



U. S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
1225 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC. 20005

January 11, 2007

Mr. Brian Phillips
President of Business Development and Company Manager
SysTest Labs
216 16th Street, Suite 700
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Phillips,

As you may know, a *New York Times* article has raised questions concerning perceived partisan activities undertaken by test labs or their employees. Irrespective of that article, we write this letter to urge SysTest to adopt a policy that prohibits the company and its employees from engaging in activities that may create the appearance of a conflict of interest or partisan bias.

We are pleased to have SysTest Labs as an EAC accredited Voting System Test Laboratory under our interim program. As an EAC accredited test laboratory, your organization plays an important role in our nation's elections. This role carries significant responsibility, as it requires the public to place its trust in SysTest and its employees. It is essential to the fair and open conduct of elections that the American people are confident in the process and those responsible for it. Therefore, the EAC requests that SysTest, and each of our laboratories, create strong, written policies that prohibit the company and its employees from engaging in activities that create even the appearance of conflict of interest or political bias.

We know you share our commitment to the election community and the American people. Therefore, we are confident that you will take appropriate steps regarding this request. Ultimately, even the most successful and competently run election can be deemed a failure if voters do not trust the process. If you have any questions, we are more than happy to discuss our concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Tom Wilkey
Executive Director