



U.S. Election Assistance Commission
Voting System Testing and Certification Division
1201 New York Ave., N.W. Ste. 300
Washington, DC 20005

February 7, 2012

Mr. Jack Cobb
Lab Director
Pro V&V
700 Boulevard South
Suite 102
Huntsville, AL 35802

Sent via e-mail

Dear Mr. Cobb,

This letter is to serve as the official invitation by the United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to Pro V&V to apply for accreditation under the EAC's Voting System Test Laboratory Accreditation Program. Pro V & V is hereby invited to apply for accreditation to test voting systems to the 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines promulgated by the EAC.

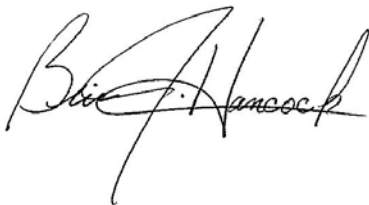
The EAC is mandated under Section 231 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) (42 U.S.C. §15371(b)) to "... provide for the certification, de-certification and re-certification of voting system hardware and software by accredited laboratories." As part of this process, HAVA requires the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to evaluate independent non-Federal test laboratories. NIST selects those laboratories technically qualified to test voting systems and recommends them to the EAC for accreditation. NIST utilizes its National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) to perform this evaluation. NIST has scheduled their initial review of Pro V&V's technical capabilities, procedures and personnel for the week of February 20, 2012. In order to streamline the laboratory accreditation process, EAC will conduct its preliminary Lab Assessment of Pro V&V later that same week. After NVLAP review, accreditation and recommendation to EAC, the EAC will review the

findings of its own assessment prior to recommending that the EAC Commissioners vote to accredit Pro V&V as an EAC Voting Systems Test Laboratory (VSTL). Please note that no such vote can take place without a quorum of EAC Commissioners.

Before Pro V&V may be accredited as an EAC VSTL, Pro V&V must provide information, agree to program requirements, and certify certain practices and conditions. EAC is the final authority for Voting System Test Laboratory Accreditation. While NIST's recommendation serves as a reliable indication of technical competency, the EAC must take additional steps to ensure that laboratory policies are in place regarding issues like conflict of interest, record maintenance, and financial stability. It must also ensure that the candidate laboratory is willing and capable to work with EAC in its Certification Program. To that end, the EAC requests, Pro V&V to submit a letter of application containing all information required by Section 3.4 of the EAC's *Voting System Test Laboratory Manual* (attached).

If you should have any questions regarding the requirements of the program manual or the accreditation process please feel free to contact the EAC at anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Hancock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Hancock" clearly legible.

Brian J. Hancock
Director,
Voting System Certification Program

Attachment: *EAC Voting System Test Laboratory Program Manual*