

Man sworn into N.J. office is no longer winner after recount

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- [Ted Sherman | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com](#)

The results of a recount ordered in Monmouth County of four towns after a voting software problem that allowed some votes to be counted twice have yet to be completed. But in one local board of education race, a winner is no longer the winner, officials say.

Months after the election, the hand-recount of ballots in the Ocean Township school board contest gave Jeff Weinstein [a four-vote lead](#), 3,408 to 3,404, against Steve Clayton, according to the Monmouth County Clerk's office.

Clayton had been declared the winner over Weinstein after the election by a count of 3,523 to 3,503, and took his seat in the January reorganization.

The County Clerk, the Monmouth County Board of Elections, and Monmouth County Superintendent of Elections Office in a joint statement on Friday said that while the county and federal tallies would not be completed until all four towns' ballots were counted, the board had completed the Ocean Board of Education contest. It released the new results showing Weinstein had edged out Clayton in the recount of a six-person race where the top three won seats to the board.

Clayton had not opposed the recount.

The recount was ordered in Belmar, Fair Haven, Ocean Township and Tinton Falls after voting software issues allowed some votes to be counted twice, according to the Monmouth County Board of Elections and the Monmouth County Superintendent of Elections Office, which filed emergent applications for the process last month. There were [contested local elections](#) last year in all four municipalities.

The state Attorney General's Office [had gone to court](#) earlier asking for a full recount and recheck in the four towns over the software issue.

The elections were tabulated by the Election Systems and Software's election software. According to the county, EC&S's reinstallation of the software for Monmouth County in July 2022 led to the exclusion of a step that "allowed some votes to be counted twice."

Attorney General Matthew Platkin said his office's Division on Civil Rights has retained Peter Harvey, who was the state's attorney general from 2003 to 2006, [to lead an inquiry](#) into the voting irregularities.

<https://www.nj.com/politics/2023/02/man-sworn-into-nj-office-is-no-longer-winner-after-recount.html?outputType=amp>