

A black and white, halftone-style image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes waving. The flag is the background for the entire page.

***“JUDGES’ TRAINING TO GO . . . TRAINING  
VIDEOS PROVIDED ON PALM PILOTS”***

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## Elections Office

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### Judges training to go...

What could be better suited for a society full of sights and colors, a society constantly on the move, than an audiovisual election training session that can be taken with you wherever you go? An actual training session that can be viewed while you are getting your hair done, or waiting for the doctor, or yes, even right at the polls. Imagine, all the fun and excitement of watching and listening to your favorite training instructor go over all the exciting details on keys, seals, voter cards, memory cards and qualifying the voter. Wow, I can't wait to watch it again!

Seriously, we have taken the relatively new concept of providing an election day judges information tool in the form of a Palm Pilot and expanded it to include the ability to view and review various election judge training videos. Our first video involved a step by step audio visual presentation on opening the touch screens on election morning, proper usage through out the day, burning the voter card, the provisional voter card, and the closing of the polls at the end of the day. We plan on expanding the video to include qualifying the voter, provisional voters and any other topic we feel could be of use to the judges while performing their duties.

Working in collaboration with the vendor of the initial product, Election Administrators "the Palm Pilot software application, the Election Assistant(tm)", we have produced a video in house, containing exactly what we felt was of greatest importance to our judges to help understand the role the touch screens will now assume at our polling site. Copies of the video were provided on a DVD for poll workers to view in groups or individually and on a compressed file that is "hot synced" to the Palm Pilot for those that did not have a DVD player. The video, Palm Pilot and written instructions for all aspects of the judges and clerks duties are provided in advance of Election Day to allow every opportunity to prepare.

Adding this valuable tool allowed us to dramatically increase our training time, break the training down into small groups or individuals and not have to schedule any more training classes. It greatly reduced the stress and overtime required by the staff during an already hectic period and reduced the amount of money required to pay election officials to attend class.

Did it work? After our first election with the training on the Palm Pilot we were very impressed by the favorable response and the increase in understanding of the procedures described in the video. Being able to view the instructions slowly and clearly, as many times as needed has proven to be the right way to go.