May 22, 2018

Brian Newby, Executive Director
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Pennsylvania Request for HAVA Election Security Funds

Dear Mr. Newby:

Since the bipartisan Presidential Commission on Election Administration issued its warning in 2014 about the “wearing out” of voting systems purchased after enactment of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), state and local jurisdictions across the Nation have wrestled with how and when to replace aging voting systems. The additional HAVA funds in the grant award is a positive step to enabling county and local jurisdictions to replace aging voting equipment before that equipment reaches the end of their useful life.

Please allow this letter to serve as certification that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement # PA18101001, for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA.

We further certify that we have reviewed and accept the terms of the award as specified in the Notice of Grant Award. Our UEI number is 797281698 and the signed Certification Regarding Lobbying is enclosed.

We are requesting $0.00 at this time. It is our intent to draw down Pennsylvania’s $13,476,156.00 grant award on an as needed basis over the next 24 months. We expect to examine and certify several additional voting systems in 2018 that have been examined and approved to VVSG 1.0 and employ a voter-verifiable paper record. Because the Department has informed counties that they must procure and implement voting systems that meet these qualifications prior to the 2020 General Primary, it is our expectation that Pennsylvania’s counties will begin procuring new voting systems as early as this Fall and no later than December 2019.

In the coming weeks, we will develop a program narrative and budget outlining the Department’s plan to distribute the grant award and matching funds to counties.
proportionally based on voter registration. The program narrative will define the mechanism for counties to request reimbursement for the purchase of qualified voting equipment. We will also describe the documentation the counties must submit to enable the Department to verify that the purchases fall within the limited scope of procuring qualified voting systems.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Jessica Myers, Deputy Director of Policy, at (717) 409-3245 or jessimyers@pa.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert Torres
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth

Enclosure

Cc. Mark Abbott, Director of Payments and Grants
Certification Regarding Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that: (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities,” in accordance with its instructions. (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

Robert Torres
NAME

Acting Secretary
TITLE

Pennsylvania Department of State
ORGANIZATION

Robert Torres
SIGNATURE

5/22/18
DATE

ii) Recipient integrity and performance matters. If the total Federal share of the Federal award may include more than $500,000 over the period of performance, the Federal awarding agency must include the term and condition available in Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters. See also 2 C.F.R. §200.113 Mandatory disclosures.