



EARLY BALLOT PROCESS/LIFE OF A BALLOT

1

Receiving

Bipartisan Teams collect Ballot Affidavit Return Envelopes from in-person voting locations, 24/7 Ballot Drop Boxes and the U.S. Postal Service in Tucson and bring them to the Ballot Processing Center.



U.S.P.S.



MAIL DROP OFF



SITE ISSUED



OFFICIAL BALLOT DROP BOX

2



Bipartisan Courier Teams

Ballot Affidavit Envelopes are picked up by couriers wearing safety vests and visible staff ID.

3



Received/Secured/Sorted

Bipartisan Teams sort the envelopes to prepare them for scanning. **The Recorder's office does not open Ballot Affidavit Envelopes.** The ballots remain sealed inside the envelope throughout the signature verification process.

4

Scanning

Ballot Affidavits are scanned and a unique bar code ties it to the voter's record. Once scanned, the system makes sure that only one affidavit is accepted per voter. Status updates are sent to voters via text and email to let them know we have their ballot. Updates are also available on the Voter Dashboard.



5



Signature Verification

Trained signature verifiers compare the signature on the Ballot Affidavit Envelope to signatures in the voter's record. If the first verifier cannot confirm the signature's authenticity, it is then reviewed by a more experienced staff member.



Second Checking

The second checker accepts the signature.

OR

If the signature still cannot be verified, the Ballot Affidavit is sent to the Ballot Curing Team.

Ballot Curing

Multiple attempts are made to contact voters to resolve problems with the signature. We reach out via postal mail, email, phone and text.*



6

Verified!

Once the signature is verified, status updates are sent to voters via text or email and posted to their Voter Dashboard.

7

Audit Scan

Envelopes are scanned again to separate the verified ones from those still being cured.



8

Physical Turnover

The audited Ballot Affidavit Envelopes are bundled and turned over to the Elections Department.

9



Tabulation

The Elections Department is responsible for opening the Ballot Affidavit Envelopes and removing and tabulating the ballots.

Though we work closely together, the **Recorder's Office** and the **Elections Department** are separate county offices and have different responsibilities.

Visit [Pima.vote](https://pima.vote) for more info!

*Ballots that are not verified are rejected. In the 2024 General Election, fewer than 0.29 percent of curable ballots were rejected for various reasons.