

CCREC Candidate Questionnaires
2024 Supervisor of Elections Candidates
Summary of Selected Questions -- See Completed Questionnaires for Full Responses

Q#	Question	Melissa Blazier	Tim Guerrette	Dave Schaffel
10	Is there anything in your background of a criminal nature that you should disclose or that we should be aware of? (Felonies, felony charges etc.?)	Arrested as a teenager, not convicted of any criminal offense.	No.	No.
13	What are the main strengths that you feel you possess for this position?	18+ years of election administration experience; Certified Election Registration Administrator via the National Association of Election Officials; Master Florida Certified Election Professional via the Florida Supervisors of Elections Association.	Integrity; Leadership and Management; Communication and Interpersonal Skills; Knowledge of Laws; Policy and Procedures.	Our elections are run by integrated proprietary software and networked hardware, most of which are or can be connected to the internet. My 40-year technology career gives me the experience to administer this office as well as to identify and mitigate any technology threats.
14	What are the 5 most important items/issues that you want to address during your term in this position?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued list maintenance efforts. 2. Expansion of voter education/outreach activities. 3. Increased voter registration efforts. 4. Professionalism of the SOE office. 5. Administration of elections within the guidelines of current election law. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Election safety. 2. Election security. 3. Voter fraud. 4. Integrity and confidence through transparency and accountability. 5. Develop and maintain a professional working environment. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove non-US citizens from voter rolls. 2. Introduce real-time solutions to identify suspicious voter roll manipulation. 3. Perform post-election audits with statistically significant hand counts. 4. Perform full IT infrastructure digital audit scrutinizing hardware, software, security measures, and data flows. 5. Restore sovereignty to county election office i.e.

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				investigate unconstitutional federal intrusion and monitoring of network traffic entering and exiting the county SOE office.
15	What election (working, research, seminars) experience do you have? e.g. poll worker, election integrity investigations, election data analysis, election software systems.	<p>18+ years of election administration experience.</p> <p>Conducted 45 highly successful elections.</p> <p>Conducted over 35 post election manual audits all with 100% accuracy.</p> <p>Over a half-dozen machine and manual recounts.</p>	<p>Developed incident action plans for election cycles during 20+ years with Collier County Sheriff's Office.</p> <p>Attended canvassing board meetings, manual hand-counts.</p> <p>Observed elections.</p> <p>Attended Mike Lindell's online election security/integrity seminars and Election Integrity Network meetings.</p> <p>Florida Fair Elections contributor.</p>	<p>As a member of the CCREC Election Integrity Subcommittee, I load monthly Collier voter roll data into my private database and personally investigate changes or other anomalies.</p> <p>Work with and share work of other private citizens doing the same.</p> <p>Attended logic and accuracy testing before local elections.</p> <p>Attended certification board meetings post-election.</p>
20	How will you ensure that the election data and election systems are secure from external penetration? i.e. hacking, data base manipulation/intrusion?	<p>Election systems are air-gapped and therefore are not able to be accessed by outside systems.</p> <p>We use a variety of software and resources to protect data and access to information. Specifics are exempt from public records.</p>	<p>Employ top level IT managers.</p> <p>Implement strong cybersecurity measures to protect against external penetration, hacking, unauthorized access.</p> <p>Conduct regular security audits and vulnerability assessments beyond what is required by Florida law.</p>	<p>Semiannual audits by private certified third-party network and systems engineer.</p> <p>Implement best practices to close vulnerabilities.</p> <p>Consider software tools to provide ongoing real-time monitoring of cybersecurity resources.</p>

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			Train election staff and administration on cybersecurity best practices.	Analyze local connectivity to state voter roll database to determine vulnerabilities.
21	What measures will you take to reduce fraud in the voting system?	We comply with all Federal and Florida election laws and rules regarding the voting system used in Collier County.	Will apply my years of crime prevention strategies, investigative skills, and enforcement. Enforce voter ID requirements; secure voter registration; advocate for changes in proof of citizenship; increased audits; allow hand-counting	Only hand-counting ballots after a certified election with nonpartisan teams of counters can assure trust in election results. More thorough signature and address verification of mail ballots; random phone calls to confirm identity of the voter. Snapshots of voter rolls at least twice a month; investigate changes in key metadata. Perform statistical and transaction analysis to ensure election security.
29	Will you conduct an in-depth audit, pre- and post-election, to ensure the accuracy and Yes - we already conduct both pre and post election audits legitimacy of the election outcome?	Yes. We already conduct both pre and post election audits.	Yes.	Yes.

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33	How will you ensure that the voter role (<i>sic</i>) is clean and up-to-date and contains no deceased individuals, non-Florida county/Florida state voters and other non-qualifying voters?	FS 98.075 prescribes how an SOE shall conduct registration records maintenance activities.	<p>Strictly enforce all state laws.</p> <p>Solicit statewide groups to assist in providing names and addresses of potential unauthorized voters.</p> <p>Be proactive in cleaning voter rolls.</p>	<p>“Constant” removal of voters by monitoring Collier Health Department and Clerk of Courts death records.</p> <p>Daily review of obituaries in local newspapers and confirm they are reported by the Department of Health within 30 days of receipt.</p> <p>Monthly cross-reference Florida DMV driver license removals to ensure removal from voter roll.</p>
45	What steps can be taken to ensure Vote by Mail ballots are on legitimate paper and returned by legitimate voters?	We comply with all Federal and Florida election laws and rules regarding the conduct of vote-by-mail voting.	<p>Ensure 100% compliance with Florida Statutes re: staff training in signature verification.</p> <p>Ensure secure ballot design.</p> <p>Go above and beyond state law requirements, as permissible, to ensure proper identity of requesters of vote by mail.</p>	<p>Use tinted, watermarked ballots printed on thicker paper.</p> <p>Take more time to scrutinize ballot signatures, verify address and postmark of sender, make random phone calls to the VBM voter.</p>
47	What steps can be taken at the County level to verify US citizenship before approving a Voter Registration application?	Voter registration applications are NOT approved at the local level. They are vetted in the Department of State / Division of Elections and then sent to local SOEs for inclusion in the voter rolls.	Encourage staff, within the parameters of the current law, to seek all available opportunities to check the applicant and application for indications of fraud.	Harass the DMV until it provides citizenship data for all Collier County voters.

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51	Inactive voters represent about 10% of our total registered voters in Collier County. Given an Inactive voter can become 'Active' simply by the act of voting, or requesting a Vote By Mail, should they be included when reporting online data for voter registrations and voter turnout? Why or why not?	No, because a very small portion of the inactive voters are activated during an election. Including those numbers would skew voter turnout percentages.	Yes.	Yes.
57	If citizens question election results, do you believe videotaped audits monitored by and transmitted to the public is important?	Transparency in audits is an important part of the process, but the secrecy of how a voter voted their ballot needs to be addressed as well. Video monitoring may not be the best method. The audits we conduct after each election are open to the public.	Yes. Would request ability to livestream audits as permitted by law.	Yes. Would also like logic and accuracy testing and post-election audits videotaped and posted to the SOE website.
59	Would you be willing to use your position as SOE to demand changes to voter laws in Florida banning use of any tabulators, voting software or any kind of third party No mechanism in the Voter Rolls or in counting votes?	No.	Yes.	Yes.
60	Would you be willing to advocate for paper ballots and hand counts in Collier County?	The State of Florida has been 100% paper since 2007. No, I would not be willing to advocate for hand counts. We	Yes.	Florida law requires use of electronic tabulation devices.

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		already conduct manual audits which are essentially hand counts.		To further mitigate risk, I would perform hand counts beyond what is required by law.
63	What is your position regarding having to transmit votes via wi-fi as votes come in? Many of us in 2022 were able to see that all polling locations had an active Wi-Fi that was connected to the SOE's office.	"Votes" are not transmitted via Wi-Fi. The "active Wi-Fi" that was seen in the 2022 election cycle had nothing to do with tabulation, it was a Mi-Fi connection for our electronic pollbooks to transmit voter check-in information real-time to the SOE office. This prevents someone from attempting to vote more than once.	Votes should never be transferred over Wi-Fi.	Votes are not transmitted in real time. Would transfer precinct level data via thumb drive to the SOE office election management system escorted by law enforcement.