Director's Office
PO Box 110017
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0017
907.465.4611 907.465.3203 FAX
elections@gov.state.ak.us

Regional Offices
Anchorage 907.522.8683
Fairbanks 907.451.2835
Juneau 907.465.3021
Nome 907.443.5285

STATE OF ALASKA
Division of Elections
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

ORIGINAL

February 28, 2006

State HAVA Funding Reports
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1225 New York Avenue, NW – Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Expenditure Narrative for Title I, Section 101
Reporting Period: January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005

Dear Election Assistance Commissioners:

The State of Alaska is pleased to submit this narrative report to document Alaska's use of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Title I, Section 101 funds during the 2005 calendar year. The associated SF269 report is enclosed with this letter.

The State of Alaska's 2005 expenditures have remained consistent with the activities described for the permissible use of funds in HAVA section 101(b). The State's use of the Title I funds continues to allow the Division of Elections to progress towards the goals established in the State Plan initially developed in 2003. Specifically, Title I funds were used to carry out the following activities in 2005:

COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER TITLE III

- Voter Verifiable Paper Trail: As stated in the State of Alaska's HAVA Plan, the 100 Touch Screen units that had been purchased in 2003 were shipped to Diebold in Canton, Ohio to retrofit the units with the voter verifiable paper trail function.
- Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities: To meet the requirement to have at least one fully accessible voting unit in every polling place, the Division ordered an additional 405 AccuVote Touch Screen units.

IMPROVEMENTS TO ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

- Accessibility Equipment Accommodations: As described Alaska's State Plan, the Division is in the process of acquiring additional storage space for the Touch Screen units. Heated and accessible storage space will be required for three of the regional offices. In 2005 the Division increased the space for the Fairbanks Regional Office in order to accommodate the additional Touch Screen units that will be necessary for the 2006 election cycle. This project entailed relocating two other State agencies to create the needed space. In addition to increased space requirements, shelving units and electrical modifications to the space were required to house and maintain the new Touch Screen units.

The Nome Regional Office was remodeled to increase the amount of available space and shelving units were purchased for their Touch Screen storage needs.

ORIGINAL

The Juneau Regional Office is currently working on acquiring additional leased space and shelving units to store their Touch Screen units.

- HAVA Conferences: The four Regional Election Supervisors traveled to the Director's Office in June to discuss the many HAVA related projects the Division is working to implement.

  Four members of the Division attended the Election Assistance Committee's February conference. In addition, the Election Program Manager attended the HAVA Summit held in La Jolla, California in June.

- In order to better serve Alaska's voters, in 2005 the Division of Elections began the process of establishing two new election offices in the fastest growing areas of the State. The new offices are scheduled to open in February and March of 2006.

- The Division has moved the absentee ballot program from the Director's Office in Juneau to a stand-alone office in Anchorage in response to the increased interest in this method of voting. The new Anchorage location will allow the Division the space necessary to more effectively process absentee ballot applications and will decrease the mail time for voters to receive their absentee ballots.

TRAINING ELECTION OFFICIALS, POLL WORKERS AND ELECTION VOLUNTEERS

- As described in the State's HAVA Plan, the State of Alaska believes election officials are critical to achieve an efficient, secure and reliable election process. Improving and implementing statewide training resources and procedures is an ongoing process. The four Election Supervisors have been working to create the new materials necessary for training on the new Touch Screen units. In addition, the Division of Elections has created a training assistant position for the election cycle for each of the four regional offices to assist in providing the required training for election workers.

ACCESSIBLE VOTING EQUIPMENT

- To meet the goal established in Alaska's HAVA plan, in 2005 the Division began the process of locating a vendor capable of providing shipping cases for the newly purchased Touch Screen units. Alaska's rugged rural environments require a shipping method that will protect the equipment and ensure its safe arrival in the polling locations. An Invitation to Bid has been issued and an award is expected soon.

POLLING PLACE ACCESSIBILITY

- In May the four Regional Election Supervisors and their Administrative Assistants met in Anchorage to attend accessibility training. A major project the Division accomplished in 2005 was planning, coordinating and implementing a plan to execute the polling place accessibility surveys throughout the State. The necessary supplies were purchased (digital cameras, tools, etc.) and Division staff from all of the four Regional Offices traveled to the polling place locations to conduct the surveys. The Division is currently examining potential solutions to the

accessibility issues identified in the surveys to either improve the existing location or find a more suitable facility.

ORIGINAL

ACCESSIBILITY

- In order to improve the Division's web site, a consultant was hired to review and modify the site to make it more user friendly in order to better serve Alaska's voters.

STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM

- In 2005 the Division of Elections issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit vendors capable of providing a new voter registration system for the State of Alaska. The system currently in place is outdated and difficult to maintain. The RFP Review Committee convened in Juneau before traveling to Anchorage to see demonstrations from the competing vendors. The Election Program Manager and two of the Regional Election Supervisors then traveled to California and Washington to review Diebold voter registration systems used in those states. A contract (using Title II funds) was awarded to Diebold and the Division has been working diligently toward an anticipated implementation date of May 1, 2006. In order to properly manage a project of this importance and magnitude the Division hired a HAVA Systems Coordinator (using Title II funds).

- As part of implementing the new voter registration system, staff from the Director's Office and the four Regional Elections Supervisors gathered in Anchorage for a two week Gap Analysis session with Diebold. This was necessary in order to determine the differences between the two systems and to plan how to successfully transition from the current system to the new one.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information on the work the State of Alaska has done and continues to do in order to meet the requirements of HAVA. Please let me know if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Loren D. Leman
Lieutenant Governor

Enclosure

ORIGINAL

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

(Short Form)

(Follow instructions on the back)

1. Federal Agency and Orgnaizational Element to Which Report is Submitted	2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned By Federal Agency	OMB Approval No.	Page	of
Election Assistance Committee	CFDA 39.011	0348-0038	1	1 pages

3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address, including ZIP code)

State of Alaska, Division of Elections, 240 Main Street, Suite 400, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0017

4. Employer Identification Number	5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number	6. Final Report	7. Basis
92-6001185	HAVAMINIMUM 3314	[ ] Yes [X] No	[ ] Cash [X] Accrual

8. Funding/Grant Period (See Instructions) From: (Month, Day, Year)	To: (Month, Day, Year)	9. Period Covered by this Report From: (Month, Day, Year)	To: (Month, Day, Year)
4/4/2003		1/1/2005	12/31/2005

10. Transactions	I Previously Reported	II This Period	III Cumulative
a. Total outlays	718,730	220,203	938,933
b. Recipient share of outlays	0	0	0
c. Federal share of outlays	718,730	220,203	938,933
d. Total unliquidated obligations			156,360
e. Recipient share of unliquidated obligations			0
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations			156,360
g. Total Federal share (Sum of lines c and f)			1,095,293
h. Total Federal funds authorized for this funding period			5,000,000
i. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (Line h minus line g)			3,904,707

11. Indirect Expense	a. Type of Rate (Place "X" in appropriate box)			
	[ ] Provisional	[ ] Predetermined	[ ] Final	[ ] Fixed
	b. Rate	c. Base	d. Total Amount	e. Federal Share

12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation.

The Division of Elections does not have an approved indirect cost rate. No indirect costs are included in these expenditures.

13. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete and that all outlays and unliquidated obligations are for the purposes set forth in the award documents.

Typed or Printed Name and Title	Telephone (Area code, number and extension)
Loren D. Leman, Lieutenant Governor	907-465-3520
Signature of Authorized Certifying Official: Loren D. Leman	Date Report Submitted: February 28, 2006

Previous Editions not Usable

Standard Form 269A (REV 4-88)