



Testimonials from election administrators who have benefited from the support the Verified Voting Foundation provides:

Albert Lenge, Managing Director, Elections Enforcement Commission, Connecticut:

“My name is Albert P. Lenge and I am presently the Managing Director of the Connecticut Elections Enforcement Commission, Connecticut's HAVA enforcement agency, located in Hartford, CT. From 1981 to 1988 I was the Director of Elections within the Elections Division of the Secretary of the State, serving under three Secretaries of the State. I have regularly read Verified Voting's electronically published newsletter, created by David Dill [*VVF's founder*], since it began and the publication has informed my participation in the voter-verified public policy debate here in Connecticut. I was among the first individuals with a background in election administration to sign the nationwide petition calling for a voter verified paper audit trail on all direct recording electronic voting machines. Most recently, I spent a day with Verified Voting Foundation's Chief Executive Officer Will Doherty at the February 2005 National Association of Secretaries of the State (NASS) conference held in Washington, D.C. Mr. Doherty shed light on some of the information being presented by NIST and EAC presenters; since that day we have touched base several times concerning statutory and regulatory implementations by the various states of verified voting. I am presently preparing a verified voting statutory proposal for consideration by the 2005 Connecticut General Assembly and hope to use Verified Voting's Bob Kibrick as a resource before the draft is finalized. In every respect, including Verified Voting's important website, the Verified Voting Foundation has proved to be an invaluable resource.”

David Orr, County Clerk, Cook County, Illinois:

“The Verified Voting Foundation and the scholars who have participated with it have changed the terms of the national discussion on election equipment used in this country. Against an urgent political tide toward instant action after the 2000 election, they have raised technical issues that have forced a major reconsideration of proposed changes in the technology used in elections. Their contribution to the debate has been positive and enormous.”

Freddie Oakley, Clerk/Recorder, Yolo County, California:

“For me, an elected county clerk/recorder and registrar of voters, Verified Voting has been of material assistance in several ways. Their well and timely maintained website is a valuable resource for consultation on issues and news that directly affect the conduct of elections, and I consult it regularly. Verified Voting also provides the invaluable service of allowing me to be in touch with my colleagues nationally for the purpose of sharing ideas and concerns and for group problem solving. Additionally, Verified Voting has been the major contributor of dependable, respectable data and ideas in the ongoing national debate regarding voting systems, standards and values. Locally, they are the authority that I can cite when difficult issues arise.”

Arthur Anderson, Supervisor of Elections, Palm Beach County, Florida:

“I was elected as the Supervisor of Elections in Palm Beach County, Florida, on a progressive election reform plank that included issues of election security, reliability, and transparency, including the need for voter-verified paper ballot. Verified Voting stands out as a nationwide organization devoted to these important issues and has provided the kind of detailed and trustworthy information about voting technology and related topics that election administrators nationwide need to make informed decisions that best serve their constituents. I look forward to continued dialog with Verified Voting and strongly support their proposal for a project focused on bringing election administrators together for further discussions on important election reform issues.”

Douglas Kellner, Commissioner, Board of Elections, City of New York:

“I agree that it is crucial for election administrators throughout the nation to obtain access to objective information in order to make appropriate decisions regarding their election systems and procurement procedures. Already VerifiedVoting.org and the Verified Voting Foundation have played a substantial role in assuring secure elections throughout the nation.

“As one of the commissioners of the Board of Elections in the City of New York, I have witnessed first hand the gap between objective information and the sales efforts of voting industry vendors. Most election administrators have little familiarity with computer equipment. Without independent resources in order to evaluate vendor claims, election administrators all too frequently rely on the sales pitches of vendors in order to design their election systems. This results in far too much reliance on the vendor that has significant long term implications for assuring that every vote is counted the way that the voter intended and that elections are administered at reasonable costs.

“If I had more time I would recount my experiences dealing with these issues since I became commissioner in 1993. They include challenging vendor claims of impregnable security in electronic voting machines, attempting to control costs of the centralized computer scanning system set up in 1999 for absentee and provisional ballots, and trying to share technical information regarding system failures in order to improve the overall administration of elections. Most recently, as New York State is deciding what voting system to adopt in order to comply with HAVA, I have observed how critical it has been to have an independent voice challenging vendors’ claims. Verified Voting and its New York affiliate have played a substantial and decisive role in this on-going process.”

To learn more about the Election Administration Project, please contact Pamela Smith, Nationwide Coordinator pam@verifiedvoting.org (760-613-0172) or Will Doherty, Executive Director will@verifiedvoting.org (415-487-2255).