



PREMIER
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FLORIDA'S HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CHOOSES PREMIER'S
"SECURE AND RELIABLE" OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SOLUTION**

**Decision Comes on Heels of Full State Certification of Premier's
New *Assure* Product Suite**

ALLEN, Texas – The Hillsborough County, Florida Board of County Commissioners has selected Premier Election Solutions to provide optical-scan voting tabulators and a full range of related products and services to serve Hillsborough citizens, including disabled, absentee and early voters throughout the county. The Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections Buddy Johnson to choose Premier to provide a suite of fully auditable paper-based voting solutions.

A county selection committee ranked Premier first among several vendors that bid to provide new voting equipment for Hillsborough citizens. Premier already serves 32 other counties in the state, and has provided voting solutions in Florida since 1991. Hillsborough is Florida's fourth largest county, with over 620,000 registered voters.

In a Hillsborough County statement announcing the decision, Supervisor Johnson said, "The Board's approval of Premier Election Solutions as Hillsborough County's new election solutions provider marks a gratifying conclusion to many months of careful deliberation. With the new paper trail-based voting system,



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voters can go to the polls in full confidence knowing that the election process is secure and reliable.”

Premier president Dave Byrd said, “We are honored to win this important assignment. Premier is committed to providing Hillsborough citizens with the best possible voting experience, and to supporting county election officials with training, support and service that will assist them in running smooth, efficient elections. Our proven optical-scan voting systems will ensure that every vote cast is secure, and our suite of products will meet the needs of a broad spectrum of voters, including the disabled and those who choose to vote early or by absentee ballot,” Mr. Byrd added.

Under terms of the contract, Premier will provide 440 AccuVote®-OSX precinct tabulators, 420 AutoMARK™ Voter Assistance Terminals to accommodate voters with visual impairments and other disabilities, two Premier Central Scan units for high speed processing of absentee ballots, the ASSURE® Ballot Printing Systems to facilitate early voting in 13 locations, and related software, warranties and licenses.

The action by Hillsborough County fulfills a new requirement of Florida law that requires counties to adopt a fully auditable optical scan voting system. The AccuVote- OSX is a new, leading edge solution that features enhanced security and ease of use.

Hillsborough Benefits from Premier’s New State Certification

Earlier this month and after intensive testing and review, the Florida Department of State issued a full certification of Premier’s full suite of leading edge solutions, including the AccuVote-OSX, the Premier Central Scan, the ASSURE Ballot Printing System and the latest version of Premier’s best in class election management software, GEMS®, and related software and firmware.

The ASSURE election system software provides unmatched security and verification. The new software adds additional layers of security and more flexibility for voters and election officials, strengthening protections at every step of the elections process. ASSURE software is a culmination of security enhancements developed over time in addition to the latest developments in sophisticated digital signature protection.



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About Premier Election Solutions

Premier Election Solutions, Inc. is headquartered in Allen, Texas, and has offices and personnel throughout the United States and in Canada. Premier Election Solutions provides high-quality voting technology to jurisdictions of all sizes, along with comprehensive service and support capability, and is committed to elections accuracy, security and integrity. For more information on Premier Election Solutions, visit the company's Website at www.premierelections.com, or call 1-800-433-VOTE.

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