

two judges of election of opposite party affiliation are present, they shall open the envelope containing the keys to each voting machine and shall unlock the counter compartment and ascertain whether the tabulating devices are all set at zero (000), and whether the numbered seal on the operating lever is unbroken, and that the number thereon is identical with the number certified on the envelope containing the said keys. They shall also compare the number appearing on the dials of the exposed counter designed to register every consecutive operation of the machine, with the reading thereof noted on the said envelope containing said keys. They shall inspect the face of the machine to make sure that the proper ballot-labels are in the proper places, and that the machine is otherwise ready for use. If after such inspection the said judges shall find the machine to be in proper order, they shall sign a certificate to that effect, which shall be returned to the Supervisors of Elections with other equipment; and after signing such certificate they shall remove the metal seal on the operating lever at the time set for the opening of the polls, and said lever shall then be operated only by duly qualified voters for the purpose of registering their respective votes.

(c) The machine shall remain locked against voting until the polls are opened, and shall not be operated except by voters in voting. If any counter is found not to register zero (000), the judges of election shall immediately notify the custodian, or the Board of Supervisors of Elections, who shall, if practicable, adjust or cause the counters to be adjusted at zero (000); but, if it shall be found impracticable for the custodian or other person authorized by the said Board to arrive in time so to adjust such counters before the time set for opening the polls, the judges shall immediately make a written record of the designation or designating letter or number of each counter, together with the numbers registered thereon, hereinbelow called the initial number, and shall sign and post the same upon the wall of the polling-place, where it shall remain until the polls are closed; and, in filling out the return of the election, if the final number of such counter is greater than the initial number, the election officers shall subtract the initial number from the final number and enter the difference on the returns as the vote for the candidate or on the question represented by such counter; if the final number of such counter is less than the initial number, the judges of election shall add one thousand to the final number and shall subtract the initial number from the sum so ascertained, and shall enter upon the returns, as the vote for the candidate or on the question represented by such counter the final number plus one thousand less the initial number.