

DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

(dr req 17-0xxx – draft 2.1)
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1 Introduced by Committee on Government Operations
2 Referred to Committee on
3 Date:
4 Subject: Elections; recounts; procedure for recounts
5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the
6 procedure for conducting recounts

7 An act relating to the procedure for conducting recounts

8 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

9 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. chapter 51, subchapter 9 is amended to read:

10 Subchapter 9. Recounts and Contest of Elections

11 § 2601. ~~RECOUNTS~~ RECOUNT THRESHOLD

12 (a) In an election for statewide office, county office, ~~or~~ State Senator, or
13 State Representative if the difference between the number of votes cast for a
14 winning candidate and the number of votes cast for a losing candidate is **less**
15 **than two percent** of the total votes cast for all the candidates for an office,
16 divided by the number of persons to be elected, that losing candidate shall have
17 the right to have the votes for that office recounted.

18 (b) ~~In an election for all other offices, if the difference between the number~~
19 ~~of votes cast for a winning candidate and the number of votes cast for a losing~~

Comment [BAW1]: Added State Rep.

Local officials and JoPs still at 5% under this draft via subsection (b).

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1 candidate is less than five percent of the total votes cast for all the candidates
2 for an office, divided by the number of persons to be elected, that losing
3 candidate shall have the right to have the votes for that office recounted In the
4 case of a recount for a local election or for the office of justice of the peace, the
5 threshold and procedures for conducting the recount shall be as provided in
6 subchapter 3 of chapter 55 of this title.

7 § 2602. PETITIONS FOR RECOUNTS

8 (a) ~~In the case of recounts for local elections and recounts for the office of~~
9 ~~justice of the peace, the procedures for conducting the recount shall be as~~
10 ~~provided in subchapter 3 of chapter 55 of this title. [Repealed.]~~

11 (b) In the case of recounts ~~other than specified~~ described in subsection
12 2601(a) of this section subchapter, the following procedure shall apply.

13 (1) A petition for a recount shall be filed within seven calendar days
14 after the election.

15 (2) The petition shall be filed with the Civil Division of the Superior
16 Court, Washington County, in the case of candidates for State or congressional
17 office, or for a presidential election; the petition shall be filed with the Superior
18 Court in any county in which votes were cast for the office to be recounted, in
19 the case of any other office.

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1 (3) The petition shall be supported, if possible, by a certified copy of the
2 certificate of election prepared by the canvassing committee, verifying the total
3 number of votes cast and the number of votes cast for each candidate.

4 (c)(1) The Superior Court shall set the date of the recount to be five
5 business days after the Court receives the petition for the recount and shall
6 notify all candidates of that date no later than the next business day after the
7 petition is received.

8 (2) The Superior Court shall forward a copy of the petition to the county
9 clerk. The Court shall order the town clerk or clerks having custody of the
10 ballots to be recounted or their designees to transport them to the county clerks
11 of their respective counties before the day set for the recount. County clerks
12 shall store all ballots, still in their sealed containers, in their vaults until the day
13 of the recount.

14 (d)-(h) [Repealed.]

15 (i) The Secretary of State shall bear the costs of recounts covered under this
16 chapter.

17 § 2602a. APPOINTMENT OF RECOUNT COMMITTEE; SETTING DATE
18 OF RECOUNT

19 (a)(1) Upon receipt of a petition, the county clerk shall notify the chairs of
20 the relevant county political committees that a petition has been filed

Comment [BAW2]: Should the Court's scheduling of the recount change to be:
- *five days for the primary* (due to the deadline to send general election ballots to overseas voters 45 days in advance of the general election; and
- *10-14 days for the general election?*

Comment [BAW3]: Should each candidate, regardless of the election or party affiliation, have to submit a min. number of persons?
--Potential amendment here.

Currently, nominees go to the party in the case of the general election.

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1 ~~requesting a recount and advising them to submit immediately a list of~~
2 ~~nominees for individuals to serve on a recount committee.~~

3 ~~(2) In the case of a recount in a primary election, the county clerk shall~~
4 ~~notify all candidates for the office which that is the subject of the recount,~~
5 ~~advising them to submit immediately a list of a minimum of 10 nominees for~~
6 ~~individuals to serve on a recount committee.~~

Comment [BAW4]: Specifies that *all candidates for the office* would be required to submit a *minimum of 10 nominees*.

7 ~~(3) If a candidate for an office which is the subject of a recount is from a~~
8 ~~party which does not have a county committee, the county clerk shall send a~~
9 ~~copy of the notice to the State committee of the party advising them to submit~~
10 ~~immediately a list of nominees for individuals to serve on a recount committee.~~

11 ~~(4) If a candidate for an office which is the subject of a recount is~~
12 ~~independent, the county clerk shall send that candidate a copy of the notice and~~
13 ~~request him or her to submit immediately a similar list of nominees for~~
14 ~~individuals to serve on a recount committee.~~

15 ~~(5)(2)(A)~~ If a list of nominees is not delivered to the county clerk within
16 two business days, the clerk shall notify the appropriate candidates that they
17 have 24 hours to submit lists of nominees for individuals to serve on the
18 recount committee.

19 (B) In the case of a candidate who petitions for a recount but fails to
20 submit a complete list of nominees by this deadline, the recount shall not move
21 forward.

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1 (C) If any other candidate fails to submit a complete list of nominees,
2 the county clerk shall request additional nominees from any other candidates.

Comment [BAW5]: Other candidates would be able to nominate additional, if one of the candidates fails to nominate.

3 (b) The Superior Court shall make appointments to the recount committee
4 from among those nominated under this section. In making these
5 appointments, the court shall appoint an equal number of persons from each
6 party and from those persons representing an independent each candidate.

Comment [BAW6]: Potential amendment could address the dual-party representation of candidates.

7 § 2602b. ASSIGNMENT OF DUTIES

8 (a)(1)(A) The county clerk shall supervise the recount and ~~may appoint a~~
9 ~~sufficient number of impartial assistants to perform appropriate tasks which~~
10 ~~have not been assigned to recount committee members. The county clerk shall~~
11 ~~recruit town clerks or their designees to serve as impartial assistants to the~~
12 ~~county clerk for operating the vote tabulators, and shall consult with the~~
13 ~~Secretary of State to identify any vote tabulators to be used.~~

14 (B) The county clerk may appoint a sufficient number of additional
15 impartial assistants to perform tasks that have not been assigned to recount
16 committee members.

17 (2) The county clerk shall store all ballots, still in their sealed
18 containers, in his or her vault until the day of the recount.

19 (b)(1) The county clerk shall assign committee members to the following
20 ~~teams of at least four persons, consisting of one caller and one observer,~~

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1 ~~representing different candidates, and one tally person and one double check~~
2 ~~person, representing different candidates;~~

3 (A) Counting teams comprising at least four persons each, consisting
4 of an equal number of persons from each of the various lists of nominees
5 submitted by the candidates;

Comment [BAW7]: Language needs further review.

6 (B) One vote tabulator team, comprising two persons from a different
7 list of nominees submitted by two different candidates; and

8 (C) One clerk observer team, comprising two persons from a
9 different list of nominees submitted by two different candidates.

10 (2) Any additional team members shall be additional observers and
11 double check persons, who shall be assigned to ensure that each candidate has
12 one person assigned as either a caller or an observer and one person assigned
13 as either a tally person or a double check person. One team shall be designated
14 as the clerk observer team, which shall perform only the functions established
15 under this subchapter for that team remain unassigned and shall be used as
16 necessary on the day of the recount.

17 (c) The recount committee shall use Secretary of State shall provide to the
18 recount committee;

19 (1) fresh seals, manila tags, tally sheets, double check sheets, summary
20 sheets for each polling place, master lists for the entire election to be

1 recounted, and other ~~appropriate~~ material ~~provided~~ deemed appropriate by the
2 Secretary of State; and

3 (2) the official return of vote(s) for each town subject to the recount.

4 § 2602c. PREPARATION FOR RECOUNT; GENERAL RULES

5 (a) Preliminary requirements. Before the recount begins, and any
6 containers are opened:

7 (1) Explaining procedures. ~~the~~ The county clerk shall explain the
8 recount procedures ~~which~~ that are to be followed and shall answer questions
9 relating to such procedures.

10 (2) Town clerk volunteers. The county clerk shall use volunteer town
11 clerks to operate and instruct on the use of vote tabulators.

12 (3) Vote tabulator test.

13 (A) The vote tabulator team shall perform a test of the vote tabulators
14 that will be used, by marking and feeding into each tabulator a minimum of 10
15 test ballots. The test ballots shall be marked with various votes for each
16 candidate for the office subject to the recount.

17 (B) If a vote tabulator does not tabulate these votes accurately, it
18 shall not be used.

19 (C) Once the test is completed, these ballots shall be sealed in an
20 envelope that shall be dated and marked “TEST BALLOTS—DO NOT

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1 COUNT.” This envelope shall then be kept separate from the rest of the
2 containers.

3 (b) Tables. Each team shall have a separate table and the county clerk shall
4 have a separate table, and all of these tables shall be spaced apart.

Comment [BAW8]: From below.

5 (c) Separating containers, polling places, and towns. Each recount team
6 shall:

7 (1) recount the contents of one container before opening another
8 container at its table, ~~shall~~;

9 (2) recount the contents of all the containers relating to one polling place
10 before moving to those of another polling place; ~~and shall~~

11 (3) complete the recount for one town before moving to material relating
12 to another town.

13 ~~(e)~~(d) Recording containers. For each polling place, the number of
14 containers shall be counted and recorded on the master list.

15 ~~(d)~~(e) Inspecting containers and seals.

16 (1) Containers. Before opening, each container shall be inspected, and
17 if no tag is present, replacement manila tags shall be affixed, specifying date of
18 election and name of town and polling place.

19 (2) Seals.

20 (1) ~~Likewise, each~~ Each seal shall be examined to see if it is intact,
21 and the county clerk shall attach to any bag with a defective seal a tag stating

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1 that the seal was defective and containing the information ~~which~~ that was
2 contained on the defective seal.

3 (2) If a seal number does not match the seal number reported by the
4 town clerk on the official return of votes, the county clerk shall contact the
5 town clerk to request an explanation for that difference. The county clerk shall
6 record any explanation on the master list.

Comment [BAW9]: Please review

7 ~~(e)~~(f) Uncounted containers. Uncounted containers shall be kept in one
8 part of the room and moved to the other side as they are counted; each team
9 shall have a separate table and the county clerk shall have a separate table, all
10 of which tables shall be spaced apart.

Comment [BAW10]: Moved to (b) above.

11 ~~(f)~~(g) Checklist container. If there is more than one container from a
12 polling place, the county clerk shall open first the container ~~which~~ that is
13 identified as containing the checklist, if applicable.

14 (h) Opening containers. ~~Upon opening the first container in the presence of~~
15 ~~the clerk observer team, the~~ The county clerk shall empty the contents of each
16 container onto the clerk's his or her table in the presence of the clerk observer
17 team.

18 (i) Materials not to be distributed. The county clerk shall ensure that teams
19 are not given and teams shall not count:

20 (1) ballots marked defective or contained in a defective ballot envelope;

Comment [BAW11]: Discuss

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1 (2) ~~unused ballots, early or absentee ballots which that arrived after the~~
2 ~~close of polls;~~ or

3 (3) ballots spoiled returned by voters and turned in by voters requesting
4 who requested fresh replacement ballots, or ballots contained in a replaced
5 ballot envelope.

Comment [BAW12]: In accordance with misc.
elections corrections bill

6 (j) Recording defective ballots. In the presence of the clerk observer team,
7 the county clerk shall mark the number of defective ballots from the official
8 return of votes for each town on the summary sheet.

9 § 2602d. EXAMINATION OF CHECKLISTS

10 **OPTION A:**

11 (a) The checklist from the first ~~bag container~~ shall be assigned to a team.
12 ~~The caller and observer~~ Two persons who represent different candidates, each
13 acting independently, shall examine the checklist and determine how many
14 voters voted at the polling place, repeating the process until they agree on a
15 number or until they agree to disagree on a number.

16 (b) Then the checklist shall be examined by ~~the tally person and the~~
17 ~~double check person~~ the remaining members of the team, repeating the process
18 until they agree on a number or they agree to disagree on the number.

19 (c) The results obtained from the two subgroups will be compared and if
20 they do not match, the process shall be repeated until there is agreement among
21 all the members of the team or until team members agree to disagree.

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1 (d)(1) The number finally determined by a majority of team members shall
2 be submitted to the county clerk in the presence of the clerk observer team,
3 together with an indication of the nature and extent of the disagreement.

4 (2) If one or more team members do not agree with the number
5 submitted, the county clerk shall note on the master list the fact that the
6 number of people appearing as having voted on a specified checklist was
7 subject to dispute.

8 **OPTION B:** *[repeal all language of § 2602d and replace with following:]*

Comment [BAW13]: See § 2602h

9 The county clerk shall record on the master list the number of ballots
10 counted and the number of voters checked off the checklist as reported on the
11 official return of vote(s) for each town.

12 § 2602e. ~~REPEALED~~. SORTING BALLOTS; BALLOT REVIEW;

13 RECOUNT OF REMOVED BALLOTS BY HAND

14 (a) Sorting ballots.

15 (1) While the checklist is being examined, after being emptied onto the
16 county clerk's table, the county clerk shall separate ballots from the container
17 into a number of batches equal to the number of teams, with each batch being
18 of approximately equal size.

Comment [BAW14]: Not necessary under
OPTION B

19 (2) Each team shall take a batch of ballots from the county clerk's table
20 and take that batch to the team's table.

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1 (3) Two persons who represent different candidates shall sort that batch
2 into stacks of 50 ballots, and the remaining members of the team shall recount
3 each stack to ensure that there are 50 ballots in it.

4 (4) The teams shall combine any ballots not placed into a stack of 50,
5 and the teams shall likewise separate those combined ballots into stacks of 50
6 and recount them. For any final stack that contains fewer than 50 ballots, the
7 county clerk shall affix to the top of that stack a note indicating how many
8 ballots are contained in it.

9 (b) Ballot review and removal.

10 (1)(A) For each stack of 50, each team shall review each ballot within
11 the stack and remove from that stack each ballot upon which, for the office in
12 question, the voter recorded his or her vote or votes in that race in any manner
13 other than completely filling in the oval to the right of the candidate's name.

14 (B) Each team shall also remove any plain paper or damaged ballots.

15 (2) A ballot shall be removed only if at least two members of the team
16 agree to its removal.

17 (3) A ballot without markings for the office in question shall not be
18 removed.

19 (4) A ballot that is not removed upon this first review shall not be
20 reviewed again.

Comment [BAW15]: *Threshold question.*
Should it be two members representing different candidates?

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1 (c) Delivery of remaining ballots. Each team shall then count the number
2 of ballots that remain in a stack and attach to that stack a note with that
3 number. Two members of this team representing different candidates shall
4 deliver those ballots to the vote tabulator team, while the remaining members
5 of the team stay at the table with the removed ballots.

6 (d) Hand count of removed ballots; questionable votes.

7 (1) Each team shall then hand count the votes for the office in question
8 on the removed ballots, and mark the results on a tally sheet for the polling
9 place.

10 (2)(A) This hand count shall be in accordance with the rules for
11 counting ballots set forth in section 2587 of this chapter, except that if one
12 person on the team does not agree on how to count a vote, the ballot shall be
13 set aside as containing a questionable vote.

14 (B)(i) For any questionable vote, a copy of the ballot shall be made,
15 and this copy shall be clearly marked on its face identifying it as a copy. Once
16 the recount of a polling place is completed, any such copies shall be placed on
17 the top of the other ballots and shall remain together with the other ballots.

18 (ii) Each original ballot with a questionable vote shall be attached
19 to a note that identifies it by town, county, polling place, and container seal
20 number. The originals of these ballots with questionable votes shall be clipped

Comment [BAW16]: Note that the misc. elections bill would amend § 2587 for clarity.

Comment [BAW17]: From current § 2602f(c)
Does this work in practice?

1 to the summary sheet for that polling place and submitted to the court for a
2 final decision.

3 (iii) The county clerk shall record the number of ballots containing
4 questionable votes to be submitted to the court on the master list.

5 (iv) After the court has rendered a final decision on a given
6 questionable vote, the ballot containing the questionable vote shall be returned
7 to the county clerk, who shall keep it in a sealed container for a period of two
8 years.

Comment [BAW18]: Probably should be moved elsewhere

9 (C)(i) At the end of the hand count for a container, two persons who
10 represent different candidates on one of the teams designated by the county
11 clerk shall add together all of the hand counted tally sheets for that container,
12 and then the remaining members on that team shall double-check that
13 calculation for accuracy.

14 (ii) Two persons who represent different candidates on this team shall
15 deliver this tally sheet containing the totals of the hand counted votes for that
16 container to the clerk in the presence of the clerk observer team.

17 § 2602f. RECOUNT OF REMAINING BALLOTS BY VOTE TABULATOR

18 (a) The vote tabulator team shall operate any vote tabulator used in the
19 recount, with the assistance of the recruited town clerks or designees.

20 (b)(1) ~~Vote tabulator readable~~ At the same time as any removed ballots are
21 being hand counted, the vote tabulator team shall take any remaining ballots

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1 from each container ~~shall be fed~~ delivered to them and feed them through a
2 vote tabulator ~~by one team~~ until all ~~vote tabulator-readable~~ ballots from the
3 container have been entered into the tabulator. ~~For ballots unable to be read by~~
4 ~~a vote tabulator, such as damaged or plain paper ballots, a second team shall~~
5 ~~collect these ballots from the pile and transfer the voter's choices on those~~
6 ~~ballots to blank ballots provided by the Secretary of State. After all of the vote~~
7 ~~tabulator-readable ballots have been fed through the vote tabulator, the first~~
8 ~~team shall feed through the vote tabulator any transfer ballots created by the~~
9 ~~second team.~~

10 (2) ~~The recount teams shall switch roles for each subsequent container~~
11 ~~of ballots of a polling place that are to be fed through the vote tabulator, if~~
12 ~~there is more than one container per polling place. The vote tabulator team~~
13 shall attempt to feed ballots into the vote tabulator in the same direction.

14 (3)(A) If the tabulator refuses a ballot, the vote tabulator team shall
15 announce that occurrence and whether the ballot was counted, and may
16 override that refusal.

17 (B) If the tabulator continues to refuse the ballot, the vote tabulator
18 team shall announce that occurrence and return it to a counting team for hand
19 counting.

20 (4) This process shall be used until all ballots from a polling place
21 container have been tabulated by a vote tabulator.

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1 (b) After all ballots from a polling place container have been tabulated by a
2 vote tabulator, ~~a recount team~~ the vote tabulator team shall print the tabulator
3 tape containing the unofficial results and document those results on a tally
4 sheet, and deliver that tally sheet to the county clerk in the presence of the
5 clerk observer team. ~~Another recount team shall then open the tabulator's ballot~~
6 ~~box and remove all ballots. The ballots shall then be divided among the~~
7 ~~recount teams to be examined to find write-in names and markings of voter~~
8 ~~intent that were not vote tabulator-readable as outlined in the Secretary of~~
9 ~~State's vote tabulator guide and most recent elections procedures manual. A~~
10 ~~caller, tally person, and double check person shall be used to examine the~~
11 ~~ballots removed from the ballot box. If the caller and the observer or observers~~
12 ~~do not agree on how a ballot should be counted, the entire team shall review~~
13 ~~the ballot and if all members agree, it shall be counted that way.~~

14 (c) ~~If one person does not agree, that ballot shall be set aside as a questioned~~
15 ~~ballot and a copy shall be made, which copy shall be clearly marked on its face~~
16 ~~identifying it as a copy. Any copies shall be placed on the top of the other~~
17 ~~ballots and shall remain together with the other ballots. Each original ballot~~
18 ~~deemed questionable shall be attached to a note which identifies it by town,~~
19 ~~county, polling place, and bag seal number. The originals of these questionable~~
20 ~~ballots shall be clipped to the summary sheet for that polling place and~~
21 ~~returned to the court for a final decision.~~

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1 ~~(d) After the court has rendered a final decision on a given questionable~~
2 ~~ballot, it shall be returned to the county clerk who shall keep it in a sealed~~
3 ~~container for a period of two years.~~

Comment [BAW19]: Moved to above

4 ~~(e) Write in votes for preprinted candidates shall be counted as votes for~~
5 ~~that candidate.~~

6 ~~(f) If the tally persons do not agree on the number of votes for a candidate~~
7 ~~on ballots not able to be read by the vote tabulator, the ballots shall be retallied~~
8 ~~until they do agree. Then the team shall notify the clerk that it has completed~~
9 ~~its recount.~~

10 § 2602h. COMPLETING THE TALLY

11 ~~(a)(1) After~~ The county clerk shall add together the hand count and vote
12 tabulator totals for a polling place have been listed each container, as reported
13 on the tally sheets submitted to him or her, the county clerk and shall add them
14 up in the presence of the clerk observer team; and record those totals on the
15 summary sheet.

16 (2) This process shall be repeated for as many containers as there are for
17 each distinct town or representative district, as the case may be.

18 (3) Once all of those containers have been counted, the county clerk
19 shall record the total for that town or representative district on the summary
20 sheet and shall compare the number of ballots recounted with the number of
21 voters who voted at that ballots counted at the polling place, according to the

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1 ~~number obtained from the team that examined the certified checklist as~~
2 ~~reported on the official return of vote(s) and recorded by the county clerk on~~
3 ~~the master list in accordance with section 2602d of this subchapter.~~

Comment [BAW20]: See § 2602d **OPTION B**

4 (4) If these numbers differ, the county clerk shall note the amount of the
5 difference on the summary sheets for that polling place.

6 (b) The county clerk shall return all ballots to the container, seal it, record
7 the seal number on the summary sheet, write "recounted" and specify the date
8 of the recount on the tag, and move it to the other side of the room, making
9 sure that there is never more than one bag open at any one time.

Comment [BAW21]: Likely needs moved elsewhere

10 (c) ~~This procedure shall be repeated for each container, until the results~~
11 ~~from a polling place have been recounted, and then it shall be repeated until the~~
12 ~~results from all polling places in a town have been recounted, and then until the~~
13 ~~results from all towns have been recounted.~~

14 (d) ~~The~~ In the presence of the clerk observer team, the county clerk shall
15 add the totals on each summary sheet, affix the clerk's seal, and send the
16 summary sheets for all polling places together with the master list and any
17 ~~questionable~~ ballots containing questionable votes to the court by certified
18 mail, return receipt requested, or shall certify the results to the judge.

19 § 2602i. COSTS

20 Recount committee members and assistants designated by the county clerk
21 shall be paid by the State at the same per diem and mileage rates and according

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1 to the same procedures by which jurors are paid. These and other necessary
2 expenses, as approved by the court, shall be paid by the State through the
3 Court Administrator's Office. The Secretary of State shall reimburse the Court
4 Administrator's Office.

5 § 2602j. OTHER RULES FOR CONDUCTING THE RECOUNT

6 (a) The county clerk shall preserve order. If a person, after notice, is
7 persistently disorderly and refuses to withdraw from the premises, the county
8 clerk may cause the person to be removed from the premises.

9 (b) The county clerk shall designate an area within which the recount shall
10 take place. Persons who are not committee members shall be permitted to view
11 a recount in progress, but persons not authorized by the county clerk shall not
12 be permitted within the area designated by the county clerk.

13 (c) Candidates and their attorneys shall be given the opportunity to present
14 evidence to the court relating to the conduct of the recount. If the court
15 determines that any violations of recount procedures have occurred and that
16 they may have affected the outcome of the recount, a new recount shall be
17 ordered. After such hearings or arguments as may be indicated under the
18 circumstances, the Superior Court, within five working days, shall issue a
19 judgment, which shall supersede any certificate of election previously issued
20 and shall return to the county clerk questionable ballots which had been
21 forwarded to the court.

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1 § 2602k. AFTER THE RECOUNT

2 (a) If the recount results in a tie, the court shall order a recessed election to
3 be held, within three weeks of the recount, on a date set by the court. The only
4 candidates who shall appear on the ballot at the recessed election shall be those
5 who tied in the previous election. The recessed election shall be considered a
6 separate election for the purpose of voter registration under chapter 43 of this
7 title. If the recount confirms a tie as to any public question, no recessed
8 election shall be held, and the question shall be certified not to have passed.
9 Warnings for a recessed election shall be posted as required by subchapter 5 of
10 this chapter, except that the warnings shall be posted not less than 10 days
11 before the recessed election. The conduct of a recessed election shall be as
12 provided in this chapter for general elections.

13 (b) After the recount, the county clerk shall seal the ballots and other
14 materials back in the containers and store them in the county clerk's vault until
15 returned to the towns. The county clerk shall return all ballots to the respective
16 town clerks after issuance of the court's judgment, together with a copy of the
17 judgment. The respective town clerks or their designees shall transport the
18 ballots to the towns from which they came.

19 (c) The court shall send a certified copy of the judgment to the Secretary of
20 State.

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