



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

05:146

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, December 21, 2005

Contact: Jennifer Kerns
916-653-6575

Statement from Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Regarding Release of EAC Audit of Shelley Administration

Sacramento, CA --- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson made the following statement today regarding the EAC audit of the administration of previous Secretary of State Kevin Shelley:

"My office has received the results of the federal audit which was conducted by the EAC over the course of the last nine months to examine the misuse of federal "Help America Vote Act" (HAVA) funds under the previous administration.

"The federal auditors have determined that due to identified deficiencies during the previous administration, the state of California may be required to reimburse from up to \$3.8 million in HAVA funds to the federal government.

"With the new administration, we have made tremendous progress over the course of the last nine months - returning California to a 'first in the nation' status that the voters of this state expect and deserve. Early compliance with a significant component of HAVA - the statewide voter registration database - has resulted in the federal government holding California up as a model for other states to follow.

"We will continue working with our federal, state and local partners to fully restore the integrity of the Office of the Secretary of State."

* *A full report of the EAC audit, along with the Secretary of State's official response to the audit, may be found at: <http://www.eac.gov/docs/CA%20audit.pdf>.*