DEBRA BOWEN | SECRETARY OF STATE | STATE OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF VOTING SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT
1500 11th Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 | Tel (916) 653-7244 | www.sos.ca.gov

January 29, 2010

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #10045

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: Lowell Finley
Deputy Secretary of State, Voting Systems Technology and Policy

RE: Voting Systems: Status of Premier Assure v.1.2 Package

It has come to the attention of the Secretary of State's office that certain representations have been made and certain questions have arisen about the status of the Premier Assure v.1.2 Voting System package (Assure), which is now under the control of ES&S, Inc.

Assure was certified by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) on August 6, 2009, when it was under the control of Premier Election Solutions, Inc. As of today, ES&S has not submitted Assure to the Secretary of State's office for review and has given no indication when the package may be submitted.

When any voting system vendor inquires of the Secretary of State how long the state review and approval process may take, our office provides each vendor with a standard estimate of 17 weeks. The review and approval process does not start until an application for testing is deemed by the Secretary of State's office to be complete. An application is not complete until all information required on the application form is correctly provided and our office has received the trusted build and source code, the technical data package (including change logs), proposed security and use procedures, an escrow deposit of $360,000, the full Voting System Testing Laboratory (VSTL) reports, and working models of the voting system and accessibility equipment.

The 17-week estimate to complete testing includes the time required for source code review and red team testing, elements added to our test protocol following the Top-To-Bottom Review in 2007. The actual length of testing may vary from the 17-week estimate depending on two main factors:

1. The Secretary of State's office has a limited number of staff members and reviews submitted voting systems on a first-come, first-served basis. Regardless of when ES&S begins the application process, if another vendor provides the office with an application

that is deemed complete prior to ES&S, the Secretary of State's office will begin testing with that vendor.

2. If questions or issues arise during the testing process, the Secretary of State's office may be obliged to halt testing until such time that those questions are answered or issues are addressed. The length of time a vendor takes to provide that information will directly impact the time it takes to complete the Secretary of State's testing process.

I hope this answers any questions you may have about the status of the Assure v.1.2 Voting System package, which has yet to be submitted to the Secretary of State's office for review. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Lowell.Finley@sos.ca.gov or (916) 653-7244.