Citizens for Verifiable Voting

http://www.coloradovoter.net

December 4th, 2003
Boulder County Commissioners

In the news:

- 12/3/03 - Fox News: "Ohio Won't Make 2004 Deadline"

- 12/2/03 - NYTimes: "Hack the Vote"

- 11/21/03 - LATimes: "State tells Counties to Establish Paper Trail"

- 11/7/03 - Washington Times: "Court-ordered Probe into Breakdown of 10 New Touch-Screen Voting Machines"

Who We Are:

- Non-partisan, Unaffiliated, Ad hoc group of Concerned Boulder County Citizens

- Many Technology Professionals & Computer Programmers

- Participants in County Committee / Attended Vendor Finalist Demonstrations

- Extensive, Independent Public Process

Why We're Here:

- Citizens Learned of County's RFP Process

- National Concerns about Electronic Voting

- 1000s of Computer Researchers Nationwide Opposed (ACM)

- Need transparency and citizen oversight

- Citizens Concerned About Fair Elections and Voter Confidence

What We Want:

- ONE BALLOT: Voter Verifiable Hand-Marked Full-Text PAPER BALLOTS

- Suspend Purchase of ANY Vote Recording Direct Record Electronic (aka "DRE") Devices, Instead "Vote Markers"

- Set Positive Example for State of Colorado

Why This Can Be Done:

- HAVA: Title III Subtitle A Sec. 301.3(B)

  *"(B) satisfy the requirement of sub. (A) [accessibility] through the use of at least one direct recording electronic voting system **or other voting system** equipped for individuals with disabilities at each polling place;"*

- CO Sec. of State Extension Confirmation

- DoJ Ruling: October 10, 2003*... **paper record, which is not accessible** to sight-impaired voters but which allows sighted voters to confirm that their ballots accurately reflect their choices ... **would be consistent** with the Help America Vote Act and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act...*

- Additional Devices Nearing Certification

Why This Should Be Done:

- Paper Ballots = Voter Confidence

  Colorado Recount Law (1-10.5-108 "Method of Recount")

- Security & Verification Concerns

- Standards Not Yet Established (EAC, NIST)

- Colorado Sec. of State Recommendation

- Nationwide Precedents: CA, NY, NM, OH

How This Should Be Done:

- Today (2004): Voter Verifiable, Hand-Marked, Full Text Paper Ballots + Central Counting

- Tomorrow (2006): Paper Vote Marking & Verification Devices + Central Counting

- Random Sampling of Ballots Hand Counted to Verify Accuracy + Full-Disclosure of Any Voting System

CVV Member's Other Perspectives:

- Hand-Counting: Canada, France

- Open Source: Australia

- HR 2239 - Voter Confidence Act

- Alternative Voting - e.g. Instant Runoff Voting

- Our proposal ≈ meets ALL these challenges

What We're Not Saying:

- We're NOT Saying that Computers Have No Role in Elections:

  Vote-Marking & Verification Devices with ADA Support + Central Optical Scan

Summary:

- Single **PAPER** Ballot for Maximum Voter Confidence & Verification

- Vote *Marking & Verification* Machines, **NOT** Vote *Recording* Machines (NO "DRE"s)

- Confirm Extension and Voice Citizen Concerns to Colorado Secretary of State