

0 Connecticut Citizen Election Audit

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Contact: Luther Weeks, 860-918-2115 or Luther@CTElectionAudit.org

Citizen Audit Finds Little Improvement In Election Audits

Post-Election Audit Flaws Remain After Seven Years and Twelve Audits

Hartford, Connecticut –Today, the Connecticut Citizen Election Audit released its report on the November 2013 post-election audits.

Coalition spokesperson Luther Weeks noted, *“When compared with audits in 2011 and 2012 we found little difference, positive or negative, on the issues previously identified and the level of concerns affecting confidence.”*

The report concluded that the official audit results do not inspire confidence because of the continued:

- *Lack of consistency, reliability, and transparency in the conduct of the audit.*
- *Discrepancies between machine counts and hand counts reported to the Secretary of the State by municipalities.*
- *Lack of investigation of such discrepancies, and the lack of standards for triggering such investigations.*
- *Weaknesses in the ballot chain-of-custody.*
- *An unsatisfactory improvement in the random audit drawing integrity vs. the November 2012 audit, as reported in our recent Districts In Drawing Study.*

Weeks said *“Without adherence to procedures and effective follow-up, if there was ever a significant fraud or error, it might not be recognized and corrected.”*

“Some officials follow the audit procedures and do effective work, yet a trusted audit requires that all the districts and all the votes be counted in the audit as intended.”

The Connecticut Citizen Election Audit, formerly the Connecticut Citizen Election Audit Coalition, has organized volunteer observers and provided independent post-election audit reports since the adoption of optical scanners statewide in 2007. All reports and backup data are available online at: <http://www.CTElectionAudit.org>

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