified fielded voting systems are identical to those tested and certified by the EAC. As part of this effort, the EAC conducted a voluntary review of Cochise County's Election Systems & Software EVS 6.3.0.0 voting system on September 29-30, 2025, to confirm conformance with the certified configuration and observe hash verification and security practices.

Scope of Review



Hash Verification: Hash verification confirms that the software on voting system components matches the version certified by the EAC. As part of certification, a Voting System Test Laboratory (VSTL) generates unique hash values for each component and provides them to the EAC. Jurisdictions then use these values to compare to their fielded systems. In this review, Cochise County's Dell OptiPlex standalone EMS workstation and all central count tabulator hashes including those for the DS450, DS850, and two DS950 were checked against the trusted values. All DS200 precinct tabulators and a sampling of the county's ExpressVote BMD's were also reviewed. No discrepancies were found.



Conformance with Scope of Certification: EAC staff reviewed voting system components and commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) hardware to confirm that all items in use were included in the certified system configuration. Reviewed components included:

- Dell OptiPlex standalone EMS workstation (used for tabulating election results and generating reports)
- Central Count Tabulation Devices including all DS450, DS850, and DS950
- DS200 Tabulation Devices (used for scanning ballots at voting locations)
- ExpressVote BMDs (used as a ballot marking device)
- Related COTS peripherals (scanners and printers)



Logic and Accuracy Testing: Logic and Accuracy Testing ensures the election and voting equipment functions as expected and accurately counts votes as marked. This process includes:

- Observation of test deck scanning, adjudication, and result validation
- Adherence to well-documented chain of custody procedures
- Testing that was open to public observation, supporting transparency
- Verification of system accuracy, with all results matched expected outcomes



Security Observations: EAC staff observed physical and system security measures in place at the facility. Observed protocols included restricted badge access to sensitive areas, video surveillance, live streamed office areas, and strict adherence to two person teams when accessing or operating critical components of the voting system. The county also maintained protocols requiring multi-party representation in designated secure areas to ensure transparency, accountability, and continuous oversight. Cochise County ensures security of the voting system by deploying tamper evident seals and restricting access to areas where the voting system is stored.

Conclusions

The review found no issues affecting the security or accuracy of the EVS 6.3.0.0 system as deployed in Cochise County. All components reviewed matched the certified components and hash values from the tested equipment matched the trusted values provided by the EAC. Cochise County is successfully implementing hash verification as part of its pre election process, reinforcing transparency and public confidence.

The EAC gives its sincerest thanks to the Arizona Secretary of State's Office and the Cochise County Elections Department for their partnership and support during this review. The full report, including observations and suggestions for future enhancements, is available on the [EAC Field Services Program Website](#).