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Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder responds to decertification of voting equipment

Littleton, Colo. – On Monday, Colorado Secretary of State Mike Coffman announced the certification results for all voting systems in the state. Arapahoe County uses Sequoia Voting Systems to conduct its elections. The Secretary of State conditionally certified Sequoia's optical scan counting machines, which are used to count paper ballots, though his office placed additional requirements on their use. However, the Secretary of State decertified Sequoia's Edge II touch screen voting machines because of deficiencies identified by the state's certification testing board.

“Though I am disappointed in the certification results, I will be working with the Secretary of State's office to ensure that our voting equipment meets the requirements set forth in Colorado statute and rule,” said Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder Nancy Doty. “Arapahoe County prides itself on conducting transparent, fair and accurate elections and I am committed to continuing that tradition.”

If the County is not able to use the Edge II voting machines, Doty's concern is they will not be compliant with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) and some of the voters may be disenfranchised.

“The most important thing right now is that voters have confidence in the election results,” said Doty. “We will work aggressively to remedy all the deficiencies identified by the Secretary of State so that we go into the 2008 election fully prepared.”

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