

County Clerk & Registrar of Voters, Shasta County CA

Robert N Rust III (00:01.8)

Welcome, viewers of the USA Citizens Network Group. I think you may know USA Citizens Network Group is an advocate of putting forth presentations, both in editorials and podcasts and any other means that we can reach the public to present to them individuals with significant credentials in their given fields to speak to subjects that are critically important to our society.

They range from the emerging movement to break back to the original physician-patient relationship, breaking off in the shackles of the hospital insurance system to significant educational areas in terms of what's happening in our schools all the way through to college and graduate school, but also from the very beginning, an abiding interest in election integrity.

And I'm Bob Rust. I'm an attorney and I'm a member of USA Citizens Network Group. Our guest is a well-known to us. This is, I think, our third interview with him. We have watched with amazement as he has progressed in the work that he's done and specifically in the area of election integrity. He's also moved geographically to Shasta County, California. And he's going to speak to us today about what he's doing there and how it can impact us. We're here in Eastern Pennsylvania, whether it be in Eastern Pennsylvania or back in Florida where he had been or wherever, he believes what's being done in Shasta County can have that kind of impact. Some of you already know Clint Curtis from our prior interviews. Number of you do not. So Clint, I want to ask you to give just a brief profile of yourself for those listening to the podcast.

Clint Curtis (02:18.285)

Well, for the new people, I was the programmer that wrote the prototype for the electronic voting machines way back in 99, 2000. And even when I wrote that code, there was code in it by request. So someone could go and actually pick who was going to win in any race they wanted to switch. So that was in there, testified before Congress, have been working on this for forever. And haven't been able to get rid of the machines here. We have in Germany and in the Netherlands and in other countries, but here people are dug in. Politicians are dug in on those machines. So now I have been appointed as the **election supervisor out in Shasta County, California**. The people out there are very motivated to get elections that they can trust as well as the board of supervisors doing the same thing. So you have three guys that...got me in there, Kevin Cry, Mr. Kelstrom and Mr. Harmon, and they appointed me, so I am in there and we are going to put an election together that will make sure that even if you're stuck with the machines, like we are in California, the election machines cannot modify the election at all where you can't trust it. So that's what I'm doing now.

Robert N Rust III (03:43.056)

Okay, just again to reinforce for the audience, particularly the new participants, what he said at the outset, really important. He actually did write the code that would allow through the electronic

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machines for elections to be manipulated. He's testified before Congress in that regard and he is, how many years you've been at this to try to get us back to where now Europe is? How many years you've been at it, Clint?

Clint Curtis (04:12.974)

Only 25. Just a quarter century.

Robert N Rust III (04:14.535)

I was going to, I was, you look too young for it to be 25 years, but I was going to cut you short to around 20. So 25 years working at this. And now he's landed into a key critical position. Tell us what you're doing in terms of how you can assure, even though the machines are being used, which we want to get rid of, but they're being used there. What are you doing to assure that the, election results can't be fooled with.

Clint Curtis (04:46.702)

Well, a little background, Shasta County voted to get rid of the machines and they were going to go full hand count. And within one week, the California legislature, and this is one little county in California, actually changed the law that they could not do that and had to use a machine. Does that make any sense? Well, makes no sense. So they're still fighting the fight though. They haven't given up. They're still in the game. So that's what I'm here for. And essentially what we're going to do.

Clint Curtis (05:15.114)

is we're going to take all the ballots that come in and nothing's going to be opened early, nothing to be counted early, everything's going to be sent back to the precinct. Only in the precinct after election day, which will simulate, you know, basically an election day vote because nothing's predetermined, it'll be open there and then it will be counted out on camera in stacks of 50. So the citizens will see every ballot and know exactly what's going on.

Robert N Rust III (05:23.431)

Okay.

Robert N Rust III (05:39.335)

Okay.

Clint Curtis (05:44.363)

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even before I see it. Although it's going to be live streamed and it's going to be recorded. They're all stacks of 50. They then come back to the election office because we can't use the tabulators at the actual precincts because if you use them there, it doesn't keep your batch numbers. So everything gets jumbled. And the more it's jumbled, the less likely it is that you can actually find out if something goes wrong. I think by design, but that's just me. So it's coming back.

Robert N Rust III (05:46.746)

Okay.

Clint Curtis (06:13.858)

We have cameras on these people. have trackers on these people. Nothing can be changed on the way back. But of course, that's not enough for me, right? So once it gets back, before it goes to the tabulators, we will be going through each stack again by batch, which you have now seen on the camera over there, and you're going to see the same 50. At least you better see the same 50 or something happened. And that will be counted again. That will then go through a tabulator, which will just tabulate those results.

So people will be able to see everything that goes on, just like the hand count is recorded, except it'd be a little faster because you won't be actually counting, you'll just be flipping through the ballast front and back. It'll go through the tabulator, then it comes out of the tabulator, and it goes to the next guy who hand counts those again, not really count, but you know, it just goes to 50 and then puts it back in the batch and zips it up. So you will know at the precinct where no one's been able to touch it, including the ROV because the ROV has

Robert N Rust III (07:13.255)

Excuse me for interrupting, what's the ROB?

Clint Curtis (07:16.794)

ROV, sorry, I used wrong term. In California, the supervisor elections is actually called the **register of voters**. That becomes the ROV. I usually am smart enough to take all those little acronyms and throw out, but I missed one. Rust-You're good. So the supervisor voters has kind of unlimited access into these things. And if they have no camera, they could basically stuff or change or make anything happen before the ballots ever get counted.

Robert N Rust III (07:24.634)

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Okay.

Robert N Rust III (07:30.193)

Right? Okay.

Robert N Rust III (07:37.638)

Okay.

Clint Curtis (07:46.253)

That can't happen the way I'm setting this up. And by the way, in California, ever since I wrote that, not a single ROV has ever lost an election. Isn't that odd? Not one. Ever. Just saying. So anyway, all of this information is in this room where I would have had complete access. They were actually just taking ballots that had been open and throwing them into these little bins by precinct number without

Clint Curtis (08:15.118)

any sort of procedure to actually, you know, monitor them or do anything. Of course, you have key code to get in the door, but I have a key. You know, it doesn't help. And the staff has a key. That doesn't help. Anything that wants to be changed can be changed. And I don't know that I have the only key, right? I don't know who has keys. All I know is they can go and change anything they want. The way we're doing it, you can't do any of that. Everything that comes in will be put in a box with four seals on it.

Clint Curtis (08:44.526)

That makes sure that as you add things, it's sealed, all that information is kept together, all the numbers are kept together, because in the last election, they had 2,700 more votes than voters. I guess those are spares. I don't know. So that happens all over the country. You would be surprised. This is not uncommon. But the way I am proposing and the way we're going to do it, you will not give out a

Robert N Rust III (09:00.967)

Oh my gosh. Well I know it does. Yes.

Clint Curtis (09:12.192)

another ballot until you get a spoiled ballot to go with it. So all these numbers will be accounted for at the precincts. So you won't have any things loose out there. Right now they take extra ballots. They don't know how many, they don't monitor how many they have, and they don't monitor how many they give out. They just take it in the day and say, that's what we have. Terrible way to do it. We're going to

account for everything. And you've got to because there's all sorts of ways to play with it at that level. But once you have recorded it, the public now has the ability

Clint Curtis (09:41.72)

to look at every vote and to count the votes themselves. I can't tell them.

Robert N Rust III (09:46.161)

When you say the public has that ability, how do you mean?

Clint Curtis (09:49.337)

because the video is out there for the people to look at. They will see every ballot as it's turned over. It's going to be live streamed, which you can't see it live stream because you can't count that fast. Although we have a special election coming up that may have just one race, a yes, no. So technically you could, but even still, you know, if you had a lot of races, you couldn't, but it's also recorded. So you'll be able to download that, put it, whatever speed you want to do it and use any hand count method you want. And you will probably know the

Clint Curtis (10:18.71)

election results before I do in the machine. But we should be able to do every bit of this election, which last time they did one took 29 days for them to complete.

Shasta County, we had some people here that were a little messed up and their ballots were all, in fact, they hand wrote almost 50 % of the ballots in private without the public able to see them. And in little bill rooms, duplicating ballots. Surprisingly enough, that happens too, all over the country. So that of course won't happen. Any duplication will be on camera. Everything will be watched.

Robert N Rust III (10:36.665)

Okay.

Clint Curtis (11:01.836)

The citizen will be able to retake their elections because they will see the results and know what they are immediately.

Robert N Rust III (11:09.201)

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So I take it, Clint, that this system, which you've described to us succinctly, is yours. You put it in place, is that right? And they brought you in to do just that.

Clint Curtis (11:21.122)

They brought me in just to fix this, yes.

Robert N Rust III (11:24.271)

We had, art's aware of this, not as dramatic a situation, but we had a supervisor in our township embezzled two and a half million dollars. That was the trigger that caused us to move from a, into a level one township where we had commissioners, we had cross-checks balances against each other.

Something similar sounds like what's happened there. was a real, somebody got caught, some good people got in place and they called you in. Am I correct?

Clint Curtis (12:00.238)

That is correct. He called me up and said, how about this one? And I said, I'm doing her.

Robert N Rust III (12:01.777)

Well, that is.

Robert N Rust III (12:07.663)

Yeah, yeah. And now I have a much better appreciation as to what you meant at the outset about what you're doing if duplicated here in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, in Fulton County at Georgia. It can be done, but you've got to, course, obviously have people that are willing, one, to bring somebody in like you and two, to bring in your system.

But for those that are looking, now they've got a model if I'm understanding you correctly.

Clint Curtis (12:40.782)

And there they have it. They don't have to get rid of their machines. Although later on when they find out you can't really have them do what you want them to do anymore, now they are actually counting ballots that has three checks on it, they may not be as unwilling to get rid of them.

Robert N Rust III (12:55.12)

Right?

Right? to spend the money on them. Yes, I agree. Okay. All right. Well, let's take it a step further. I mean, I know you have an amazing ability to handle many things at one time. You look great, healthy. Doesn't look like the strain is too much on you. I, okay, I don't need to ask. So if we release this and say to,

Clint Curtis (13:20.846)

No strain here.

Robert N Rust III (13:27.077)

I'm just talking Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware. Folks listening to this, you can reach Clint Curtis by way of what's being showed on our screen and he'll be happy to talk with you about how you could duplicate his system. Am I overstating that?

Clint Curtis (13:49.337)

Not at all. It's very simple. It doesn't require them to change any of their real policies because you have to stack it anyway to send it to a tabulator. So the only thing they're doing is pre-stacking it and it happens to be on camera so that the citizens can actually see it.

Robert N Rust III (14:04.879)

But that's really important. yeah, I don't want to go too much further, but just have to say it's really important. Okay. Is there anything else about what you're doing there that you would like the audience to hear about? Did you have any problems in getting the system put into place? Did you use employees that were already there?

Did you have to get rid of some employees? What happened?

Clint Curtis (14:37.922)

we got rid of one. The one was basically in charge of the last election. And so she had screwed all this up and she was, they were really mean to observers because they really didn't want to be observed. And this is kind of common in a lot of areas because even if you're not doing anything wrong, you don't want to be watched. So I'm, it's a little bit of a push to try and

Robert N Rust III (14:51.025)

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Clint Curtis (15:06.742)

Let people understand that if you're doing elections, you're going to be watched. In fact, we're inviting people in and actually giving them, you know, little chairs where they can sit down and rest and watch everything. We'll have monitors up on every station so they'll be able to make sure that they're watching what's going on below. So they'll see the same thing that the public's seeing. And then we'll have a lounge area where we will have them so that more people can come in because you can't get 50 people behind one station.

Robert N Rust III (15:11.601)

Right.

Clint Curtis (15:36.153)

Just doesn't work. But so they can actually watch on the screen exactly what's going on as well. So and since it's going to be live streamed, I'll be able to write a little program that makes it so they can pick which station they want to watch while sitting there and do the little flow throughs. It's really pretty simple, you know, allows them to select which which station they want to watch at a time because it'll have a 40 inch screen in front of them. But you know, you can't see them all at same time. So.

Robert N Rust III (15:41.852)

Wow.

Clint Curtis (16:04.974)

And then we also are a big push is getting the observers treated nicely. They treated them terribly. In fact, they built this wall. Actually, it's like a fence that they put up to keep people back. And so they kind of locked him behind the fence so they couldn't really see anything. A fence with spikes on it, by the way, a little spike dense. So, you know, that wall is coming down. It's going to be like the Berlin wall. We're going to cut that baby and drop it. So they have to understand that the public owns these elections. Not the bureaucrats, not the politicians, you know, and if they don't like it, they should get out of the way and the public should take it over. And in my case, the public's going to be in charge. They will be able to see everything and know everything is going on. Of course, they have to be polite, but we always have to be polite, right?

Robert N Rust III (16:54.919)

Sure. Well, Clint, you touched a raw nerve, I think. We've got good people here in our county and the joining counties, but I know that they're very reticent to having observation. And I think what you just

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said is a mindset that they need to adopt. And I'd like you to say it again. Who should be, go ahead and say what you said just a minute ago.

Clint Curtis (17:23.23)

The Public owns these elections. Our purpose as the bureaucrat running this is simply to make it flow. We're making it flow so that the public can see it, so the public can understand it, and so the public trusts it. If you are holding an election right now and the public isn't happy with it, you do not have a successful election. I don't care if it's perfect for you. And I just went to one of these conferences where all the, you know...

Clint Curtis (17:51.471)

talking heads get together of all the counties. And it seems to me that they think that a successful election is one that they have finished. Doesn't matter if it's valid, doesn't matter if anybody cares or anybody thinks it was correct. If it's finished, they're happy. That is a completely bad mindset. The point is that the public can't see it and the public doesn't believe it, then it's not a good election.

Robert N Rust III (18:19.003)

That's well said. That's very well said, Clint.

Clint Curtis (18:22.734)

So fire those guys.

Robert N Rust III (18:24.455)

Well, that's the way I think we need your message needs to emanate and be across the country. And that kind of mindset needs to be adopted. It's not something that, as you know, because you've been at it 25 years, happens overnight. But every good thing starts locally and if it's in my judgment. And I think since we've been doing this, I have yet to see anything like what you've done that enables and affects anyone that is interested to whatever they have to do, whether it takes a year or two or four or five to rework their own mindsets and their own systems, they've now got a model. And they've got somebody they can turn to, to ask for advice. And that's going to kickstart, I think, a lot of things.

Clint Curtis (19:18.2)

Yes.

And it shouldn't take them long. And in fact, we don't want it to take into the next, you know, into the midterms. You kind of want this in place before the midterms. Otherwise, funky things could happen.

And if you're happy with the way things are going, they could be veered off course very easily. So we need to get this done fairly quickly. There's not a lot of cost. There's not a lot of effort. It's simply everything that you would normally do in the back room.

Clint Curtis (19:50.358)

you're now doing in camera.

Robert N Rust III (19:52.262)

Okay, so I'm taking what you just said. For somebody in Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania or Austin County, Virginia, you just said, look, it's really critical for the health of our society that we get this fixed as soon as we can. And you've got an opportunity to do that. And it's not gonna cost you a lot of money. It's clearly understandable, it's transparent, it puts the citizen where the citizen should be. You're saying to those folks in the counties that I just made up, give me a call.

Clint Curtis (20:28.206)

Give me a call. And you still get to keep your silly little machines for a while. Because they're not going to be able to affect anything. are after the fact. All your validation's already been done before it ever touches the machines. In fact, we're using Hart InterCivic, [a company that manufactures electronic voting] Hart InterCivic's one of the easier ones to get along with, found. But I don't know if you've heard of them.Hart InterCivic, you ever hear of that one? Nope. Hart InterCivic. They're big down in the Southwest, I guess, and I'm in Texas. Anyway.

Robert N Rust III (20:35.547)

Okay.

Robert N Rust III (20:49.862)

No, no.

Clint Curtis (20:57.474)

But I was talking with them and I was telling the procedure and they said, well, we're actually happy because unless someone manipulates our machine, it's going to count correctly. And with this system, you are showing that this count is correct. It's no more this guessing or thinking something's off or so it's validated here. It's validated before right before it goes to the machine and it's validated right after it comes out of the machine. So everything is perfect. They're just doing a little math for you.

Robert N Rust III (21:12.103)

All right.

Clint Curtis (21:27.438)

You know?

Robert N Rust III (21:28.593)

Well, again, you're making another very important point. I mean, just to reiterate, whether those counties I spoke to or any accounting, you don't have to work fuss with the battle of replacing the machines. What you have to do is put in a structure that enables to make that you can be assured that that tabulation is correct. And that doesn't cost a lot of money and can be done fairly quickly. So, yeah, that usually happens to me, Clint. Okay. I'm really quite impressed, Clint. I think you've done really something significant there. And I look forward to our getting this interview out to our people and then back to you so you can use it in any way you can. Plus, you know Art who's with us in

Robert N Rust III (22:29.287)

these programs. We're ready to help beyond this in any way we can as well. Let me ask you to give a departing message to those that are listening.

Clint Curtis (22:42.062)

Essentially, it's easy to do. It doesn't matter what vendor you're using because it validates before the vendor. You can get this done quickly and you can let people know that their elections are going to be fair. And that's all you really need to do to get rid of all the strife and all this argument and all this hatred that's basically come out so far. Real simple and you can actually maybe vote some of these people out of office that seem to be there forever. Wouldn't that be fun?

Robert N Rust III (23:11.367)

That would be an interesting task and a good one. Clint, thank you so much. And I'm really looking forward to seeing what comes out of this. And I wish you well. Godspeed, sir.

Clint Curtis (23:23.096)

Thank you, sir.

Thank you, bye bye.

Robert N Rust III (23:28.316)

With you well, God speed