DIRECTIVE 2005-07
April 14, 2005

ALL COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS

SELECTION OF VOTING SYSTEMS

Pursuant to Substitute House Bill 262 (SHB 262), the standards for the Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) were approved on March 24, 2005, and will take effect on April 28, 2005. In light of the significant changes that have occurred over the last few months (as discussed in greater detail in the accompanying memorandum), your county may now select a direct recording electronic (DRE) with a VVPAT (hereinafter collectively referred to as "DRE/VVPAT") as your county's primary voting system.

In order to provide your county with the opportunity to choose a DRE/VVPAT voting system, we are extending the selection deadline set forth in Directive 2005-1 until May 24, 2005. Please notify my office of the vendor and certified voting system you have selected on or before that date, so that we may move forward with the purchase of a voting system on your behalf.

Of course, the Precinct Count Optical Scan (PCOS) voting system still remains an option for your county. If you intend to select a PCOS voting system, or have previously selected a PCOS system (as most of you have) and do not wish to change that selection, we encourage you to notify us as soon as possible so that we can move forward with the purchase of that system on your behalf. If you previously selected a PCOS voting system and vendor, and we do not hear from you on or before May 24, 2005, we will assume that your selection has not changed and will move forward with the purchase of a PCOS system from the vendor you previously selected.

As a reminder, before my office will purchase the voting system you have selected, the following requirements must be satisfied:

1. If you select a DRE/VVPAT voting system, both the DRE and the VVPAT must be separately certified by ITA, the Ohio Board of Voting Machine Examiners and Compware, by not later than May 13, 2005;

2. The selected voting system must be otherwise in compliance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and SHB 262, by not later than May 24, 2005;

3. If you select a DRE/VVPAT voting system, the county must deploy in a ratio of 1:175, and
4. If the total cost of ownership of the voting system that you have selected exceeds the amount of federal and state funds allocated for the purchase and implementation of voting systems for your county, your county is responsible to make up the difference in cost for the voting system you have selected. As stated in the cover memorandum, you will soon be notified of the amount allocated for your county in a separate communication.

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please do not hesitate to contact Judy Grady, Director of Election Reform, at 614-728-8361.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

J. Kenneth Blackwell