

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

William M. Gardner
Secretary of State



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RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR RECOUNTS **RSA 660**

1. The Secretary of State will operate with two-person teams for recounting.
2. For each two-person team, each candidate may have one observer.
3. Each candidate will be informed as to how many two-person teams will be conducting his/her particular recount.
4. No observer will use pencil or pen while sitting at the recount table.
5. Observers are prohibited from touching the ballots.
6. One member of the two-person team will read the ballot declaring those legal votes apparent from the voter's marks. The second member will place a mark on his/her tally sheet for the candidate(s) receiving a vote. After all the ballots have been read, the totals for each candidate for the town or ward will be determined by adding the marks recorded.
7. If there is a challenge of any ballot, it must be made immediately and the Secretary of State will rule on such challenge. If that decision is protested, the Secretary of State will attach on the protested ballot a statement of fact.
8. The candidate who requested the recount may cancel same at any time during the procedure, at which time the Secretary of State will publicly announce the candidate's request to cancel the recount and that particular recount will cease at once.
9. Once a town or ward is to be recounted, it shall be completed by the particular team or teams involved before starting another precinct.
10. The Secretary of State will maintain a tally sheet showing the old and new figures and at the completion of a recount will announce the official winner based on the recount figures.
11. At the end of each recount, if the contestant wishes to appeal further, he/she may do so to the Ballot Law Commission under the terms of RSA 665:6.
12. NO SMOKING in recount areas.
13. NO CELL PHONES in recount areas.

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