Election Observer Panel Plan

I. County and System Information

1. Name of county: Modoc
2. Contact: Judith Stevens, County Clerk - Recorder Auditor
3. Telephone: 530-233-6200
4. Vendor/Voting System: Premier AccuVote, TSx
5. Date: January 17, 2008

II. Purpose

The purpose of the Election Observer Panel is to provide an avenue for public observation of and input into the election process; to assist in ensuring the integrity of the election process; and to assist the County Clerk in encouraging participation and build voter confidence in the election process.

III. Invite

Approximately a month prior to the election, invitations are extended (by letter, e-mail or phone call) to a diverse cross-section of the community, including grand jurors, members of county central committees, retirees, and the like, to join the panel.
Other groups or individuals expressing an interest in observing election day activities may also be included in the observer panel.

IV. General Duties/Rules for Observer Panel

Observers may:

- Observe the proceedings at the polls, including the opening and closing procedures.
- Verify that ballot counting software accurately tallies the logic and accuracy test cards by reviewing printed reports.
- View all activities at the central count site on election day.
- Serve on a ballot inspection board at the central count site, if needed.
- View the canvass of the vote activities following the election.
- View processing of vote by mail and provisional ballots.
- Ask questions of staff or voters at the polls.
- Ask questions of supervisors at the central count site.

Observers are responsible for:

- Checking in at each site, whether polling place or central count site.
- Wearing an identification badge.
- Maintaining a professional manner while observing the election processes.
- Ensuring they do not interfere with the elections process.

Observers may not:

- Interfere in any way with the conduct of the election.
- Touch any voting materials or equipment or sit at poll worker tables.
- Converse with voters regarding the casting of a vote, or speak to a voter regarding his or her qualifications to vote within 100 feet of the polling place.
- Display any election material or wear campaign badges, buttons or apparel.
- Wear the uniform of a peace officer, a private guard, or security personnel.
- Use cell phones, pagers, or two-way radios inside the polling place and/or within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place.
- Talk to central count site workers while they are processing ballots.

• Use the telephones, computers or other facilities at polling places or the central counting site.
• Touch election personnel.
• Eat or drink in the polls or the central counting site.
• Assist in operations at any polling place.
• Access restricted areas of central count without permission or escort.

V. Pre-Election, Pre-Tabulation, Post-Election Test Observation and Verification

The Panel meets at the office of the County Clerk approximately 1 week prior to the election for a brief orientation, and to observe and verify the pre-election logic
and accuracy tests. The Panel is presented with an overview of the election process, including ballot tabulation.

The Panel reconvenes on election day at approximately 4:00 p.m. to observe and verify the pre-tabulation logic and accuracy tests - required prior to processing absentee ballots. Panelists may remain in the office through the evening, or leave the office and return at 8:00 p.m. to observe all aspects of the vote tallying

process. At the conclusion of ballot tabulating on election night, the panel observes and verifies the post-election logic and accuracy tests, which are performed after all ballots have been tabulated on election night.

The Panel is required to return to observe and verify the logic and accuracy tests before and after ballots are processed during canvass. Panelists may observe any processes during the Official Canvass. To the extent possible, the Panel is comprised of the same members at all testing opportunities.

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VI. Mechanism for Feedback

Panelists are asked to complete a feedback form concerning the ballot testing and tabulation processes, and have the opportunity to evaluate any other aspects of the administration of the election.

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