



**MEMORANDUM**  
**OFFICE OF THE**  
**PLACER COUNTY CLERK – RECORDER –**  
**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Jim McCauley, Placer County Clerk – Recorder – Registrar of Voters  
**DATE:** November 7, 2006  
**SUBJECT:** Presentation on Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Compliant, Accessible (Touch Screen) Voting Equipment Being Used for General Election.

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**Recommendation**

None – Information only regarding operation and deployment of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) compliant and accessible touch screen voting machines for the Nov. 7, 2006 General Election.

**Background**

On August 1 of this year, your Board approved the purchase of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) compliant and accessible touch screen voting machines to be utilized in each County polling location for the Nov. 7, 2006 General Election. As you will recall, in October 2002, the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) was enacted. Among other provisions, this Act established requirements for identification verification of new voters, for allowance of provisional voting, and for voting machine and polling place accessibility. Requirements for accessible voting equipment, popularly referred to as “touch screen” voting equipment, have been among the most visible of the various HAVA requirements and are intended to enable voters with disabilities to vote independently and confidentially. Specifically, at least one HAVA compliant, federally qualified, accessible voting machine is required at each polling location in the County. Additionally, new touch screen units purchased for California use were also required to be state certified and to have accessible, voter-verifiable paper audit trail (AVVPAT) records as a backup for the electronic voting records. With your Board’s approval, our Department purchased the Diebold TSX touch screen units to meet these HAVA and California requirements.

The TSX voting machines were received in mid-September, following completion of contract negotiations for the purchase. Subsequently, each unit was acceptance tested by county staff and configured with the various ballot styles and security features for the Election. Elections staff and poll workers have been trained on the set-up and use of the machines for today’s Election. At least one TSX voting machine has been placed in each polling location in the County, and those polls serving multiple precincts have two machines deployed, to minimize any voter wait time for use of the machines. Of course, these machines are in addition to our “regular” optical scan voting equipment which also continues to be used at all polls and for absentee voting.

**Presentation**

At your Board’s meeting, we will demonstrate how voting takes place on the TSX units and respond to any questions you may have regarding their operation and use in the Election today.

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