



ILLINOIS BALLOT INTEGRITY PROJECT

NEWS RELEASE

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Don't Vote Early, Don't Vote Absentee, Don't Vote by Touch Screen How to protect your votes from going AWOL

Chicago -- The **Illinois Ballot Integrity Project** offers this advice to voters:

- 1) Vote on paper, not on a touch-screen.
- 2) Vote in person, not by mail.
- 3) Vote on election day, not earlier.
- 4) Report election abuses. (See hotline list at www.ballot-integrity.org/hotline.htm
Also, please publish your report at www.ballot-integrity.org/blog)

This will help protect your ballot from loss, damage, and alteration. The longer the time between the casting of your ballot and its counting, the more opportunities for mishaps to occur.

Touch-screen machines are particularly prone to malfunction. Though they are designed to produce a paper receipt for backup, this safeguard is deficient.

- Receipts rarely get used to audit the machine count.
- Most voters do not confirm their receipt.
- Many receipts turn out to be defective.
- Researchers have shown that, even if the receipts exactly match the machine's contents, both may be in error. See: www.cs.ucsb.edu/~seclab/projects/voting/

To protect your ballot from going AWOL, ask for a paper ballot on election day.

*The **Illinois Ballot Integrity Project** is a not-for-profit, non-partisan civic organization dedicated to the correction of election system deficiencies and to ensuring fair, accurate, and completely transparent elections.*

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