



Susan Bysiewicz  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

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- NEWS RELEASE -

## **BYSIEWICZ REPORTS OPTICAL SCAN MACHINES WORKING WELL**

**ELECTION RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ON SECRETARY OF THE STATE'S WEBSITE  
THIS EVENING**

**Hartford:** Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz is reporting that Connecticut's first general election since lever voting machines were decertified in July 2007 is running smoothly with no major problems or complaints reported to her office.

One hundred and sixty-three towns are holding general elections today, with approximately two-thirds of those municipalities (more than 720 polling places) using optical scan voting machines for the first time.

"With just a few hours left until polls close, it is safe to say this new chapter in Connecticut history is off to a good start," said Secretary Bysiewicz. "Local Registrars of Voters and election workers across Connecticut deserve our thanks for helping to ensure that every vote is counted."

As of 5PM, The Secretary of the State's office is reporting that optical scan machines needed to be replaced with back-up machines at 18 polling places today. The reasons for replacing the machines varied and ranged from human error – a moderator dropping one of the voting tabulators – to a few mechanical problems occurring when wet ballots caused minor paper jams. In all cases, back-ups machines were quickly put in place and all voters were able to cast their ballots.

The Secretary of the State's office dispatched 5 rapid response election teams across Connecticut to help local election officials with potential problems. The teams visited dozens of towns and served as a vital liaison between town officials and the Secretary of the State's office.

Once the polls close at 8 PM the Secretary of the State's office will be equipped to receive official results for municipal top office from each town. Results, along with turnout statistics, will be immediately posted on the Secretary of the State's website: <http://www.sots.ct.gov/ElectionsServices/ElectionIndex.html>

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