Citizens for Verifiable Voting

http://www.coloradovoter.net

December 4th, 2003
Boulder County Commissioners
In the news:

• 12/3/03 - Fox News: “Ohio Won’t Make 2004 Deadline”
• 12/2/03 - NYTimes: “Hack the Vote”
• 11/21/03 - LATimes: “State tells Counties to Establish Paper Trail”
• 11/7/03 - Washington Times: “Court-ordered Probe into Breakdown of 10 New Touch-Screen Voting Machines”
Who We Are:

• Non-partisan, Unaffiliated, Ad hoc group of Concerned Boulder County Citizens

• Many Technology Professionals & Computer Programmers

• Participants in County Committee / Attended Vendor Finalist Demonstrations

• Extensive, Independent Public Process
Why We’re Here:

• Citizens Learned of County’s RFP Process
• National Concerns about Electronic Voting
• 1000s of Computer Researchers Nationwide Opposed (ACM)
• Need transparency and citizen oversight
• Citizens Concerned About Fair Elections and Voter Confidence
What We Want:

• ONE BALLOT: Voter Verifiable Hand-Marked Full-Text PAPER BALLOTS

• Suspend Purchase of ANY Vote Recording Direct Record Electronic (aka “DRE”) Devices, Instead “Vote Markers”

• Set Positive Example for State of Colorado
Why This Can Be Done:

- **HAVA: Title III Subtitle A Sec. 301.3(B)**
  
  “(B) satisfy the requirement of sub. (A) [accessibility] through the use of at least one direct recording electronic voting system or other voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities at each polling place;”

- **CO Sec. of State Extension Confirmation**

- **DoJ Ruling: October 10, 2003**... *paper record, which is not accessible* to sight-impaired voters but which allows sighted voters to confirm that their ballots accurately reflect their choices ... *would be consistent* with the Help America Vote Act and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act...

- **Additional Devices Nearing Certification**
Why This Should Be Done:

- Paper Ballots = Voter Confidence
  
  *Colorado Recount Law (1-10.5-108 “Method of Recount”)*

- Security & Verification Concerns

- Standards Not Yet Established (EAC, NIST)

- Colorado Sec. of State Recommendation

- Nationwide Precedents: CA, NY, NM, OH
How This Should Be Done:

- Random Sampling of Ballots Hand Counted to Verify Accuracy + Full-Disclosure of Any Voting System
CVV Member’s Other Perspectives:

- Hand-Counting: Canada, France
- Open Source: Australia
- HR 2239 - Voter Confidence Act
- Alternative Voting - e.g. Instant Runoff Voting
- Our proposal ≈ meets ALL these challenges
What We’re Not Saying:

• We’re NOT Saying that Computers Have No Role in Elections:

  Vote-Marking & Verification Devices with ADA Support + Central Optical Scan
Summary:

• Single **PAPER** Ballot for Maximum Voter Confidence & Verification

• Vote *Marking & Verification* Machines, **NOT** Vote *Recording* Machines (NO “DRE”s)

• Confirm Extension and Voice Citizen Concerns to Colorado Secretary of State