

Overseas Absentee Voting for the May 9, 2016 Elections

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Overseas Absentee Voting (OAV)

Process by which
qualified citizens of the
Philippines *abroad*
exercise their right to
vote

Elective Positions:

Who do you vote for?

President (1)

Vice-President
(1)

Senators
(maximum of
12)

Party-List
Representatives
(1)

Electorate: Who can vote?

Overseas Voters
(Land-Based)

Seafarers

Registered under
OAV

Listed in National
Registry of
Overseas Voters

Snapshot



58 Foreign Posts

1,376,067 Voters

30-day Voting Period (April 9 to May 9)

Voting Types

Personal (PeV) or Postal
Voting (PoV), and Mixed

Manual (ME) or Automated
Elections (AE)

Polling Center at Post or
Field Office

Overseas Voters/ Land-
Based or Seafarers

Vote-Counting Machine (VCM)



OAV Structure

Special Board of Election Inspectors (SBEI)

Special Board of Canvassers (SBoC)

Special Ballot Reception and Custody Group
(SBRCG)

Support Staff (SS)

OAV Structure

SBEI

- 3 (Chair, Poll Clerk and 3rd Member; if AE, 1 IT person)
- Public officers posted abroad
- ME: each for 4k voters (add'l for 500 ballots)
- AE: each for 10k voters
- Not related within 4th degree

SBoC

- 3
- Highest Ranking Officer as Chair, Senior Career Officer as Vice-Chair; Government Officer as Member
- Not related within 4th degree

SBRCG

- 3
- Additional if >40k voters
- Staff of Post
- Not related within 4th degree

SS

- 3
- Designated by Head of Post
- Not related within 4th degree
- AE: 1 VCM Technical staff

OAV Structure

SBEI

- AE: conduct voting, electronic counting and VCM testing
- ME-PeV: conduct voting and counting
- ME-PoV: conduct counting
- Print ERs
- Maintain Order
- Enforce lawful orders
- Call upon security force to take unruly person under custody

SBoC

- AE: Canvass and consolidate ERs using CCS, and transmit results
- ME: Manual Canvass
- Give copies of CoC to political parties and citizens' arm
- Keep order
- Enforce lawful orders
- Call upon security force to take unruly person under custody

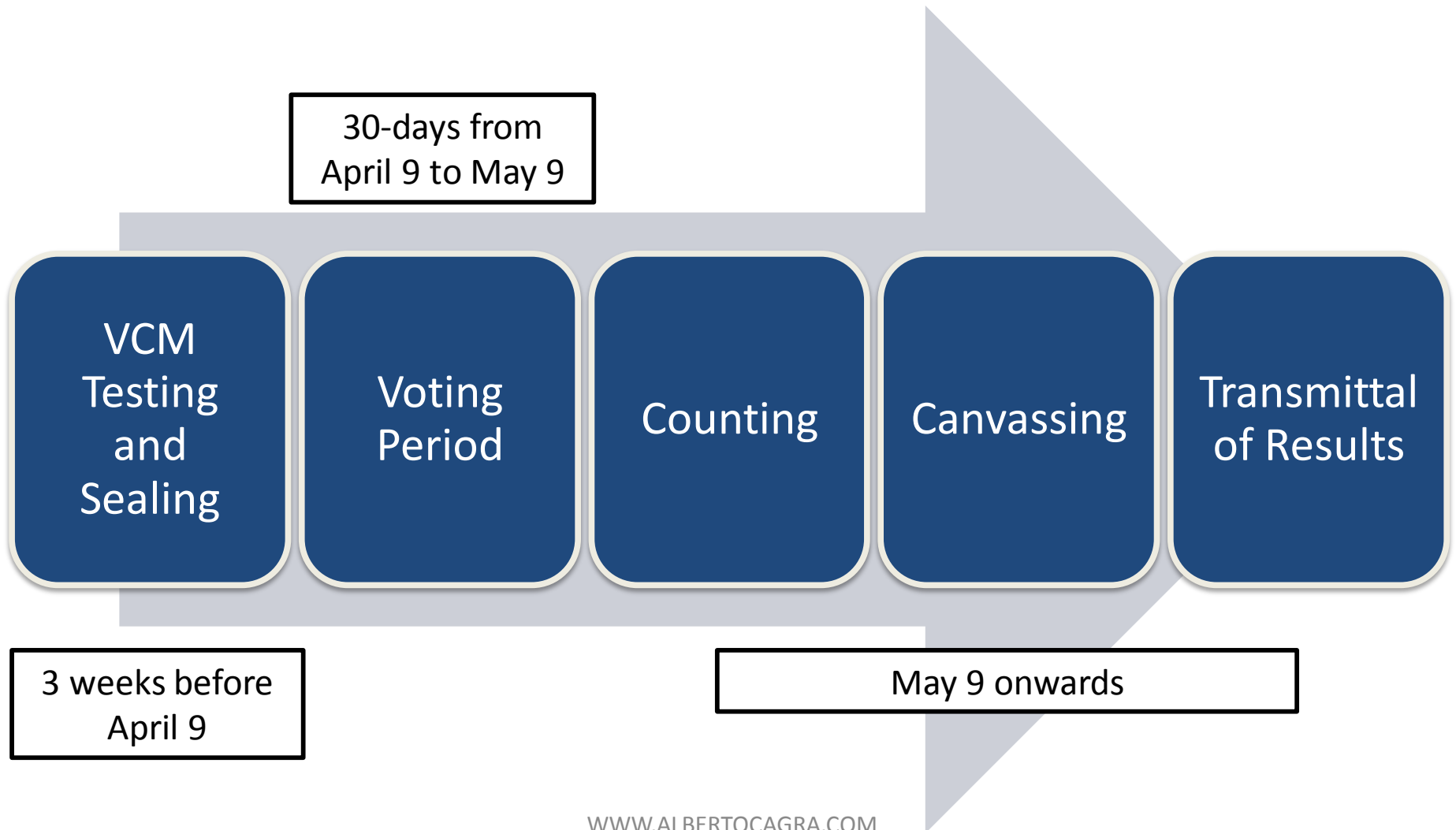
SBRCG

- Receive, verify and store all forms

SS

- Assist SBEI
- Assist Voters
- Assist in crowd control
- For AE: assisted by 1 IT person to serve as CCS Operator

Electoral Process



Voting Period

- April 9 (8:00 a.m.) to May 9 (7:00 p.m.)
- After April 9, flexible schedule may be adopted (not less than 8 hours)
- Voting may be conducted beyond voting hours depending on influx of voters
- VCM opened before 8:00 a.m. of May 9
- Beyond 7:00 p.m. of May 9, if voters within 30-meter radius (list down and called)
- Place of Voting: Designated Area at the Post or Field Offices

VCM Final Testing and Sealing

Period: 3 weeks before April 9

VCM Set-up and Diagnostics

Test Voting

Re-Zeroing of Election Results

Manual Verification of Results

Sealing of VCM

(1) Personal Voting

Before April 9, 2016

1. SBRCG shall:
 - a) issue List of Voters
 - b) allocate ballots to SBEI
 - c) issue IDs to SBEI
 - d) release Ballot Receptacle
2. SBEI shall:
 - a) inspect ballot receptacle
 - b) determine right quantity of ballots (= to number of voters)
 - c) seal Ballot Receptacle
 - d) position List of Voters in conspicuous place

(1) Personal Voting

Right Before 8:00 a.m. of April 9

1. SBRCG shall issue Ballot Receptacle to each SBEI
2. SBEI shall:
 - a) open Ballot Receptacle and examines contents
 - b) bring box of ballots to polling place
3. In the Polling Place, SBEI shall:
 - a) record names of watchers
 - b) show VCM and empty ballot box
 - c) retrieve all election paraphernalia
 - d) log in using iButton
 - e) print Initialization Report
 - f) ready VCM to accept ballots

(1) Personal Voting

Voting Proper

1. Voters vote in the order of arrival
2. Voter approaches SBEI Poll Clerk
3. SBEI verifies Voter identity
4. If no challenge or challenged dismissed, Voter signs
5. SBEI Chair shall:
 - a) sign Ballot in space provided
 - b) give Ballot inside Secrecy Folder and Marking Pen to voter
6. Voter votes by shading oval across name of Candidate
7. Voter inserts Ballot in the VCM

(1) Personal Voting

8. Ballot is accepted or rejected (given another Ballot):
 - a) Misread Ballot (re-fed in 4 different orientations)
 - b) Previously Read Ballot (diverted to Bin for Rejected Ballot)
 - c) Invalid Ballot
9. Voter returns Secrecy Folder and Marking Pen
10. Voter departs
11. Illiterates and Persons with Disability can be assisted by relative within 4th degree, person of confidence or BEI
12. No premature announcement of status of voting

(1) Personal Voting

At the End of Each Voting Day (April 9 to May 8)

1. SBEI shall:
 - a) shutdown VCM
 - b) place all election paraphernalia inside receptacles
 - c) submit to SBRCG all election paraphernalia
2. SBRCG shall seal and secure materials

At the Start of every voting day after April 9 (April 10 to May 8)

SBEI shall:

1. adopt procedure similar to April 9
2. print Status Report
3. compare number of ballots with that stated in Status Report

(1) Personal Voting

Last Voting Day (7:00 p.m. of May 9)

1. If there are Voters within 30-meter radius, they will be allowed to vote (must fall in line, fill-up sheet and called)
2. SBEI shall close VCM using iButtons
3. VCM prints 8 ERs then 22 ERs
4. SBEI shall:
 - a) sign 8 ERs
 - b) shutdown VCM
 - c) place main and backup SD cards inside envelopes
 - d) post the ER
 - e) seal Ballot Box
 - f) tear unused ballots
 - g) submit to SBRCG all materials
 - h) transmit results to SBoC

(2) Modified Postal Voting

Preliminaries

1. SBRCG shall:
 - a) receive from Office for Overseas Voting all materials
 - b) make inventory
 - c) verify addresses of voters in mailing labels
 - d) call, email or contact through social media the voters (give option - appear at Post of receive via mail)
2. If voter requests voting by mail, SBRCG shall:
 - a) place 1 ballot inside envelope
 - b) write Ballot ID in envelope
 - c) place folded ballot (crosswise) inside envelope
 - d) send to voter via mail

(2) Modified Postal Voting

Ballot Reception

1. SBRCG shall:
 - a) segregate Valid, Invalid (correct envelope but no voter signature, different envelope and received late) and Questionable Ballots (spurious signature)
 - b) verify envelopes, signature and Ballot ID
 - c) close and seal each day

Feeding of Ballots to VCM (every Mondays and Thursdays 9:00 a.m.)

1. On 1st Monday, the SBEI shall:
 - a) check Ballot ID
 - b) adopt same procedure in Personal Voting
2. On Succeeding days:
 - a) adopt same procedure in Personal Voting
 - b) print Status Report
 - c) after feeding, shutdown VCM
 - d) remove SD cards

(2) Modified Postal Voting

***Last Day of Voting (7:00
p.m. of May 9)***

1. SBEI shall close VCM using iButtons
2. VCM prints 8 ERs then 22 ERs
3. SBEI shall:
 - a) sign 8 ERs
 - b) shutdown VCM
 - c) place main and backup SD cards inside envelopes
 - d) post the ER
 - e) seal Ballot Box
 - f) tear unused ballots
 - g) submit to SBRCG all materials
 - h) transmit results to SBoC

(3) Voting by Seafarers and Field Voting

Seafarers

1. Vote at any Post
2. Voting by SBEI for Seafarers
3. SBEI shall:
 - a) prepare list
 - b) email to Office of Overseas Voting
 - c) make updates

Field Voting

1. Host Government allows
2. Not compromise security and sanctity
3. Not disrupt voting at Posts
4. Conducted by SBEI and SBRCG
5. Use Personal or Postal Voting

Don'ts: Voting Rules

1. Votes together with another voter (except if illiterate/PWD)
2. Speaks with anyone
3. Intentionally tears ballot
4. Uses means to copy ballot
5. Prepares ballot without using secrecy folder
6. Brings ballot outside Post
7. Mingles with watchers
8. Exhibits ballot contents
9. Carries firearm
10. Conducts him/herself in disorderly behavior

Illegal Voter

1. Uses name of others
2. Votes when not a registered overseas voter
3. Votes when disqualified

[Can vote if SBEI satisfied with identity]

Illegal Acts

1. Sells vote
2. Makes or receives a promise to influence giving of withholding of vote
3. Bets on outcome

[Can vote if take oath]

Watchers

Number/ Qualifications

1. Every political party, candidate, citizens' arm and accredited OFW organizations
2. Only 1 at any given time
3. Qualifications: voter in Post and not related to BEI
4. If no space, priority to:
 - a) Dominant Majority Party
 - b) Dominant Minority Party
 - c) Accredited Citizens' Arm
 - d) Common Watcher for OFW Organizations
 - e) Common Watcher for Independent Candidates

Rights

1. Present credentials before SBEI
2. Witness SBEI proceedings
3. Take notes
4. Take photographs
5. File protests and obtain resolution thereof
6. Read ERs
7. Obtain Certificate of Votes
8. Get copies of ERs

Distribution of ERs under AE

<i>Copy</i>	<i>Recipient</i>
1 st	SBoC
2 nd	Congress (Senate President)
3 rd	Comelec
4 th	Citizens' Arm (unofficial count)
5 th	Dominant Majority Party
6 th	Dominant Minority Party
7 th	Posted on Wall
8 th	Ballot Box
9 th to 18 th	10 Major Political Parties
19 th to 22 nd	4 National Media Organizations

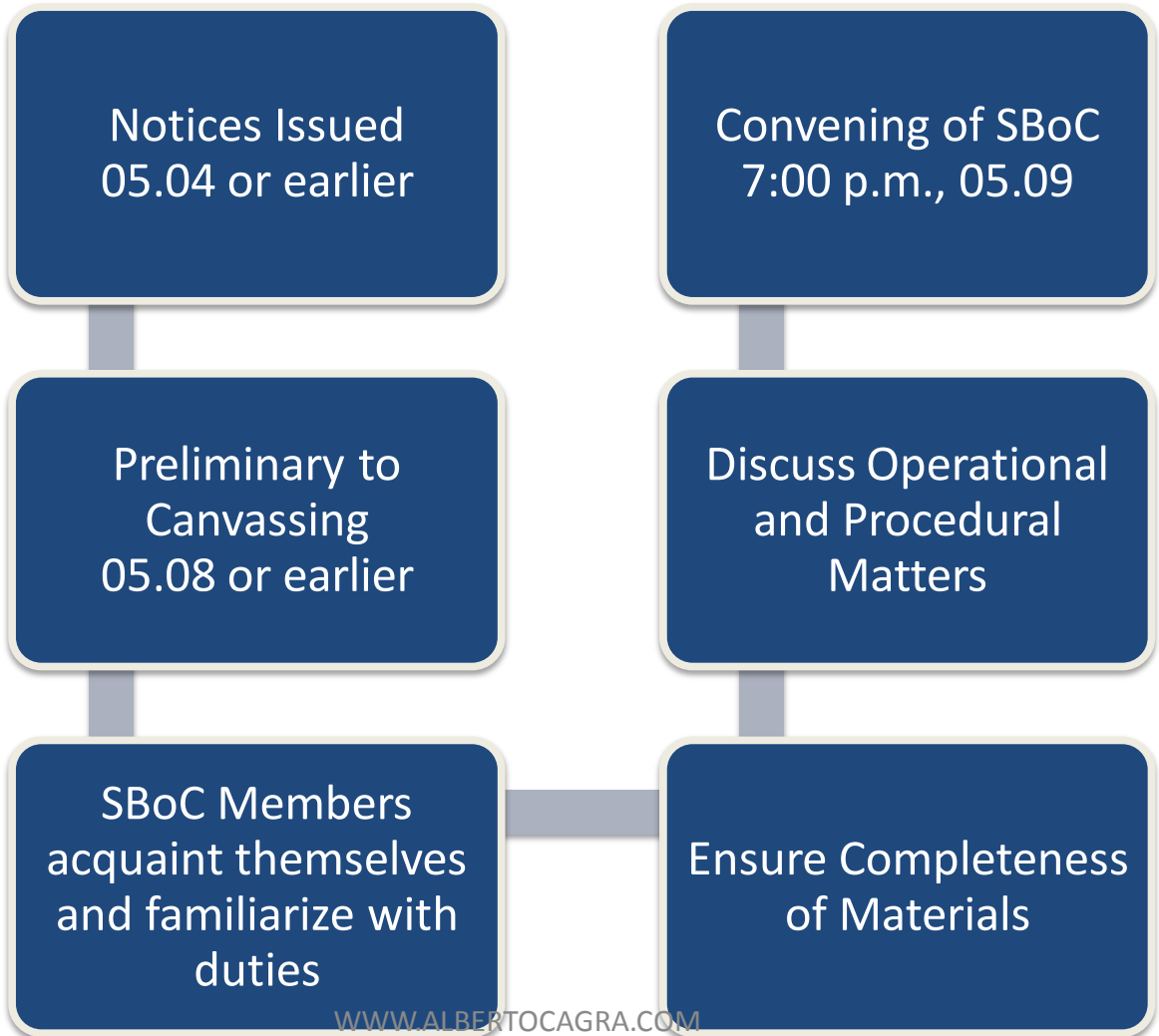
(4) Canvassing

Manual
System

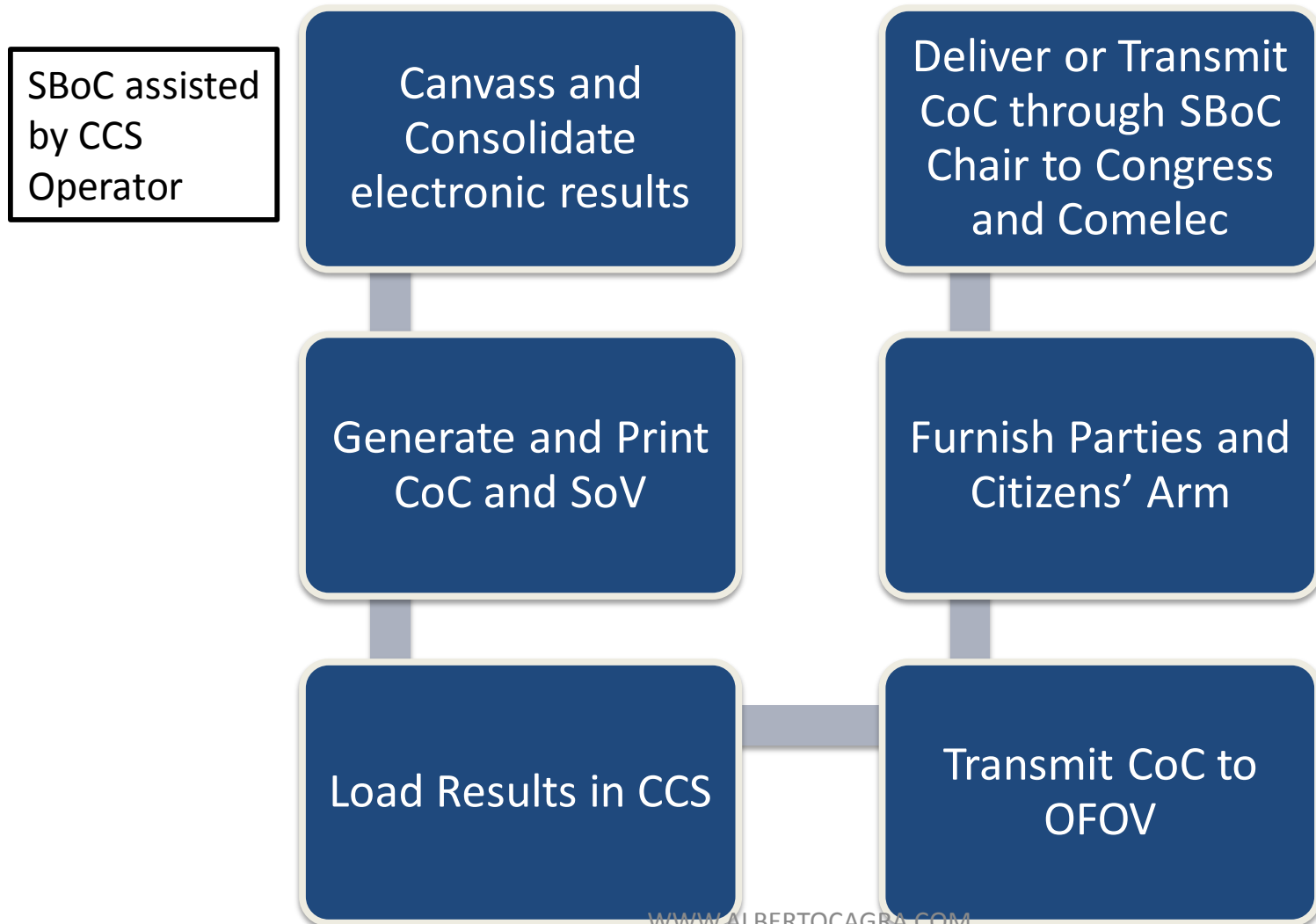
Automated
System

(4) Canvassing

Candidates
Political Parties
Party-List Orgs



(4.1) Automated Elections **Canvassing**



(4.2) Manual Canvassing

Before the Canvass

Presentation of
credentials of Counsels
and Watchers

Canvass Proper

The SBoC shall:

1. note Serial No. of SoV
2. receive ERs from SBEIs
3. exhibit to counsels/ watchers
4. break seal of envelope with ER
5. canvass the ER:
 - a) Chair reads
 - b) 2 Members enter votes in SoVs
6. indicate “Canvassed”

(4.2) Manual Canvassing

Canvass Proper

7. SBoC shall add, determine sub-totals and totals
8. Tabulators shall prepare Summary SoV
9. SBoC shall:
 - a) accomplish CoC
 - b) affix signatures and thumbmarks
 - c) require watchers to affix signature
10. SBOC Chair shall:
 - a) announce results
 - b) post CoC
 - c) attach SoV to CoC
 - d) place in envelope
 - e) transmit to Comelec
 - f) distribute copies of CoCs
 - g) return ERs for safekeeping

Manual Canvassing: **Objections**

Objections	Description	Recourse
ERs delayed, lost or destroyed		Use other copies (with Comelec authority)
ER contains Material Defects	Data omission	Call SBEI to supply data (recount ballots with Comelec authority)
ER Tampered or Falsified	or ER not authentic or prepared under duress	Use other copies (recount ballots with Comelec authority)
Discrepancies in ERs	Between votes in words and figures; Between votes and taras	Words prevail Taras prevail
Manifest Errors	ER tabulated >1x; 2 copies of same ER tabulated; Mistake in copying; ERs from non-existent tabulated; Mistake in addition	Correct errors (motu proprio or verified petition)
SBoC	Illegal Composition or Illegal Proceedings <small>WWW.ALBERTO CAGRA.COM</small>	Initiate directly with Comelec through the SBoC

CoC Distribution

Copy	Recipient
1 st	Congress (for canvass of P/ VP)
2 nd	Comelec (for canvass of Senators/ Plist)
3 rd	SBoC Chair
4 th	Posted on Wall
5 th	Citizens' Arm (for unofficial quick count)
6 th and 7 th	2 of the 6 Major Political Parties
8 th	Office of Overseas Voting, Comelec

Proclamation

Congress for
President
and Vice-
President

COMELEC en
banc for
Senators and
Party-List

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THANK YOU. MORE POWER.