I worked the absentee ballots in Bell country yesterday screening / verifying incoming ballots. In order to verify the state ID requirement instituted since the 2020 election, we were given access to four screens in the system used to manage registrations. From this I was able to determine a good deal about what data is really available relative to what we have been commonly able to obtain. I think this is significantly important. PLEASE take the time to read this even though some of it may sound like technical details. ALSO please forward to anybody else who may find this valuable.

1. The system used was not simply used in Bell but was a state system that was inferred to be managed by SoS office so <u>these observations should be common throughout the state</u>.
2. The basic search and display (in list form) functionality shows names, VUID, addresses, SSN, DL birth date (not just year), and registration date. <u>Take away point here is that SSN and DL are maintained as text format data fields</u>and vast majority of records have both listed. The minimum data would be last four of SSN. <u>From this finding ID's used for multiple registrations would be simple and literally take seconds to a couple minutes</u>.
3. From there the user (me in this case) has eight navigation options. The two most significant options that we used extensively were the signature option, which simply brought up a scanned image of the approved signature, and voter history option. The voter history option shows all changes to the voter registration record since it was created.
4. As a result of doing address searches to determine who may have assisted a voter in filling out an absentee ballot, I further determined that cancelled registrations that have been removed from the voter rolls that are published (to people like us) remain in the system with full history. It would be fairly simple to recreate the full voter participation history for any past election.
5. I encountered a few instances where the DL or state ID has changed and it wasn't updated in the system. From this and further discussions it was determined that there was no direct feed between DPS and the state election system.
6. The system was developed in ORACLE FORMS. We used this at work and several people who reported to me programmed in it. I didn't but have used comparable Microsoft interface development tools and am very familiar with features, look and feel, etc..
7. ORACLE FORMS was used to develop interfaces for client server database applications (not web interfaces). This was replaced principally with ORACL APEX using a web interface well over fifteen years ago. The fact that this is not a web interface of course makes it far more secure and should be considered to be a good thing. ORACLE FORMS must actually have client side software installed to use it and that largely isn't even available anymore.
8. ORACLE FORMS is only shown as being compatible with ORACLE 12C and prior. Our ORACLE applications are at 19C which is about what you would find most commonly in industry. The point here is that not only can't the interface be readily changed, neither can the tables. It would be fairly difficult to even find anybody who could work with this and they would all be around my age (older).

As a final thought, if the other side (i.e. ERIC) has access to this and we don't we are really at a tremendous disadvantage. When I approach data problems like this, the first thing I do is to determine what data is available. After 18 months, I finally figured that out.

--Jim Pederson, TX

CoA rec'd 10/28/22 for posting in Library via Lori Gallagher, Texas