Tom Burth

CEO

ES&S

11208 John Galt Blvd

Omaha, NE 68137

[DATE]

Dear Mr. Burth,

I am writing to follow up on recent developments concerning election equipment standards and federal directives. As one of the leading providers of voting systems in the United States, ES&S plays a critical role in upholding the integrity, security, and transparency of our electoral process.

In light of the March 2025 Executive Order 14248, issued by President Trump, Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections, and the U.S. Election Assistance Commission’s (EAC) ongoing efforts to align with VVSG 2.0 standards, I respectfully request your response to the following inquiries:

1. **Alignment with Executive Order and VVSG 2.0**:
How is ES&S ensuring that all currently deployed and future voting systems—including tabulators, ballot marking devices (BMDs), and electronic poll books—are fully aligned with the standards outlined in VVSG 2.0 and the requirements of the March 2025 Executive Order?
2. **Use of Barcodes and QR Codes:**
What is ES&S’s position on the continued use of machine-readable codes such as barcodes and QR codes on ballots, particularly those that are not human-readable by the voter? What steps, if any, is ES&S taking to eliminate or phase out these features to meet evolving federal expectations and ensure voter-verifiable ballot markings?
3. **Recertification and Product Updates:**What plans does ES&S have to support states and jurisdictions in the recertification of existing equipment to meet VVSG 2.0 standards? What equipment modifications or new product lines are being introduced to ensure compliance?
4. **Decertification and Transition Strategy:**How is ES&S preparing to assist customers in transitioning away from systems that may be subject to decertification under the Executive Order? What specific guidance, support programs, or lifecycle planning is ES&S offering to its clients to ease this transition?
5. **Foreign-Sourced Components in Voting Systems:**
Given that election systems are part of the nation’s critical infrastructure and that Executive Order 13873 prohibits the use of components from adversarial nations, what actions has ES&S taken to identify, reduce, and eliminate foreign-sourced components—particularly those manufactured in China—in its voting machines, ballot printers, e-poll books, voter registration systems, and election night reporting software?
6. **Timeline for Compliance Before 2026 Primaries:**
What specific actions is ES&S undertaking to ensure that all systems provided to state and local jurisdictions will be fully compliant with the March 2025 Executive Order in time for the 2026 primary elections? How is the company supporting jurisdictions in meeting these federal expectations within the timeline, particularly in terms of system upgrades, recertifications, and equipment replacement?

As a major stakeholder in the integrity of U.S. elections, ES&S has the opportunity to lead in transparency, compliance, and innovation. I look forward to your thorough response and hope to continue a dialogue that ensures trust and accountability at every stage of the election process.

Respectfully,

[YOUR NAME]