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Ohio Secretary of State

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**DIRECTIVE 2016-47**

November 11, 2016

To: All County Boards of Elections  
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: Expedited Official Canvass & Certification of the November 8, 2016 General Election

**SUMMARY**

This Directive establishes an expedited timeline that all county boards of elections must follow when conducting and completing the official canvass and certifying the results of the November 8, 2016 General Election. Using an expedited timeline will enable boards of elections to finish the official canvass in a time frame that allows for completion of an automatic recount of any statewide election (in the event one is required<sup>1</sup>) in advance of the end-of-year holiday season.

This Directive supersedes only the timelines established by [Directive 2016-46](#). Boards must continue to follow all other procedures and instructions contained in [Directive 2016-46](#).

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Boards of elections may begin the official canvass of the November 8, 2016 General Election no earlier than the 11<sup>th</sup> day after the election, Saturday, November 19, 2016.
2. Each board of elections must determine the validity or invalidity of all provisional ballots no later than Monday, November 21, 2016.
3. **Each board of elections must complete its official canvass, certify its results, and submit all reports to the Secretary of State no later than 3 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, 2016.** This includes uploading, via the SOS County Submission System, an electronic precinct-level results file of votes cast for all candidates that appeared on the county's ballot (except write-in candidates). If your board completes its official canvass early, it can upload on Tuesday, November 22. A survey for boards to select a time to upload its results, as well as instructions for the upload, will be sent under separate cover.

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact the Secretary of State's elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,

  
Jon Husted

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3515.011, ¶3.