

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Ballot images

Date:Fri, 19 Aug 2016 12:30:21 -0700

From:Michele Reagan <michelereagan@live.com>

To:cruz.christina@gmail.com <cruz.christina@gmail.com> <cruz.christina@gmail.com>, auditaz@cox.net <auditaz@cox.net>, johnbrakey@gmail.com <johnbrakey@gmail.com> <johnbrakey@gmail.com>, mreagan@azsos.gov <mreagan@azsos.gov>, Johnson, Shawn <sjohnson@azsos.gov>

From SOS of AZ Michele Reagan:

Christina --

Thanks for your email regarding ballot images and what Pima County does with them. The technology to image a ballot at the same time it's being counted is quite new. State law doesn't clearly address how to handle the image, separate from the ballot itself. Arizona law has long directed our counties to keep actual paper ballots very secure and they are available after an election only in very limited circumstances and only pursuant to a court order. Eleven of Arizona's counties now use counting machines that have imaging capability. Because the Legislature hasn't addressed the image issue its likely that each county is addressing the matter as its county attorney sees the issue. A lack of consistency across the counties does not promote election integrity. It's time for the Legislature to take the matter up and decide whether an image of a ballot is the same thing as the ballot itself or is the image just another record subject to standard record management rules and policies? Thanks for your question. I look forward to the Legislature settling this matter for all of our benefit.

Michele Reagan

=====