FAQ's about the ePollTab Electronic Pollbook System

What software does Loudoun use for electronic pollbooks?

Loudoun County uses the DemTech ePollTab system for electronic pollbooks.

Is the ePollTab system certified?

The DemTech electronic pollbook system was certified as meeting the revised certification standards by the Virginia State Board of Elections on September 18, 2020. Testing was conducted by SLI Compliance Lab, an industry recognized specialist testing facility, from August 25, 2020, through August 27, 2020. Following testing, SLI signed off that the system successfully met all state requirements regarding electronic pollbook certification. Additionally, the mock election as required by state certification standards was conducted by Loudoun County on August 27, 2020, and the system successfully met all requirements of the mock election.

How long has DemTech been involved in Virginia elections?

DemTech has been providing electronic pollbook services to the Commonwealth of Virginia since 2008, starting with the Advocate system, which was the first system certified for use in Virginia. In 2020 DemTech rolled out their new tablet-based software, ePollTab which was certified by the Virginia State Board of Elections on September 18, 2020. Loudoun has been a DemTech customer since the inception of electronic pollbooks in Virginia in 2008.

Who is responsible for electronic pollbook certification?

Electronic pollbook certification standards are produced by the Virginia Department of Elections and approved by the Virginia State Board of Elections. Individual localities do not have the authority to certify equipment or purchase equipment that has not been certified for use in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Of note is that Virginia is one of only 11 states that has uniform standards and certification requirements for electronic pollbook systems.

Are the electronic pollbooks connected to the internet?

The county operates electronic pollbooks differently for the three different ways of voting; early, by-mail, and election day. The pollbooks used for mail voting and election day operate on a closed network within the precinct. They are only connected to one another to ensure that they are all always up to date with current voters checked in. The pollbooks used in our four early voting sites are connected to one another via a secure VPN setup built on the county's network system with multi-layered encryption. The ePollTab system utilizes NIST P-521 Elliptic Curve encryption. Having the early voting site pollbooks connected to one another ensures that a voter checked in to vote early at one location shows them having checked in to vote on every pollbook at each site. This is important as during early voting any voter anywhere in the county can go to any early voting site to vote. The early voting pollbook system is set to only allow licensed, known devices to connect to the network and continuously monitors for unauthorized attempts to access data.

![Loudoun County Virginia logo] Elections and Voter Registration

Is the network used in early voting tested?

Yes. Department staff works with the Loudoun County Department of Information Technology to test all network ports and access prior to early voting for each election. This includes an on-site inspection, connection, and speed test at each location.

Can the electronic pollbook network be hacked?

The system is secure and utilizes several authentication factors to ensure that only authorized devices can connect and/or access data. It is certainly possible that an unauthorized device could attempt to connect to the system but highly unlikely it would succeed. An election officer in Prince William County attempted to connect to the system during early voting in November 2021 to prove vulnerabilities, however they were unsuccessful over several attempts and subsequently dismissed after being discovered. Additionally, it is important to note that hacking into a government computer system is a crime at both the state and federal levels.

Are the electronic pollbooks connected to the voting equipment?

No. They are not nor have ever been, nor have the capability to connect.

Is a picture of a voter's ballot stored on the electronic pollbook?

No. These two systems operate completely independently of one another.

Is the electronic pollbook connected to the state voter registration system?

No. These two systems operate completely independently of one another. Any data transfer occurs manually.

Is it possible to connect a voter with their ballot after voting?

No. The voting equipment and the electronic pollbooks are not connected to one another nor can they be.

Ways you can help ensure accurate check-in when appearing to vote:

1. Use an ID with a barcode (Virginia Drivers License or VA Voter Card/Letter) when you check in. The election officer can scan that barcode to ensure the right voter is checked in.
2. State your name and address clearly when asked. This will enable the election officer to verify that you are you and they are checking in the right voter.
3. Listen when the election officer repeats back your name upon check-in. This is the final check to ensure they've got the right person.
4. Verify that we have the correct information on file for you by visiting www.vote.virgnia.gov no later than 22 days prior to the election you plan to vote in. You can also make any changes to address or name at this site. This way you'll be ready to vote when you appear!