

2026

National Association of Secretaries of State

Ohio Secretary Of State



EVA: AI for Election Administration



Ohio Secretary of State



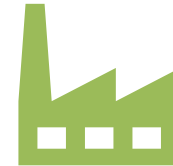
The Challenge



Rising complexity in
election administration



High expectations for
accuracy and speed



Limited capacity at the
state & local level



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Why?



Close the gap between policy and practice



Support local officials without adding risk



Explore AI deliberately—not reactively



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What Is EVA

AI-powered
reference assistant

Built only on official
election materials

Not legal advice, not
decision-making



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Governance & Guardrails

No open
internet
access

Narrow,
election-
specific
scope

Human
verification
required

Clear
escalation
to legal
authority



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Benefits to Election Officials



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Improves consistency
across jurisdictions

Saves staff time on
routine questions

Builds institutional
resilience

Access EVA



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Boards of Elections Application Portal

Logged in as:
cburnett
[Log Off]

[Portal Home](#)

[BMV](#)

[STEVE](#)

[NCOA](#)

[Data Quality](#)

[Confirmation Safeguard](#)

[Voter Query](#)

[Registration Audit
Dashboard](#)

[Absentee Ballot Request](#)

[BOE Directory](#) >

[CBTS](#)

[Precinct Election Officials](#) >

[Management Forms](#) >

Welcome to the Board of Elections Portal System. Please make

The Office of the Ohio Secretary of State has established the
BMV to download files of their county's SWVRD records that
STEVE to download monthly files of their county's SWVRD r
NCOA to download once per annum files of their county's SW



EVA

 Election Virtual Assistant 



Welcome to EVA - a beta-version chatbot designed to help you quickly search for information within the Ohio Election Official Manual and the current election calendar issued by the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State.

To better assist you, be as specific as possible with your questions. For example, when asking about an election deadline, specify the type of election (primary/general/special) and include the month and year.

Try one of these to get started:

What are the key deadlines for the May 2026 primary election?

How do I process a voter registration application?

Where can I find rules about poll worker training?

What's the process for handling provisional ballots?

How do I report unofficial election night results?

What are the ID requirements for voters?



 **IMPORTANT NOTICE:** EVA uses AI technology that may contain errors. Verify all information and don't rely on this tool as your only source. It does not provide legal advice - contact your county prosecutor for such needs. For election help, contact the Ohio Secretary of State's office or report issues to Help@OhioSoS.gov.

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What happens if an election contest ends in a tie?

If an election contest ends in a tie, the procedures differ depending on whether the tie occurs at the Official Canvass or during a recount:

- If the Official Canvass showed a tie and the recount also results in a tie, the candidate declared the winner by lot at the end of the Official Canvass remains the declared winner. The tie is not broken by lot again.
- If the Official Canvass did not show a tie but the recount results in a tie, the board must break the tie by lot during the recount. The method used to break the tie must be reported when submitting the amended results report.

Additionally, for tied candidate races at the Official Canvass, the board should have resolved the tie by lot before starting the recount. This tie-breaking by lot must be done in a public meeting with a board majority present. For ballot issues, a tie results in the failure of the issue by operation of law, as it did not receive a majority of affirmative votes. These procedures ensure a clear resolution of ties in candidate contests while respecting legal requirements. Based on official sources (Chapter 11. Pages 18-19; Chapter 10. Pages 31-32).

[Chapter 11: Post Election Activities](#)

[Chapter 10: Canvassing the Vote](#)

Asked and Answered

Other AI Ventures

**Ohio Election
Readiness Training
Institute**



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Cartoon and Human AI avatars



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Best Practices

Start small and
controlled

Lead with policy
and governance

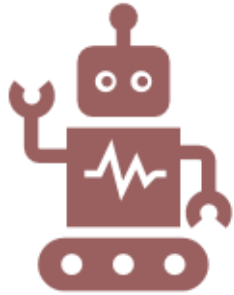
Earn trust before
expanding use
cases



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Final Thoughts



AI is inevitable.



Leadership decides the pace.



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