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Lyons Announces Selection of New Election Equipment

Kent County to partner with Dominion Voting Systems starting with November 2017 Election

GRAND RAPIDS, MI - Lisa Posthumus Lyons, Kent County Clerk/Register of Deeds, today announced the selection of *Dominion Voting Systems, Inc.* as the vendor of choice for Kent County's purchase of new election equipment. The new voting machines will be utilized by municipalities within Kent County starting with the November 2017 election.

"My priority for Kent County's new election system is to provide high quality equipment, the assurance of security, and a positive experience for the voter; each of the systems we considered would accomplish this in unique ways," Lyons said. "At the end of the day, my decision came down to the reliability and customer service for which Dominion is known, and its partnership with ElectionSource, an election services provider located right here in Kent County, which also has a proven track record for first class service," Lyons concluded.

While voters will be familiar with using paper ballots to cast their votes, the new system will include Dominion's *ImageCast Precinct*, the most widely deployed optical scan tabulator in the world, and the *ImageCast X Ballot Marking Device*, a universal voting device that offers a range of accessibility options so all voters can vote privately and independently.

Lyons said many factors were carefully weighed when evaluating the County's options. Taken into account were input from local municipal clerks: features, functionality, and durability of the machines voters will interface with at the polls; election programming software capabilities; training for election administrators and precinct workers; election night reporting and real-time results for the public; high-speed absentee ballot-counting capabilities for local jurisdictions; and overall cost.

Following the selection by the State of Michigan of three qualified vendors, county clerks, in consultation with local city and township clerks, were charged with selecting the vendor from whom cities and townships within their counties would purchase new voting equipment.

"I am so excited to replace our aging election equipment with a system that both voters and election administrators can rely on," Lyons said. "It is doubly exciting that in doing so, we are supporting our local economy by working with a business located in our own back yard."

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