

DEAN C. LOGAN
Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK
July 8, 2008

Kenneth Aaron
Technical Observer for Protect California Ballots
1459 S. Rexford Dr.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90035

Dear Mr. Aaron:

This letter and the information provided herein is in response to your recent June 4, 2008 correspondence inquiring about the County's Microcomputer Tally System (MTS) software. As you know MTS is a County developed and owned election tally system, recently recertified by California Secretary of State Debra Bowen. Below please find information compiled in response to your inquiry.

After you participation in the June 3rd Statewide Direct Primary Pre-Election SHA-1 Hast Test, as a Technical Observer, you asked for a description of the various MTS software programs "for which the hast test was run". The table below provides a description for each of those programs. The first table lists tally programs and utilities, most of which you reference in your June 4th 2008 letter. The second table lists election configuration import programs and utilities, requested in your recent July 8, 2008 letter.

TABLE 1: MTS TALLY PROGRAMS AND UTILITIES

MTSTLY01 - DISPLAY TALLY WINDOWS ROUTINE
MTSTLY02 - MAIN TALLY PROGRAM
MTSTLY03 - PRINT PRESS BULLETIN ROUTINE
MTSTLY04 - PRINT LIST SUM ROUTINE
MTSTLY05 - CREATE & VERIFY CRC ROUTINE
MTSTLY07 - NETBIOS FUNCTIONS ROUTINE
MTSTLY08 - COMMUNICATOR PROGRAM
MTSTLY09 - TEST UTIL TO XMIT 1000 PRECINCTS TO SERVER
MTSTLY10 - CREATE REPORTING DATABASE FROM PRESS BULLETIN
MTSTLY11 - PRINT PRECINCTS REPORTING
MTSTLY12 - CREATE TXNS FROM PAF FILE
MTSTLY13 - NETBIOS ROUTINES USED BY TLY14 & TLY15
MTSTLY14 - VBM BY GROUP CARD TO DISK PROGRAM
MTSTLY15 - VBM BY GROUP SERVER & SORT PROGRAM
MTSTLY25 - BALLOT TO DISK PROGRAM
MTSTLY26 - VBM BY PRECINCT INTERFILING PROGRAM
MTSTLY30 - CREATE TEST PRECINCT HEADERS AND BALLOT IMAGES TO DISK
MTSTLY39 - CREATE TEST GROUP FILE WITH CONTESTS TO DISK
MTSTLY40 - CREATE OVER-UNDER REPORT
MTSTLY45 - UPDATE TEST BALLOT FILE FOR CROSS-OVER
MTSTLY50 - CREATE TEST 100% PRECINCT FILE TO DISK
MTSTLY55 - PRINT CONTEST COUNTERS FROM PRECINCT FILE

TABLE 2: MTS ELECTION CONFIGURATION IMPORT PROGRAMS AND UTILITIES

MTSCV001 - BUILD TPPF AND SIGNON FILES
MTSCV005 - CREATE LMIL, SIL, AND CPIB FILES
MTSCV010 - BUILD PRESS BULLETIN FILES

List of MTS Program Names Received 8 July 2008

MTSCV015 - BUILD PRECINCT ACCUMULATOR FILE
MTSCV020 - REPORT ENTRIES IN LMIL, SIL, CPIB AND TPPF FILES
MTSCV025 - LOCATE AND MARK REPORT-ONLY CONTESTS
MTSCV030 - PRINT A PRESS BULLETIN
MTSCV035 - CONVERT EBCDIC FILE TO ASCII FILE
MTSCV040 - UPDATE SIGNON FILE WITH RUN# AND SYSTEM#
MTSCV045 - PRINT A PRESS BULLETIN WITH ALL ZEROS
MTSCV050 - MARK CPIB RECORDS FOR CROSS-OVER VOTING CONTESTS
MTSCV055 - CREATE ADDITIONAL TEST BALLOTS FOR CROSS-OVER
PRIMARYS

In your correspondence you also asked why certain programs were not listed or omitted from the SHA-1 Hash Test. The following information is provided in response to these other questions.

1. "Additionally could you please inform me as to the apparent omission of programs in the series such as MTSTLY41, 42, 42, 44."

We are not aware of the source of your reference to the above mentioned programs. So, we were unable to reference you source for these specific programs. The above reference programs do not exist and as such would not appear in any of the documentation we have provided. Assuming that you may be inferring that the gap between MTSTLY 40 and MTSTLY 45 constitute an omission of programs, please note that the program names were named by the programmers and were not automatically generated in any strict sequential order. The numbers were skipped to clearly delineate one program from another and to prevent users from inadvertently launching a program due to an accidental key stroke (i.e., accidentally keying 5 instead of 6 is easier to do than key 30 instead of 25). The practice of skipping numbers did not always follow a base-5 sequence.

2. Additionally, please let me know why MTSTLY01 and MTSTLY13 were not included on the SHA 1 Hash. Also, why where none of the Election configuration import programs and utilities included on the SHA 1 Hash?

MTSTLY01 and MTSTLY13 are not executable files and the SHA 1 Hash test only looks at executable files. These two programs are object modules which provide input to the executable files.

The Hash is only for the tally programs, not for Election configuration programs and utilities – which only run before the official logic and accuracy testing begins. Once we complete our official logic and accuracy test, the hash test is scheduled for our tally system.

I hope that the information provided helps to answer your questions. If you should have any questions regarding the information provided please contact me at (562) 462-2721 or via email at eescobedo@rrcc.lacounty.gov.

Mr. Aaron, I would also like to thank you for your participation in the election's process as a technical observer. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with our citizens in ensuring an open and transparent election process.

Sincerely,
Efrain Escobedo
Executive Liaison
Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk