



**Snohomish County
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Agreement Reached on Tallying Electronic Ballots

An unusual coalition of parties reached agreement today on procedures for counting electronic votes in the upcoming statewide manual recount.

The parties to the agreement include the state Republican and Democratic Parties as well as the Rossi and Gregoire Campaigns. The parties also include the Office of Secretary of State and the counties of Snohomish, Yakima and Skamania.

Snohomish, Yakima and Skamania counties have electronic voting machines, although Skamania County did not use the machines in this election.

Snohomish County tallied 96,231 electronic ballots in the general election. Yakima County tallied 16,869 ballots in that election.

Under the agreement, all parties have agreed to procedures to be used for tallying electronic ballots in the statewide manual recount.

Under the agreement, Yakima and Snohomish counties will retrieve the cumulative results from the electronic ballots and enter them into a spread sheet for each voting device, then total those results and compare them with the machine recount.

All parties agree that these procedures are the equivalent of a manual recount of the electronic voting devices.

The process of entering data from the cumulative results tapes will be done openly and with the full participation of observers in Yakima and Snohomish Counties.