STATE’S
EXHIBIT NO. 22
58% Worried About 2004 Voting Debacle

October 19, 2004—Fifty-eight percent (58%) of American voters are worried that another Florida-style mess could mar Election 2004. That includes 29% who are very worried about such a possibility.

Those figures represent a significant increase from the 44% who worried about such an outcome in June.

There are stark partisan differences on this question. A Rasmussen Reports survey found that 73% of Democrats are worried about a repeat debacle, including 42% who are very worried about such an outcome. Among Republicans, just 39% are worried about the possibility, including just 11% who are very worried.

Those not affiliated with either major party fall in between. Among unaffiliated voters, 60% are worried about another post-Election mess (including 32% who are very worried).

The survey also found that 56% believe that, generally speaking, elections are fair to voters. With one exception, this is the highest level of belief in electoral fairness we have found in surveys dating back to the mid-90s. At some points, belief in the fairness of elections have fallen to the low 40 percent range.

However, in all cases, the party losing the White House has less faith in elections than the victorious party. In the 1990s, Democrats tended to believe in the fairness of elections while Republicans were less convinced. Today, that has reversed. Eighty-one percent (81%) of Republican voters believe elections are fair to voters. That view is shared by 40% of Democrats.

The Rasmussen Reports survey also found that 65% of voters favor the idea of requiring voters to show a drivers license or other photo ID before voting. Just 10% are opposed. Support for this reform cuts across partisan and demographic lines.

Fourteen percent (14%) of voters believe there is "a lot" of fraud in American elections. Forty-five percent (45%) believe there is some fraud while 28% say hardly any or none at all.
Most Republicans believe that voting problems are most likely to result from people who are not eligible to vote being allowed to vote. Most Democrats say the most likely problem is that people who should be allowed to vote will be denied the right to do so.

The national telephone survey of 1,000 Likely voters was conducted by Rasmussen Reports October 18, 2004. Margin of sampling error is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Methodology