

**Arkansas Voter Integrity Initiative, Inc., Led By COL. Conrad Reynolds, Sues Arkansas Secretary of State and Voting Computer Manufacturer ES&S.**

*An election integrity lawsuit was filed in Arkansas today claiming that the voting computer system currently in use violates both federal and state election laws.*

**For Immediate Release:**

**LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 19, 2022** - Arkansas Voter Integrity, INC., (AVII), led by Colonel Conrad Reynolds (US Army, RET.), has filed an election integrity lawsuit against the Arkansas Secretary of State, the State Board of Election Commissioners, and Election Systems and Software, LLC (ES&S). ES&S is a private company in Omaha, Nebraska, that provides election voting machines to all 75 counties in Arkansas. Over the past decade, ES&S has been criticized for its lack of transparency regarding ownership and its apparent inclusion of Chinese parts in their voting computers.

Reynolds, who is the CEO of AVII, is leading the push for Arkansas to move away from voting computers and towards a more transparent system that includes state of the art paper ballots with imbedded security features. He is also pushing for hand-counting of all ballots that could be viewed by the public using an internet-based live stream video feed, something he calls “vote streaming.”

Reynolds says, “These voting machines, which are really just computers, do not follow federal or Arkansas election laws which clearly state that voters have the right to verify that their

votes are properly being represented when entered into the tabulation computer. We are told by election officials to check the names on the ballot summary card before we cast it into the tabulator, but the tabulator does not read the printed names on the ballot summary card—it only reads the barcodes. I don't read barcode, so I cannot verify that my vote was properly recorded or represented by the barcode.”

Clint Lancaster, a Saline County election commissioner and the lead attorney for AVII had this to say about the new lawsuit: “AVII has taken a major step forward in election integrity today. The voting machines in Arkansas violate state and federal law designed to protect the voter's right to confirm his or her ballot before it is cast. This lawsuit will restore confidence in the electorate and bring back transparency to the voting process. Our firm is excited about the future and to represent an organization that is not afraid to fight for the citizens of Arkansas.”

Reynolds adds, “I spent 30 years as an intelligence officer in the US Army, and I'm looking at this from a national security perspective. There are too many opportunities for exploitation of the voting computers for me to have faith in them. We all have seen how these types of voting machines can and have been manipulated in other countries.”

Reynolds, who recently lost an election in Arkansas's May Republican Primary says this is not about his race, or any past race, but about “having an election process in place that citizens can trust.”

“I’m doing this for every American, regardless of party affiliation or political leanings,” says Reynolds, adding, “I’ve been to over 70 foreign countries and I have seen what happens in countries when people lose faith in their election process. Over half of Americans don’t trust the current system so why not move to an election process that all Americans can have trust? No one trusts the machines after seeing what happened in Arizona, Georgia, and in other states, not to mention what is happening in other countries like Brazil.”

When it comes to how future election should be handled, Reynolds states, “When we move back to paper ballots, we must use paper that cannot be counterfeited. We must have every printed ballot accounted for after the election. We must have clear ballot boxes that are always out in the open. We must have a 24-hour live stream of the ballot boxes. We must count the ballots via live streaming from each polling location. We must have 3 pairs of eyes on each ballot to confirm each vote. We trust our neighbors, friends, county clerks and poll workers to conduct an honest election. I truly believe it’s unwise to put our trust in a voting system that lacks transparency and uses computers that count “barcodes” instead of names on our ballots. Lastly, we must be cautious of any company that refuses to be fully transparent about its ownership.”

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