

**Testimony of Brian J. Hancock**  
**Director, Voting System Testing and Certification**  
**EAC Public Meeting**  
**October 7, 2008**

**EAC Staff Recommendation on Laboratory Accreditation**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 231(b) of the Help America Vote Act, on June 12, 2008, EAC received a recommendation from the Deputy Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to accredit CIBER Inc., of Huntsville, Alabama, under the EAC's Laboratory Accreditation Program. CIBER was recommended under a scope of accreditation allowing them to test voting systems to the 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines.

Before taking the HAVA mandated vote to accredit these labs, EAC contacted CIBER and required that they submit a letter of application to EAC, provide information, agree to program requirements and submit a signed certification of Laboratory Conditions and Practices. In addition the CIBER documentation has been reviewed according to the requirements outlined in Section 3.5 of the *EAC Laboratory Accreditation Program Manual*. CIBER has submitted all requested information, and the information has been reviewed by EAC staff and found to be complete and sufficient.

**Recommendation:**

Noting that CIBER has undergone a successful lab assessment from NIST/NVLAP of their technical and management capabilities, and have submitted all information required by the Election Assistance Commission, staff recommends that:

1. The Commission vote to accredit CIBER, Inc., of Huntsville, Alabama, as an EAC Voting System Test Laboratory (VSTL) pursuant to the requirements of Section 231(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.
2. The Commission causes EAC staff to forward to CIBER a certificate of accreditation as an EAC VSTL noting their scope of accreditation and their successful assessment by NVLAP.

3. The Commission cause EAC staff to post the certificate of accreditation, laboratory letter of application and signed certificate of conditions and practices on the EAC web site.
4. In light of the issues encountered by the EAC over the past 12-18 months resulting from inexperienced laboratories and lab test engineers, the Commission directs EAC staff to closely monitor the initial test engagement undertaken by CIBER through an on-sight testing observation and technical assessment pursuant to Section 4.5.2 of the EAC *Laboratory Accreditation Program Manual*.