



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
1225 New York Ave. NW – Suite 1100
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EAC Statement Regarding Partisan Political Activities by Voting Machine Manufacturers and Testing Labs and their Employees

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Federally accredited test laboratories and certified voting machine systems play an important role in our nation's elections and public confidence in those elections. In the interests of maintaining public trust in the integrity and fairness of the election process, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission strongly encourages testing laboratories and voting equipment manufacturers to adopt policies that prohibit the organization and its employees from engaging in activities that may create the appearance of a conflict of interest or partisan bias.

The EAC strongly urges participants in our Voting System Testing and Certification Program to create strict ethics policies to prohibit activities that would create even the appearance of impropriety. We have a mutual responsibility to strengthen our nation's election process and Americans' trust in it.

Under EAC's new Voting System Testing and Certification Program, which became effective January 1, 2007, voting system manufacturers and testing laboratories must undergo a rigorous application process and meet specific criteria to earn federal certification or accreditation. Under the new program, approval or accreditation, if granted, carries a significant responsibility as the public places its trust in these organizations and their employees.

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