

Arizona Secretary of State, Maricopa County, and Pima County

Use of Private, Nongovernmental Grant Monies and Maricopa County Voting System Procurement

The 3 entities used the monies for election-related purposes allowed by grantors; Maricopa County complied with procurement requirements to obtain new voting system and relied on system certifications, testing, and pilot deployment for security and technical analysis

Audit purpose

To audit financial and related information of private, nongovernmental grant monies used for Arizona's 2020 elections by the Arizona Secretary of State's Office (SOS), Maricopa County, and Pima County, and Maricopa County's procurement of its new voting system and security and technical analysis.

Key findings

The SOS:

- Spent \$5.0 million of \$5.1 million grant monies it received, primarily to combat misinformation and disinformation about the 2020 elections, and returned almost \$145,000 it did not spend to the grantor.

Maricopa County:

- Spent \$1.9 million of \$3.0 million grant monies it received for temporary staffing and other election-related uses and returned \$1.1 million it did not spend to the grantor.
- Formed an elections work group that recommended acquiring a new voting system in 2019 pointing to newer technology affording greater flexibility with ballot styles, streamlining the adjudication process, and performing the central count activities at a much faster rate.
- Complied with its procurement requirements for acquiring the Dominion voting system used in the 2020 elections and relied on federal and SOS certifications and conducted testing and pilot deployment for security and technical analysis.

Pima County:

- Spent all \$950,446 of grant monies it received for 2 uses—personnel costs for hazard pay and early voting sites.

Other counties:

- Seven other Arizona counties received a total of \$2.9 million from 1 private, nongovernmental grantor for the 2020 elections and reported they used \$1.8 million for various election-related purposes and returned \$0.5 million to the grantor.

Key recommendations

There were no recommendations for this report.