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## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

IN  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE, 32 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10004-1609  
(212) 487-5300  
FAX (212) 487-5349  
[www.vote.nyc.ny.us](http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us)

MARCUS CEDERQVIST  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GEORGE GONZALEZ  
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PAMELA GREEN PERKINS  
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

October 29, 2009

Mr. Todd Valentine  
Co-Executive Director  
New York State Board of Elections  
40 Steuben Street  
Albany, NY 12207-2108

Mr. Robert Brehm  
Co-Executive Director  
New York State Board of Elections  
40 Steuben Street  
Albany, NY 12207-2108

Dear Mr. Valentine and Mr. Brehm:

At the direction of the Commissioners of Elections in the City of New York, I am writing to communicate a security-related discovery by staff at our office concerning the two new voting systems on which the State Board of Elections is currently conducting certification testing.

As you know, the Board of Elections in the City of New York has been performing generic tasks throughout the year to plan and prepare for the deployment of an entirely new voting system next year following State Board of Election certification. During a staff exercise last week to test various poll site flows for these new systems, the staff inadvertently discovered that both the Dominion and ES&S scanners that we currently have at our office accepted and counted ballots that the staff photocopied from original test ballots and then used to mark votes.

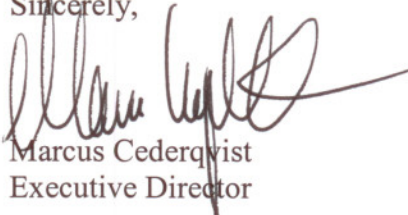
Specifically, for each system the staff made four photocopies of the respective ballots and successfully voted and cast them in both scanners. The potential ability to use photocopies of ballots and have votes on those copies raises obvious and serious ballot security concerns regarding the integrity of the potential new voting system that the city's 4.6 million registered voters will use in future elections.

The Commissioners asked that I relay this troubling account to you and inquire how the certification testing will ensure that the systems will not accept and count ballots that are reproduced from originals. Please let me know how the State Board will address this important security concern as quickly as possible so I can communicate this information to our Commissioners, staff, and interested members of the community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (212) 487-5412 if you have any questions concerning this matter.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,



Marcus Cederqvist  
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners of Election in the City of New York  
George González, Deputy Executive Director  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Steven Ferguson, Director, Management Information Systems  
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel  
Lucille Grimaldi, Director, Electronic Voting Systems  
John P. O'Grady, Chief Voting Machine Technician