

Runbeck Election Services Develops the Nation's First Online Petition System

Runbeck Election Services and the City of Boulder aim to engage more voters through an online platform

Denver, Colorado (April, 2021) – [Runbeck Election Services](#) (Runbeck), an elections technology solutions company focused on delivering printing, equipment and software solutions, has successfully partnered with the City of Boulder to provide the nation's first online petition system. Boulder Direct Democracy Online (BDDO) utilizes Runbeck's innovative software Vocem® Online Petition System to allow petitions to be endorsed by registered voters.

The City of Boulder and Runbeck worked closely to develop BDDO which became accessible to nearly 80,000 of Boulder's registered voters on January 23, 2021. The system supports the electronic endorsement of municipal (non-charter) initiatives, referendums and recalls. Through BDDO, the City Clerk's office has increased their ability to enfranchise voters and have constituents more involved in the democratic process.

Vocem Online is a web-based application that includes an election office portal and a constituent portal. Jurisdictions have a central place to efficiently manage petitions. Registered voters use an online portal to endorse petitions from a computer or mobile device. The System validates an endorser through two-factor authentication, and then provides a simple one-click, secure methodology for endorsements.

Jeff Ellington, President and CEO of Runbeck explains, "We are excited to work cohesively on this groundbreaking software technology implementation. The result of this combined effort allows the voice of the voter to be heard on important ballot initiative efforts for the City of Boulder."

Runbeck initiated development of the Vocem Online Software so jurisdictions across the country could reach a larger proportion of constituents. Petitions traditionally are circulated and endorsed by gathering signatures door-to-door and at public locations by petition circulators. The online platform reduces and can potentially omit the massive amount of time and labor that petitions require for verification of endorsements.

More information on BDDO for Boulder registered voters can be found at <http://bit.ly/BoulderDirectDemocracyOnline> .

About Runbeck Election Services:

Since 1972, Runbeck Election Services has preserved the integrity of the American democratic process by partnering with cities, counties and states to provide a trusted election experience. They have developed cutting-edge equipment, software and print and mail solutions that are accurate, efficient and secure. Headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona, Runbeck Election Services leverages their five decades of experience to successfully innovate the election process for partners in over 20 states and more than one third of voters nationwide. As America's Election

Partner®, Runbeck Election Services is dedicated to defending democracy through innovation, integrity, teamwork and excellence. More information is available at Runbeck.net.

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Media Contacts:

Erica Fetherston

10 to 1 Public Relations

480-676-9141

erica@10to1pr.com

Josh Weiss

10 to 1 Public Relations

480-789-0743

josh@10to1pr.com

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