



July 10, 2015

VIA Electronic Delivery

To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to our attention that you may have received information regarding EVS v5.2.0.0 and its use in the State of Maryland. In order to eliminate any confusion, we have prepared this letter to provide you with the detailed facts of the issue reported by the State of Maryland.

ES&S issued a Technical Bulletin (FYIEWR0026) to our Customer Portal on May 11, 2015, which describes a potential issue involving digital signatures. Please note that this issue is related to the ExpressVote only. No other components of the voting system are affected. Revision 2 of the Technical Bulletin is attached.

All transportable media data is encrypted using standard RSA digital signature processes for encryption, decryption, signing, and signature validation to ensure that only trusted data can be read into the system. Occasionally an error may occur when loading the election files onto the ExpressVote unit. This issue can be rare and only manifests itself during the pre-election coding phase.

This condition is caused by the RSA digital signature process used by ElectionWare, where in the event, the leading digit of the generated signature is zero (leading zeros are being suppressed), resulting in a file length of less than 128 bytes. The ExpressVote RSA process expects all digital signatures to be 128 bytes in length and issues a signature verification notification in the event the file attempting to be read is less than the required 128 byte file length. In this case, the ExpressVote is performing as designed to validate that the files came from a trusted source, and were not changed or modified after being created.

The user may check for this error prior to loading the media onto the ExpressVote by following the instructions in the Technical Bulletin (noted above), which is located on the ES&S on-line Customer Portal. For your convenience, we have also attached the bulletin to this communication. We encourage any users to call our toll-free Support Desk for assistance with this process (1-877-377-8683, Option 4).

In following industry best practices, ES&S has already taken action to correct this issue by submitting a simple software update to the EAC for certification. Upon EAC approval, we will work with the appropriate State Election Authorities to release the updates to affected customers. In the interim, current ExpressVote users can rest assured that the ExpressVote system is fully functional. There is absolutely no threat to the integrity of the election results.

The ExpressVote System is receiving rave reviews from both customers and voters alike. As with any technology, there will always be software updates that are designed to enhance functionality and improve software performance. ES&S is committed to our customers and their voters. We stand behind the quality and integrity of our products, and you will always have our commitment to ensuring excellence in elections. Should you have further questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at smpearson@essvote.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Pearson'.

Steve Pearson

Vice President of Voting Systems

Attachment