



## Nevada Association of County Clerks and Election Officials

# Nevada Elections Myths & Facts

**Myth:** People who are ineligible or unregistered to vote are voting in elections.

**Facts:** There are processes to prevent ineligible voters from registering and voting.

- Voter registration forms are legal oaths. They require proof of identity and a signature, and the signature is clearly marked as an affirmation of American citizenship. If either proof of ID or a signature is missing on a registration form, or if the voter fails to check the box stating they are a citizen, the applicant will not receive a mail ballot and be barred from registering and voting.
- When voting by mail, voters are required to sign their ballot envelope and have it checked against the signatures on file in their voter registration, called “signature verification.” Election offices are legally required to notify voters when there is a signature discrepancy and provide a timeframe in which to correct the issue.
- *Lying about voter eligibility is a serious crime. Impersonating a voter at the polling place is a serious crime. And that’s why very few people try it.*

**Myth:** People can cast multiple ballots in the same election.

**Fact:** There are procedures in place to ensure one person, one vote.

- At the time a registered voter votes, whether in person or by mail, they are “checked in” as having voted in the State’s voter registration system. If that registered voter tries to vote again, whether in person or by mail ballot, the voter registration system flags them as having already voted and does not allow them to be checked in again.
- This same voter registration system is used to accept or reject mail ballots. If the voter has already voted in person and tries to turn in their mail ballot, the system will not accept it or allow the election official to move forward with tallying the ballot. The election official then sends the envelope for investigation as *attempting* to vote twice is a serious crime.

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**Myth: Election officials are ignoring the laws about proper procedure for counting ballots.**

**Fact: Election officials are subject to rigorous state laws in every county throughout Nevada, and processes are in place to ensure compliance with the law.**

- **Counting ballots is a process laid out in NRS 293 and NAC 293. These laws and regulations are clear on when and how Nevada election officials are allowed to signature verify, deconstruct, and count mail ballots. The law also identifies that this process is to be overseen by a bi-partisan team.**
- **This process is open to being observed by the public. There are multiple counties that livestream this process to be as transparent as possible in the process.**

**Myth: Election officials are counting ballots that should not be counted.**

**Fact: All ballots that should be counted are included in the count, and only ballots that should be counted are included in the count.**

- **There are many checks and balances in place that make it implausible to “slip-in” extra votes. Election officials audit the amount of registered voters that turn in ballots or vote in person to the amount of votes cast daily during each election cycle. This audit is done daily to ensure that each vote is allocated correctly. *The amount of registered voters that have voted and the number of votes cast are tracked in two separate systems and the numbers from each system must match daily in order to properly account for each vote.***

**Myth: Election officials are conducting ballot counting behind closed doors.**

**Fact: Ballot handling, processing, and counting are subject to public oversight and generate public records each step of the way. Observers from any political party can observe the ballot count.**

- **Election officials want to be transparent when it comes to all our election related processes. Many of the election officials have started livestreaming the ballot counting process to try and increase public trust.**
- **The process used to conduct ballot counting is set out by NRS and NAC.**

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**Myth: Election officials are adding unlawful ballots after the polls close.**

**Fact: By law, total ballot counts must equal the number of early voting ballots, Election Day ballots, and mail ballots received.**

- **It is vital to understand that part of the canvass process is ensuring that each vote cast is audited against the number of registered voters that voted. These numbers are in two different systems, the system that checks in the voters as having voted and the system that tallies the votes. Election officials audit these numbers daily as mail ballots start to be received and during Early Voting through Election Day for in person voting.**
- **There is an audit trail from each vote cast, even for those that voted in person. The voter confirms their votes on a paper audit trail that the election official uses to audit the votes that are tallied and provided as results.**

**Myth: Election Officials are keeping voters on the registration rolls forever and never do any maintenance to make sure our voter lists are clean.**

**Fact: List maintenance is done year-round, to include off election years.**

- **Election Officials do list maintenance year-round, to include off election years. They send letters to confirm addresses, especially when undeliverable mail is received such as mail ballots.**
- **However, list maintenance is overseen by Federal and State law and is a very long process, sometimes keeping voters that are inactive on the rolls for up to four years before Election Officials can remove them.**

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