



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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### Secretary of State Bowen Reaches Lawsuit Settlement with ES&S Over Sale of Then-Unapproved Voting Equipment in State

**SACRAMENTO** – Announcing the settlement of her lawsuit against voting system manufacturer Election Systems & Software, Inc. (ES&S) for \$3.25 million, Secretary of State Debra Bowen today released the following statement.

“I am glad this important issue was resolved in a way that will benefit California’s voters. After attorneys’ fees, the remaining \$2.93 million from ES&S will be used to improve and strengthen the integrity of California’s electoral system. Californians have the right to know the systems they use for voting have met the legal standards for security, accuracy, reliability, and accessibility, and it is my responsibility under state law to ensure that happens.”

Secretary Bowen filed suit against ES&S in November 2007, alleging the company had sold 972 AutoMARK Model A200 ballot-marking machines that contained hardware changes that had never been authorized by the Secretary of State. Five California counties bought the modified Model A200 machines believing they were buying voting equipment exactly like the AutoMARK Model A100 machines the Secretary of State had tested and approved: Colusa (20 machines), Marin (130), Merced (104), San Francisco (558), and Solano (160).

For more information on the case, go to [http://www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/prior/2007/DB07\\_086.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/prior/2007/DB07_086.pdf).

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