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General Comment

Section D of the EAVS contains 4 valuable questions about poll workers that ask about: the number of people who served, their ages, how many were new, and the difficulty of recruiting them.

However, the last of these items may have an unclear meaning to many election officials who complete the EAVS. The question asks how difficult it was to "obtain a sufficient number of poll workers" for the most recent election. To some officials, this question is probably interpreted literally as to whether they could find enough people to fill the needed poll worker roles. For other officials it might also imply that the poll workers identified were sufficient qualified or prepared. Difficulty in finding a "sufficient number" could happen because some individuals who apply are resistant to training, difficult to manage, lack needed skills, or disruptive.

To clarify these matters, it would be helpful to augment section D of the EAVS to ask about the factors that made it difficult to obtain poll workers. To help clarify the nature of this difficulty obtain persons to work the polls I recommend asking the following question in Section D.

- Which of the following were factors that made it difficult to obtain poll workers? Check all that apply.
 - o Not enough individuals willing to serve as poll workers
 - o Individuals not sufficiently qualified to serve as poll workers
 - o Individuals resistant to training
 - o Individuals overly partisan
 - o Other

