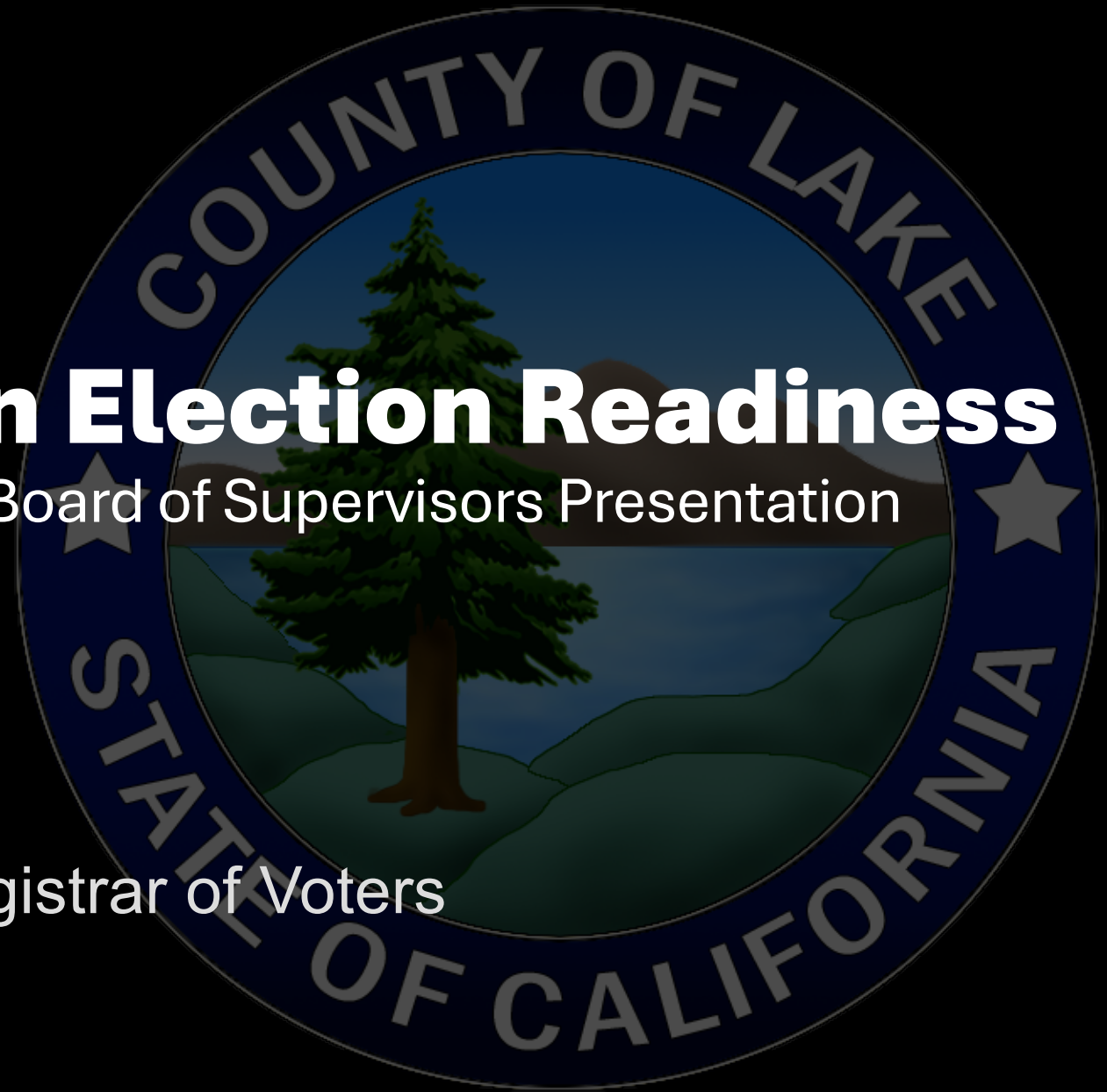# Investing in Election Readiness

Registrar of Voters - Board of Supervisors Presentation
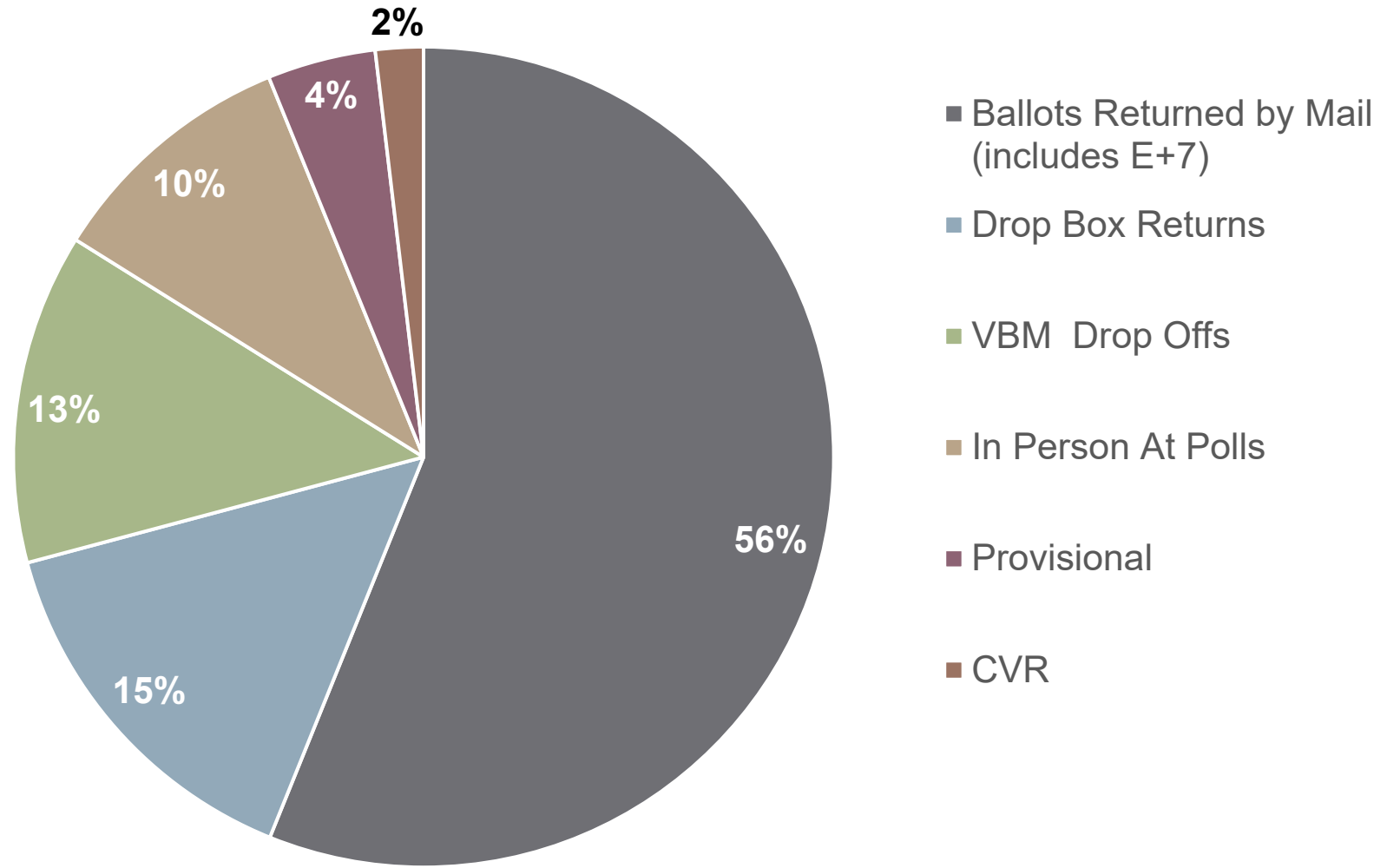
Maria Valadez, Registrar of Voters

May 13, 2025

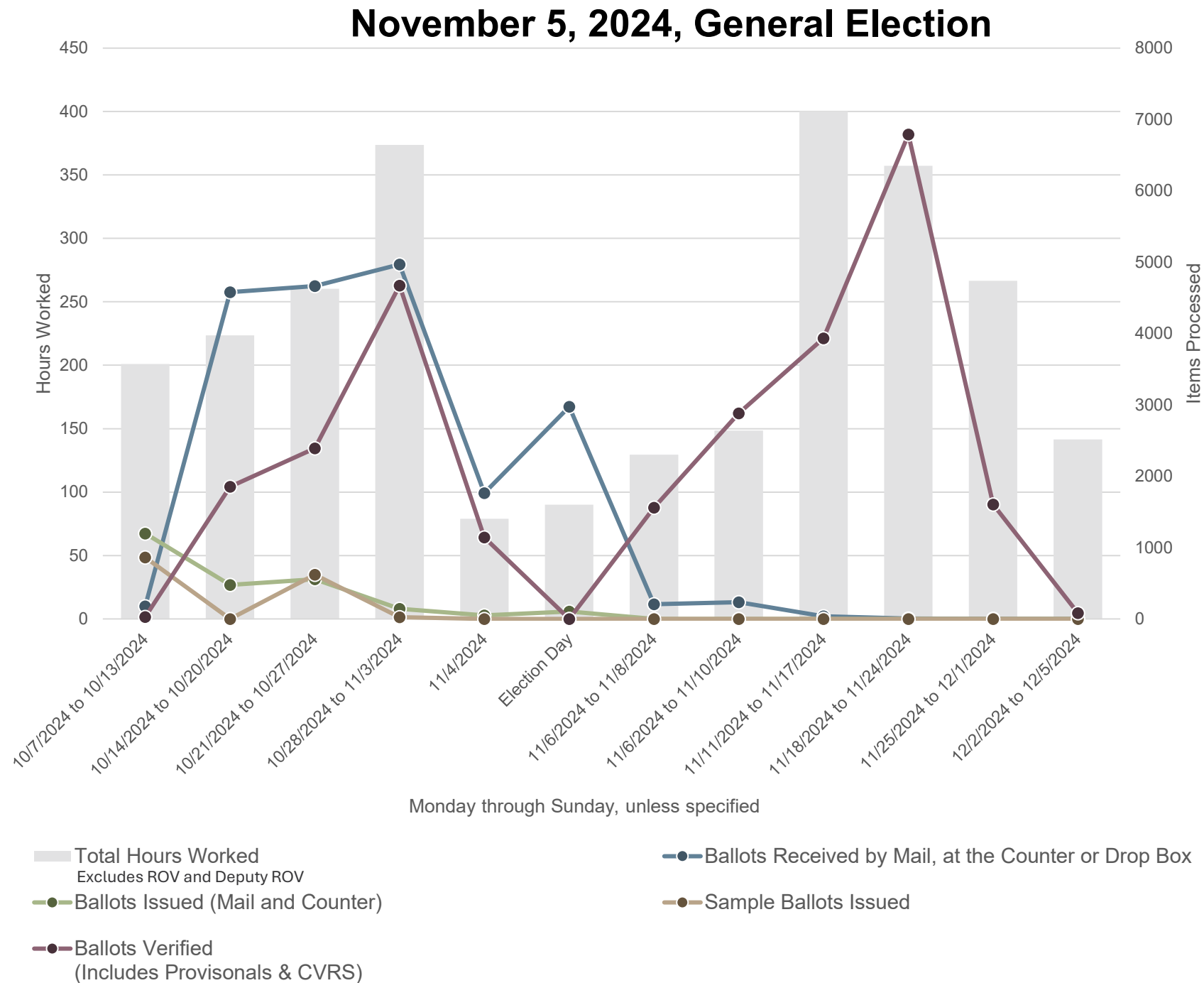# Meeting Expectations with Limited Resources

- Lake County must meet all state/federal election laws

- Certification deadline: 28 days

- Compliance with cybersecurity, ADA, language access, and more

Why We Are Here

Ballot Returns for November 5, 2024 General Election

- Ballots Returned by Mail (includes E+7) — 56%
- Drop Box Returns — 15%
- VBM Drop Offs — 13%
- In Person At Polls — 10%
- Provisional — 4%
- CVR — 2%

November 5, 2024, General Election

Why We Are Here

Hours Worked / Items Processed

Monday through Sunday, unless specified

- Total Hours Worked (Excludes ROV and Deputy ROV)
- Ballots Received by Mail, at the Counter or Drop Box
- Ballots Issued (Mail and Counter)
- Sample Ballots Issued
- Ballots Verified (Includes Provisonals & CVRS)

X-axis labels: 10/7/2024 to 10/13/2024, 10/14/2024 to 10/20/2024, 10/21/2024 to 10/27/2024, 10/28/2024 to 11/3/2024, 11/4/2024, Election Day, 11/6/2024 to 11/8/2024, 11/6/2024 to 11/10/2024, 11/11/2024 to 11/17/2024, 11/18/2024 to 11/24/2024, 11/25/2024 to 12/1/2024, 12/2/2024 to 12/5/2024

Same Rules, Different Resources

Our Legal Mandate

- Focused on speeding up post-election processing

- Four priorities: staffing, infrastructure, technology, and support

Targeted Investment to Accelerate Results

- Week after Election: Approximately 681 ballots processed

- Board interest: faster results, while complying with state certification timelines.

- Current system stretched to the limit

Priority 1: Accelerate the Canvass

- 1 Elections Technician (IT/GIS)

- Reclassify 1 Specialist to Analyst

- Add 6 Extra Help for canvass shift work

- Replace aging ballot scanner

Structural Stability

Priority 2: Staff Structure that Works

- Add 1 Elections Manager

- Add 0.5 FTE Elections Specialist

Priority 3: Space and Tools to Keep Up

- Signature verification system (up to 20% faster VBM processing)

- Facility expansion (to 4,000 sq. ft.)

Priority 4: Keep Operations Moving

- Department-owned van (accessibility surveys, ballot transport)

- Begin planning for modernization of EIMS and voting system

A Sustainable Path Forward

Conclusion

- The tools to increase capacity

- Builds a more resilient responsive election office

- Equips us to protect and strengthen public trust

Questions?