Board of Advisors Meeting
Washington, DC
June 2-4, 2009

Thomas R. Wilkey
Executive Director
U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Our short-term objectives

- Transform EAC from a start-up to a fully staffed and operational organization

- Staff up in key areas, programmatic and operational

- Complete this while building up our research and clearinghouse activities and getting voting systems certified

How did we achieve them?

We built a strong financial team

- **Senior-level grants director** administers HAVA funds

- **Accounting director** overseas the accounting and financial reporting process

- **CFO** ensures we're compliant with federal requirements and using resources efficiently

The bottom line: EAC staff can focus more on providing quality technical assistance to election officials

We're tackling financial audit findings

- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities of commissioners and senior staff

- Approved a strategic plan that includes performance-based budgeting

- Restructured the Commission so it operates more effectively

- Developed policies and procedures for program areas and internal operations

We took action to expedite the certification process

- We doubled the size of our voting systems staff
- This includes two **computer engineers** with expertise in voting system technology
- We also launched the **Cooperative Testing Initiative**, which will help us move faster by avoiding redundant testing
- We're revising the 2005 VVSG to aid the creation of **uniform test suites** and other measures that will relieve bottlenecks in the test process

Next Steps

- Continue improving internal controls and compliance with federal financial regulations
- Fully implement program and administrative policies and procedures
- Continue advancing the testing process as quickly as possible without compromising quality

Testing and Certification
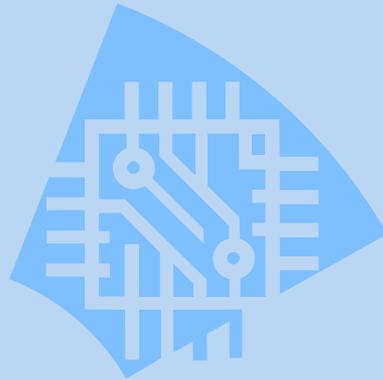
Recent Program Milestones

- Certified first voting system (MicroVote EMS 4.0)
- Expect two more systems to complete testing soon
  - ES&S Unity 3.2
  - Premier Assure 1.2
- Released comprehensive test lab accreditation manual
- Hired two full-time computer engineers who will:
  - answer technical questions from election officials and vendors
  - help test lab vendors understand how to test specialized systems
  - keep the technical review and approval process moving forward

EAC Voting System Testing & Certification Program

Inventory of Certified Voting Systems; Voting Systems Currently Under Testing; Terminated Applications; and Decertified Voting Systems

Manufacturer	Voting System (Name/Version)	Testing Standard	VSTL	Testing Application	Test Plans (Status/Current Version)	Test Reports (Status/Current Version)	Certification Status
AVS	WINWare 2.0.4	2002 VSS	iBeta	3/22/2007	Submitted – Version 2.0.4	n/a	System application terminated on 11/28/2007
Avante	Optical Vote-Trakker	2005 VVSG	Wyle	12/2/2008	Awaiting initial Test Plan submission by VSTL	n/a	Currently under testing
Dominion	Democracy Suite	2005 VVSG	SysTest	2/22/2007	Submitted; under review - Version 2.0	n/a	Currently under testing
ES&S	Unity 3.0.1.0 & Unity 3.0.1.1 w. ATS 1.3	2002 VSS	SysTest	6/12/2007	Awaiting initial Test Plan submission by VSTL	n/a	Currently under testing
ES&S	Unity 3.2.0.0	2002 VSS	iBeta	3/19/2007	Approved – Version 2.0 (iBeta)	n/a	Currently under testing
ES&S	Unity 4.0	2002 VSS	SysTest	4/19/2007	Approved - Version 10	n/a	Currently under testing
Hart	System 6.4	2002 VSS	SysTest	5/11/2007	Submitted - Version 3.0	n/a	System application terminated on 6/28/2008
MicroVote	EMS Ver. 4.0	2005 VVSG	iBeta	7/17/2007	Approved - Version 3.0 (updated version 4.0 submitted with Test Report V.4.0)	Approved - Version 4.0	Certified Voting System – Final Decision 2/6/2009 Certificate of Conformance Initial Decision on Certification made on 12/31/2008
Premier (Diebold)	Assure 1.2	2002 VSS	iBeta	4/5/2007	Approved – Version 2.0 (iBeta)	n/a	Currently under testing
Sequoia	WinEDS 4.0.34	2002 VSS	iBeta	8/9/2007	Approved – Version 3.0 (iBeta)	n/a	Currently under testing
Unisyn	OpenElect Voting System	2005 VVSG	Wyle	6/3/2008	Awaiting initial Test Plan submission by VSTL	n/a	Currently under testing
Unisyn	EMS 3.0	2002 VSS	SysTest	12/13/2007	n/a	n/a	System application terminated on 1/7/2009

Definitions	
Testing Standard:	Identifies the set of standards/guidelines which the voting system is being tested against. Currently, voting systems may only be submitted for testing to the 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (2005 VVSG). Systems submitted for testing prior to December 15, 2007, also had the option of being tested agains the 2002 Voting System Standards (2002 VSS).
VSTL:	Accredited EAC voting system test laboratory (VSTL) selected by the manufacturer to perfom testing and other laboratory actions consistent with the EAC's Certification Program Manual.
Testing Application:	Date on which the manufacturer submitted the voting system's application for certification testing. It does not indicate the date on which the application package was approved by the EAC.
Test Plan:	Document created prior to testing that outlines the scope and nature of testing, items to be tested, test approach, resources needed to perform testing, test tasks, risks and schedule.
Test Report:	Document that provides the results of a voting system's testing conducted by an EAC accredited VSTL, along with the VSTL's recommendation regarding certification.

TO VIEW ALL TEST PLANS PLEASE GO HERE
TO VIEW ALL TEST REPORTS PLEASE GO HERE

U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Last Updated: 4/29/2009

Revision of the 2005 VVSG

- Revisions will streamline the process by:
  - aiding the creation of test suites that promote uniform, consistent and faster testing
  - providing clarification in key areas that often cause confusion and slow the process
- Revisions allow us to improve the process before the release of the next iteration of the VVSG
- We will hold a HAVA-mandated public comment period before any revisions are adopted

Election Operations Assessment

- A scientifically-founded assessment of all types of voting systems conducted by the University of South Alabama

- It will inform EAC decisions on the next iteration of the VVSG

- It will help officials make informed decisions about voting system purchases

- The first of three phases is complete

NIST's UOCAVA Electronic Voting Research

- Best practices for requesting and transmitting blank ballots via fax, e-mail and Internet

- Security considerations for remote electronic UOCAVA voting systems

To be completed by December 2009

Communications Initiative

- A collaborative effort between EAC and stakeholders to improve communication about the testing and certification program
- It will base action on feedback from stakeholders on issues of greatest concern
- This will ensure officials are getting the information they need

Cooperative Testing Initiative

- A collaborative effort between the EAC and states

- The goal is to reduce the amount of redundant testing between the state and federal testing processes, resulting in cost savings

HAVA Funds

HAVA Requirements Payments just got easier

- We've consolidated the 2008 and 2009 funds

- States will need to provide only one HAVA State Plan to claim funds

- This will streamline the process and reduce red tape

- We will issue guidance on the process soon

States will receive more technical assistance

- Workshops and training sessions on how to spend and report on spending
- Help with facilitating clean audits
- Risk assessment plan and guidance on how to identify red flags or areas of high risk
- These initiatives will begin in the third and fourth quarters

$20.4 million of FY 2008 payments have been disbursed

- $575,000 to Montana
- $575,000 to Idaho
- $575,000 to Wyoming
- $575,000 to North Dakota
- $575,000 to Rhode Island
- $575,000 to South Dakota
- $1.17m to Iowa

- $1.37m to Oregon
- $1.36m to Oklahoma
- $1.36m to Connecticut
- $1.92m to Minnesota
- $1.7m to Colorado
- $3.17m to Georgia
- $4.92m to Pennsylvania

How much is left to disburse?

- $96 million of FY 2008 funds
- $100 million of FY 2009 funds

Have questions? Contact our new HAVA Grants Director Mark Abbott at (202) 566-3100.

New Tools and Resources for Election Officials
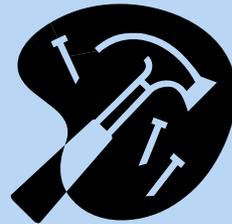
Election Training Videos

Three educational videos

- Polling place management
- Polling place accessibility
- Contingency planning
- Testing and certification
  - Excellent for training poll workers and new staff
  - Available 24-7 at eac.gov

Quick Start Election Management Guides
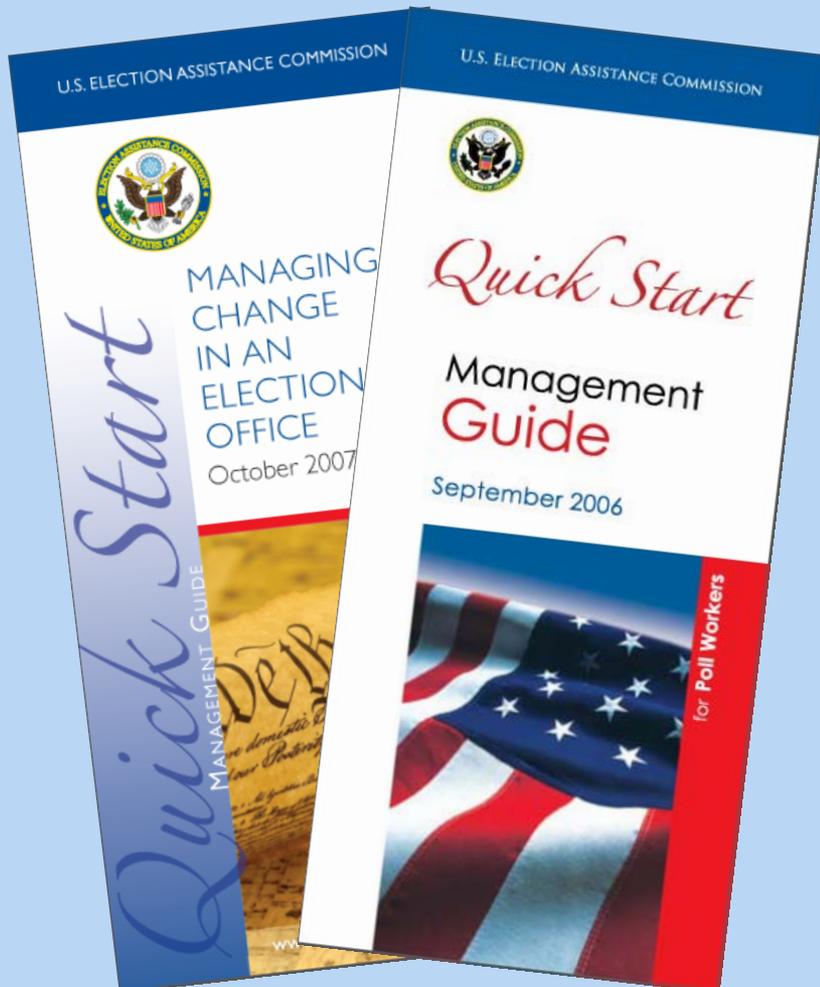
Six new Quick Starts, 17 total

- Serving Voters in Long Term Care Facilities
- Provisional Ballots
- Canvassing and Certifying an Election
- Conducting a Recount
- Central Count Optical Scan Ballots
- Uniformed and Overseas Voters

To request copies, contact Matt Weil at (202) 566-3100.

Election Management Guidelines (EMG)

New chapters in the EMG series
- Acceptance Testing
- Uniformed and Overseas Citizens
- Pre-election and Parallel Testing
- Developing an Audit Trail
- Contingency Planning and Change Management
- Ballot Building
- Absentee Voting and Vote by Mail
- Polling Place and Vote Center Management

To request copies, contact Matt Weil at (202) 566-3100.

Previously released chapters
- Certification
- System Security
- Physical Security

Upcoming Chapters
- Canvassing and Certification
- Recounts
- Community Partnerships
- Media and Public Relations
- Provisional Ballots

Election Terminology Glossaries

Available in:

- Chinese
- Japanese
- Korean
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese
- Spanish

To request copies, contact Juliana Milhofer at

(202) 566-3100.

Election Management Workshops

- Held during public meetings
- Streamed online so everyone can view them
- Focused on the following election administration topics:
  - Contingency planning
  - Pre-election testing
  - Empowering voters
  - Cost-saving practices
  - Military and overseas voters

Elections Research
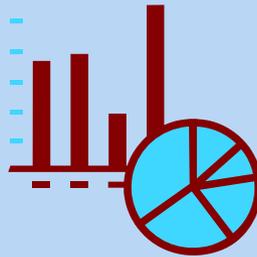
2008 Election Day Survey

- Scheduled for release Fall 2009

- 100 percent state response rate compared to 96 percent in 2006 and 93 percent in 2004

- Survey responses are more complete than in previous years

- Why? Officials said the questions were clearer, and consultants were on call to answer questions

Additional EAC Research

Election Data Collection Grant report ($10 million to five states)

- Report to be released June 30
- Lessons learned and best practices to be shared late summer

National Voter Registration Act report
Final NVRA report will be released June 30

Released four reports last year

- Statewide voter registration databases interim report
- Voter hotlines and Web sites
- First-time voters who register by mail and vote in person
- Alternative voting methods

Upcoming Activities

- Evaluate EAC's educational products
- Translate voter guides and glossaries into more Asian and Native American languages
- Issue guidance on topics of special interest
- Update NVRA regulations

Communicating with Stakeholders
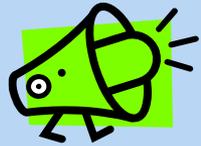
Online Elections Clearinghouse

- Dedicating more resources to making the EAC Web site more accessible and usable

- Improved search tools and more intuitive navigation system

- Improved design that will allow more news and resources to be featured on the homepage

- Clearinghouse activities will be guided by a policy that will be in place this year

Plain Language Initiative

- Transform technical documents into plain language

- First project was voting system testing and certification video

- Next project will be simplifying the Election Operations Assessment project

EAC Operations Budget

FY 2009 Operations Budget $17.9 Million

6%

21%

33%

40%

- **Personnel costs**
- **Non-personnel Costs**
- **Transfer to NIST**
- **Grants**
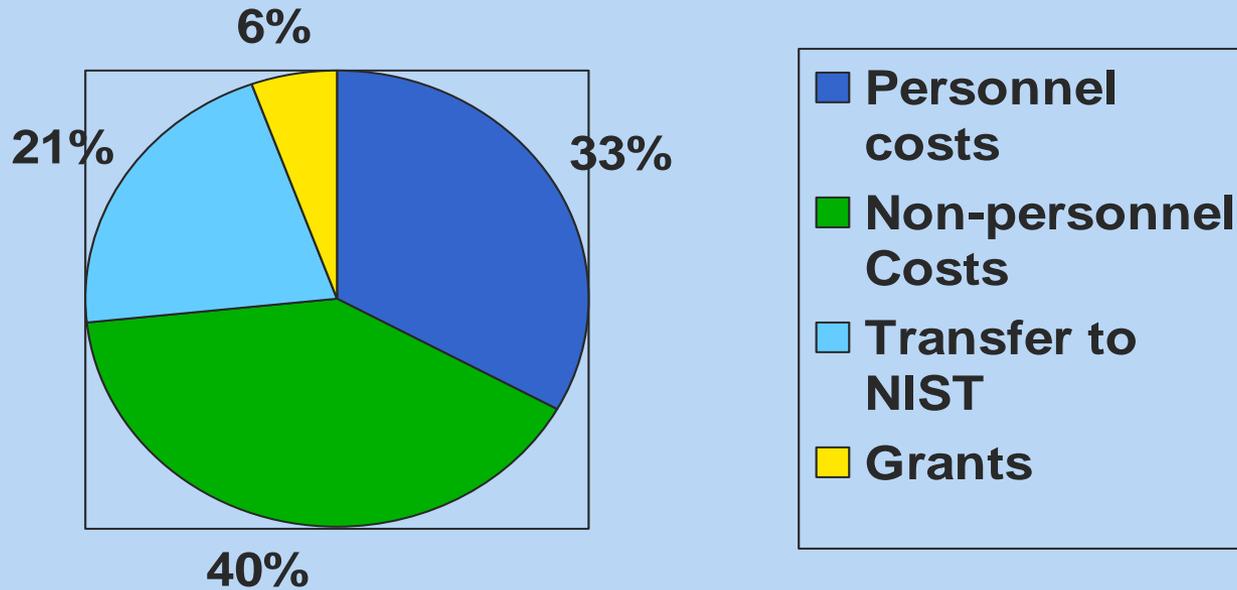
FY 2010 Operations Budget $16.5 Million

- Personnel costs
- Non-personnel Costs
- Transfer to NIST

20%

41%

39%
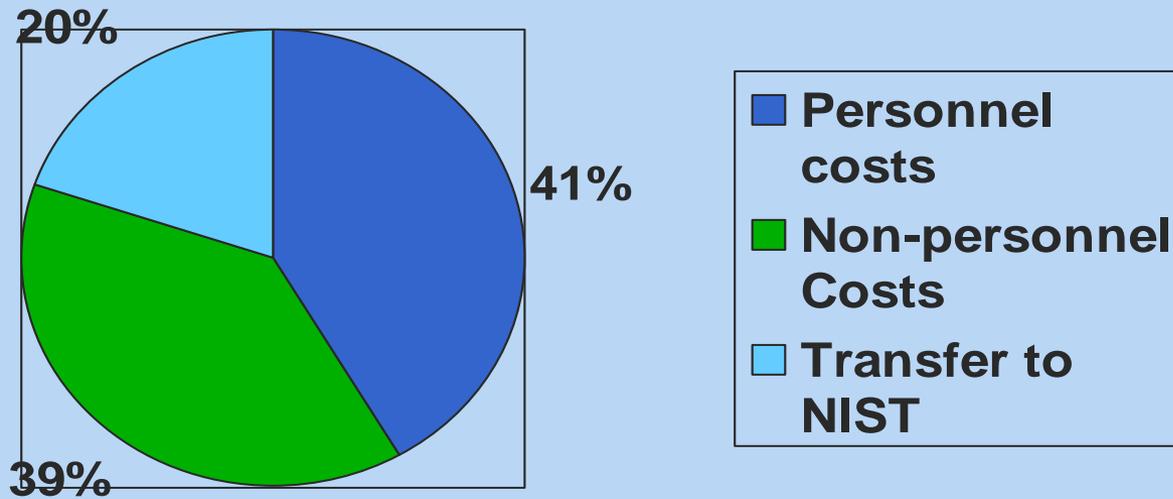
Funding Priorities

- **Voting system program** (17 percent increase over 2009)
- **Clearinghouse** activities
- Additional **elections research**, including:
  - EDS
  - Voter registration databases
  - Free or reduced postage for absentee ballots
- **Grantmaking** for FY 2009
  - HAVA requirements payments - $100 million
  - Voting technology improvements research - $5 million
  - Logic and accuracy testing - $1 million
  - College poll worker - $750,000
  - Student mock elections - $300,000

Looking Ahead

Five Strategic Goals

- Communicate
- Fund and Oversee
- Study, Guide and Assist
- Test and Certify
- Manage