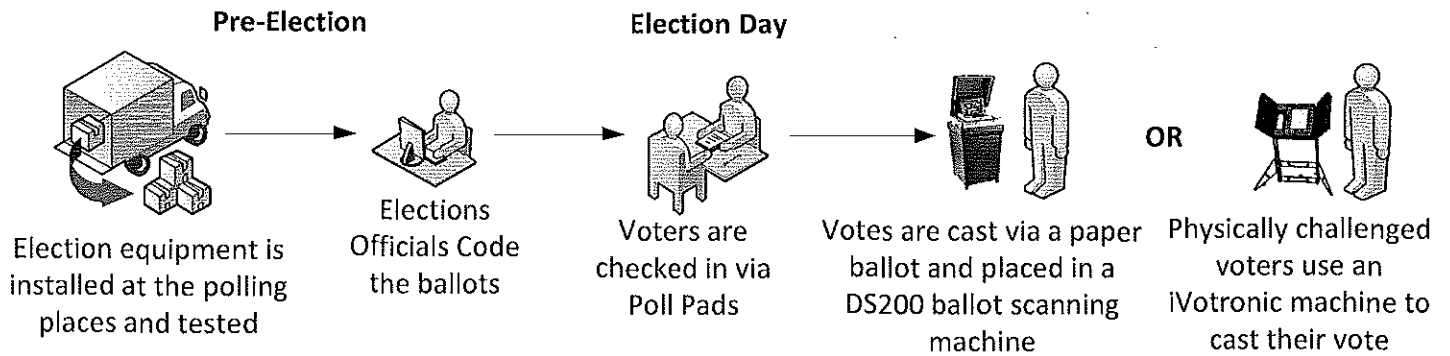**July 31, 2015**
Elections Technology

Mrs. Brady,

As requested, I've been working with the Elections IT staff to better understand the technology they use. The staff has been very helpful walking me through not only the technology but the processes they use to carry out Early Voting, Ballot by Mail, Tabulations, Elections and Reporting. A vast majority of the equipment is considered out of date and outside of today's technology standards. While some should be replaced, others simply need to have systems upgraded. From my time with them, I am comfortable making the recommendation that they require a comprehensive technology refresh.

The refresh would, in my professional opinion, need to include components from the entire Elections processes named above. This would ensure further success for Elections on multiple platforms. Aging equipment should be replaced to meet today's standards and their growing needs. Systems and equipment that allow for software updates and upgrades would be able to integrate with newer equipment, speed processing time and reduce the risk of data loss. Any current or future regulatory concerns being pushed from their governing agency should also be addressed.

While performing a refresh like this can be daunting, the benefits certainly would be seen immediately and would provide some long term cost savings. I would recommend setting forth a strategic plan or roadmap that identifies the specific components, and a timeline for planning purposes. If you require further assistance or information, please let me know and I will be happy to assist you.

Best Regards,
Ashley Mason
Atos-Lee County ITG
239-533-7378
masona@leegov.com

Election Day Process

Pre-Election

Election Day
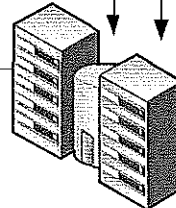
Election equipment is installed at the polling places and tested

Elections Officials Code the ballots

Voters are checked in via Poll Pads

Votes are cast via a paper ballot and placed in a DS200 ballot scanning machine

OR

Physically challenged voters use an iVotronic machine to cast their vote

Election Night
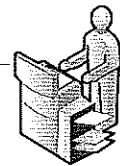**After the Polls Close**

DS200 machines are hooked up to a phone line to transmit data to the tabulation system at Elections HQ
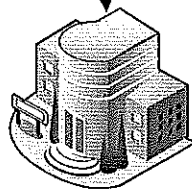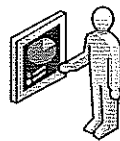
iVotronic machines are hooked up to a phone line to transmit data to the tabulation system at Elections HQ

Ballots by mail are scanned at HQ and submitted to the Tabulation system

Tabulation System
Elections Head Quarters

Once the tabulation is complete, the information is loaded to the SOE website and to the Florida Division of Elections