

**OUTLINE OF TESTIMONY TO BE PROVIDED AT THE  
AUGUST 23 EAC PUBLIC HEARING**

**RE:** Voluntary Voting System Guidelines  
**SUBMITTED BY:** Russ Ragsdale  
Clerk and Recorder  
City and County of Broomfield, Colorado  
**DATE SUBMITTED:** August 17, 2005

- I. Kudos and appreciation to the TGDC
  - a. Large volume of work
  - b. Short timeframe
  - c. Very thorough
- II. Focus of my testimony will be on
  - a. Voter usability
  - b. Vendor compliance
  - c. Local election official (emphasis)
- III. VVSG provides a great degree of focus on the voter
  - a. Usability for the voter
    - i. Section 2.2.7 Human Factors defines the issues very well
      1. one recommended addition – after the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point “Jurisdictions may change voting equipment, thus obviating whatever familiarity the voter might have acquired”, insert additional point “Given the mobility of today’s society, voters moving from one jurisdiction to another in states that have not adopted a single, uniform voting system, are often faced with different voting equipment”.
    - ii. Section 2.2.7 sets forth 3 broad principles that are fundamentals that should be at the forefront for all election administrators
    - iii. Accessibility for voters with disabilities
      1. Much emphasis on inclusion of all voters in the process
      2. Detailed and thorough
- IV. VVSG is to a large part directed at vendors and developers of election systems
  - a. Technical in nature
  - b. Sends a strong message that systems must be auditable, functions must be demonstrable and verifiable, systems must work.

- c. Allows for a two year period after adoption by the EAC for implementation.
  - i. HAVA requires an accessible means of voting in all polling places by January, 2006.
  - ii. These guidelines may not be in affect until 2008.
  - iii. This will compel local election officials to procure equipment that may be, in practical terms, immediately obsolete.
- V. Insufficient attention given to local election officials
  - a. LEO's will procure, implement, manage, and maintain these systems
  - b. The Human Factor needs to include and emphasize the role of LEO's
  - c. Sophisticated election equipment will be placed in jurisdictions that have little to no experience in administering computerized systems.
  - d. VVSG is technical in nature and not always easily comprehensible.
  - e. Recommend development of a practical guide to VVSG or "VVSG for Dummies."