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Statement of Premier Election Solutions Concerning Vote Tabulation and Reporting During the Nov. 4th, 2008 General Election in Hillsborough County, Florida

Allen, Texas, Nov. 5, 2008 ... Premier Election Solutions provides the optical scan voting platform the Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections has deployed to serve all voters in the county -- those who vote at the polls on Election Day and those who vote early or by absentee ballot.

All Hillsborough absentee ballots were successfully scanned and uploaded to the election management server. However, following the conclusion of voting and polls closing last night, an issue occurred involving upload of results from memory cards to the election management server. This issue delayed final tabulation of votes cast early, as well as those cast in precincts yesterday. Premier has determined that a timeout parameter may cause the modem transmission of results to be prematurely terminated before upload is complete. In addition, the very large amount of voted data on some of the early voting memory cards caused a time out condition to occur as well.

As we worked with County elections personnel to seek resolution of this problem following closing of the polls last night, Premier presented options for workarounds that would permit the posting of summary unofficial results. Precinct results and some of the early voting results were successfully uploaded election night.

We understand that Hillsborough Elections staff is now taking corrective steps to ensure that all the early vote data can be successfully uploaded. During this reporting process, it's important to note that all votes were successfully and securely cast and recorded. Premier sincerely regrets any inconvenience and the reporting delays caused by this issue. In addressing this problem, Premier has been forthright and sought to work cooperatively with the Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections. We share the Hillsborough County election office's frustration during this hectic time.

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