



**King County**

**Records, Elections and  
Licensing Services Division**

Department of Executive Services

King County Administration Building  
500 Fourth Avenue, Room 553  
Seattle, WA 98104-2337

206-296-1540  
206-296-0108 Fax  
711 TTY Relay

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Stef Shukky

**CC:** Don Porter, Janine Joly, Dean Logan, and Mary Stoa

**FROM:** Bobbie Egan, Communications Specialist  
King County Records, Elections and Licensing Services

**DATE:** April 15, 2005, Rec'd by: Sim (initial)

**RE:** **Disk containing AV Tape from the November 2004 General Election**

---

To Whom It May Concern:

This memo will assist you in understanding the information you are about to receive as part of your public records request.

Due to the size of this file, data information on this disk is provided in Microsoft Access and contains the av\_election\_id (unique identifier for each absentee record), voter ID, date the ballot was received, absentee ballot "batch" number, disposition of the ballot and challenge code.

Please note that the totals on the AV file will not equal ballots cast on the voter history file for several reasons. Ballots that are batched in-house, issued over the counter, ACP and Federal Write-in ballots are not represented on the AV tape. Add-ons and all of the 28,010 provisional ballots will not be included in this file. Challenged ballots that were later accepted by the Canvassing Board, credited and counted may not reflect the challenge code listed on the tape. The voter may have been credited and the challenge code could remain.

To assist you in understanding the challenge codes, I've included a brief explanation of the challenge codes.

DECEA	Return envelope indicates voter is deceased
FAILS	Voter cast a provisional ballot
INACT	Inactive voter
MOVED	Voter moved
NAMCH	Voter has signed with a different name
<b>N-I-B<sup>1</sup></b>	Absentee is not in the batch
NO WI	Voter signed with an X , but there aren't the required two witnesses
NOSIG	No signature on return envelope
NSOF	No signature on file
PBC	Poll book check (Ballot issued after the last poll books were printed.)
POA	Power of attorney --- Someone with power of attorney signed -- not the actual voter.
PRI-E	Primary ballot envelope
REJ	Rejected
SIG	Signature doesn't match
X-SIG	Crossed-signed return envelope (Two voters at same address sign each other's ballot envelope.)

Please note that the Elections Division has received 57 public disclosure requests with regard to the 2004 General Election. Additionally, you are undoubtedly familiar with the election contest lawsuit that is proceeding in Chelan County. The Elections Division has received numerous requests for documents from the parties to the lawsuit. On the advice of the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Elections Division has given priority to subpoenas and requests from the parties that are related to the lawsuit. The Elections Division is also preparing for Special Elections to be held on April 26 and May 17.

The Washington Public Disclosure Act requires agencies to "promptly" make public records available for inspection or copying upon request. However, the act also directs agencies to respond to requests in such a way as to "prevent excessive interference with other essential functions of the agency" RCW 42.17.290. The Elections Division is acting reasonably and expeditiously in responding to requests in light of the Elections Divisions other functions.

---

<sup>1</sup> NIB or "not in batch" means the voter returned a ballot from a different election. Please note, the ballot is not removed from the batch record although it was obviously not counted. In addition, the voter history file would not credit the voter.