Humboldt County Election Transparency Project

Mitch Trachtenberg
Volunteer with ETP
Creator of Ballot Browser Open Source Vote Counting Software
Acknowledgements

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Key points

Ballots, after they are cast in secret, should be public documents, countable by anyone.

Scanning ballots enables redundant counting to be done off of the scanned images.

Open source counting software enables a small group of volunteers to do complete independent recounts.
Simple is best.

It's not enough to report the results; people want to know how the results were obtained.

NO MAGIC. No reliance on “experts”.
Some history

HumETP started in 2008.

In November 2008, we found 200 ballots had been dropped by Diebold's “Accuvote” software.

Sec. Of State Debra Bowen found major flaws in “Accuvote,” and decertified the version used in Humboldt.

Volunteers have scanned every ballot cast in Humboldt in every election since.
1. Scan ballots, numbering them
2. Save “signed” images to disk
3. Spot-check saved images against paper
   ...then...
4. Determine darkness of images at vote targets
5. “Dark enough” = Vote
6. Provide ballot-by-ballot results as spreadsheet
Open source software

All requirements already exist, open and free:

- Linux (Operating System)
- GPG (Digital Signing)
- SANE (Scanning)
- Tesseract (OCR)
- Python and PIL (Image Processing)
- Open Office (Spreadsheet)
- MySQL/PostgreSQL (Database)
TEVS

(Trachtenberg Election Verification System) TEVS adds some ballot processing, but is mostly “glue” connecting together preexisting software.
Demo
Now.

Real soon.

Documentation for users and extenders (programmers).

Bells, whistles.
Further information:

www.humetp.org
www.humtp.com
democracycounts.blogspot.com
www.tevsystems.com
www.mitchtrachtenberg.com

Mitch Trachtenberg
PO Box 1352
Trinidad, CA 95570
mjtrac@gmail.com