

## Signature verification committee

### 3. Signature verification committee [Sec. 87.027]

a. If a signature verification committee is appointed, the early voting clerk delivers jacket envelopes to the committee instead of the Board.

(1) May deliver only during hours of operation of the committee.

(2) Times of delivery must be scheduled in advance.

(3) Notice of time of delivery must be posted continuously for two days before delivery.

(4) Committee may also request other documentation with the voter's signature from the voter registrar.

(5) Committee may also request voter registration applications for purposes of comparison to determine if the signatures are those of the same person. Voter registration applications may be used to confirm that the signatures are those of the same person but may not be used to determine that the signatures are not those of the same person.

Note: When there is no signature verification committee, the Board is not limited to the voter registration application to confirm signatures. The Board may compare signatures with any two or more signatures of the voter made within the preceding six years and on file with the voter registrar. However, the Board is still prohibited from using the additional signatures to determine the signatures are not from the same person. [Sec. 87.041(c)]

#### b. Function of committee.

(1) Compares signatures on applications and corresponding carrier envelopes only to determine that the signatures on these documents are of the same person. [Sec. 87.027(i)]. The signature verification committee may use electronic copies of the mail ballot application and carrier envelope certificate for comparing signatures.

(2) Places carrier envelopes and applications that are the signatures of the same person in one container and those that are not of the same person in another separate container.

(3) Committee chair delivers sorted materials to the Board as directed by the presiding judge of the Board.

(4) If the signature verification committee has decided that the signatures are from the same person, the Board may not make a different determination. If the signature verification committee has decided that the signatures are not from the same person, the Board may make a determination that the signatures are of the same person by a majority vote of the Board. [Sec. 87.027(j)]

(5) A determination that signatures are not from the same person must be made by a majority vote of the committee or subcommittee as applicable. If the early voting clerk has designated subcommittees within the signature verification committee, the subcommittee makes its signature determinations by a majority vote of the subcommittee members. [Sec. 87.027(l)]

(6) The Board makes a determination if the signature verification committee cannot determine whether the signatures are made by the same person