

Documenting Completion of the Canvass of Electors

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Issue

Discuss the requirement under Connecticut law for municipalities to document their annual canvass of electors.

Summary

By law, registrars of voters must conduct an annual canvass of electors, between January 1 and May 1, to gather information about electors' residency and eligibility to remain on the voter registry list ([CGS § 9-32](#) and [Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 9-32-1 to 9-32-9](#)). (Registrars in municipalities holding May municipal elections are not required to conduct a canvass in odd-numbered years.) Registrars may conduct the canvass by door-to-door canvassing, mail or the U.S. Postal Service's National Change of Address system, telephone, or a combination of these methods.

State law requires registrars of voters to document the canvass with the secretary of the state. Specifically, no later than 30 days after each regular election, the registrars must file a form with the secretary indicating that the canvass was conducted before the election in accordance with the law's requirements. The secretary prescribes the form, which specifies the canvass methods and dates (see Statement of Completion of Canvass, [Form ED-632](#)).

Each registrar of voters must sign the form under penalty of false statement. False statement is a class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in prison, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both ([CGS § 53a-157b](#)).

(For more information on how registrars of voters maintain the voter registry list, see OLR Report [2016-R-0079](#).)

KS:kl

