NEWS RELEASE
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE KEVIN SHELLEY

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Secretary of State Kevin Shelley Issues Recertification Order for Touchscreen System in Riverside County

SACRAMENTO, CA – Secretary of State Kevin Shelley today issued an order recertifying the electronic voting system for Riverside County, bringing to a total of seven counties statewide that have already met the security conditions for recertification.

"We are pleased that Riverside County officials have agreed to comply with the recertification conditions," said Secretary of State Kevin Shelley.

Riverside uses an electronic voting system, made by Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc. Napa, Santa Clara, Tehama, and Shasta Counties, which also utilize Sequoia touchscreens, had their systems recertified recently as well. Merced County, which uses the ES & S iVotronic system, and Orange County, which uses the Hart eSlate system, had their touchscreen systems recertified in June.

On April 30, Secretary Shelley banned the use of the Diebold TSx system in four counties and decertified touchscreen systems in 10 other counties until added security measures could be put in place to safeguard the November vote. The 10 counties need to either install a voter-verified paper trail or implement the set of added security measures before those systems could be recertified for the November 2004 election.

Among the security measures that Sequoia Voting Systems and Riverside County agreed to meet in order for the system to be recertified are:

- Voters must have the option of casting a paper ballot;
- The system's computer source code must be made available for analysis by independent experts;
- No telephone, wireless or internet connections are permitted on the machines; and
- The county is required to engage in a comprehensive poll worker-training program.

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