

David  
Benson

**CACHE COUNTY CLERK/AUDITOR**  
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Friday, February 16, 2024

**RE: Clerk/Auditor December 2023 Requested CCAO Investigation Complete**

Dear Cache County Constituents:

Having just received confirmation that the investigation I requested into my office has been completed, I detail below the information I am currently able to share publically.

Late in the afternoon of Friday, December 08, 2023, elections staff from the Lieutenant Governor's Office (LGO) alerted me to a concern they had with documents dating back to the October 2023 Logic and Accuracy Test performed by my election staff. Upon review of those documents, I agreed with their assessment that the issue impacted neither the results of the September primary nor November general elections, but that it was a serious, if narrow, concern that needed to be vigorously pursued. I was thankful for their diligence in bringing this matter to my attention.

Following their recommendation, I consulted first thing the following Monday morning, December 11, 2023, with my own staff and the Cache County Director of Personnel Management. The Director concurred with me that the matter was a weighty one, and suggested we involve the Cache County Attorney's Office (CCAO), which I did later that morning.

Upon consulting with two CCAO representatives, I officially requested the CCAO perform an investigation into the matter on my behalf. In order to ensure the integrity, thoroughness, and rapidity of that effort, I placed two of my elections staff members on administrative leave and voluntarily recused myself from the Clerk/Auditor office until such time as the CCAO was confident we could return without any hint of interfering with or unduly hastening their investigation.

Necessarily deprived of three coworkers, myself and two elections employees, I authorized the remaining Clerk/Auditor staff to continue regular office operations, including the Hyrum and Logan City election recounts in December 2023 and candidate filings in January 2024. They received generous support from other County officials, neighboring municipal election officials, local volunteers, and staff from the LGO. I am extremely grateful for all those who were willing to assist my office in our moment of need!

On Thursday, December 28, 2023, with feedback from the Director of Personnel Management and the CCOA, one elections staff member – an Office Specialist I with the County Clerk/Auditor's office – was removed from administrative leave and returned to work effective 8:00am.

On Friday, January 05, 2024, I spoke by telephone with the Director of Personnel Management and the CCAO who both assured me that the investigation was nearing its close and that my immediate return to the Clerk/Auditor office would be appropriate. I did so the following Monday morning, January 08, 2024, effective 8:00am.

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On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 3:30pm, the Lieutenant Governor’s elections team presented the results of their Review into the 2023 Cache County Elections in person at a public workshop of the Cache County Council. A full video recording of their comments and my response may be viewed at the link provided here: [https://www.cachecounty.org/county council/county council/video.html?mtg\\_id=8433](https://www.cachecounty.org/county council/county council/video.html?mtg_id=8433). My formal, written Response is linked here: <https://www.cachecounty.org/deptnews.html?d=2004>.

Although it was separate research performed by a different organization, the Review did reveal that my office had presented the LGO “...with a falsified report” related to the October 2023 Logic and Accuracy Test mentioned above. This was the grave concern that the LGO elections staff had reported to me back on December 08, 2023, and which had prompted me to request the investigation at that time.

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, while still on administrative leave, the other elections staff member – an Elections Coordinator with the County Clerk/Auditor’s office – resigned employment effective 5:00pm.

On Thursday, February 15, 2024, the CCAO informed me that they had completed my requested investigation, but that they had no further details to share with me.

In the spirit of transparency, I am committed to sharing any additional, unrestricted facts regarding this investigation as they may become available to me. I am equally committed to maintaining the confidentiality of any personal, private, or otherwise withheld information protected by law.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Benson", is written over a horizontal line.

David Benson  
Cache County Clerk/Auditor

cc: Cache County Council, Cache County Executive, Cache County Clerk/Auditor Staff