THE ANTRIM REPORT INVESTIGATION & SYNOPSIS

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Written By: Matt Braynard, Executive Director Ian Camacho, Director of Research The LAA Research Group



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Summary

On the night of the 2020 General Election, Antrim County went to Joe Biden. This drew immediate scrutiny given that then-candidate Donald Trump had won handily four years earlier. The following day, a corrected count showed that Dominion machines had erroneously underreported Trump and that he had won Antrim County by nearly 6,000 votes.

The Allied Security Operations Group (ASOG), on behalf of DePerno Law, performed an independent investigation in Antrim County.

ASOG claimed that Dominion Voting Systems (DVS) machines in Antrim County intentionally switched votes from Trump to Biden, transmitted the results wirelessly, had an exceptionally high error rate that exceeded certification limits, and illegally wiped the ballot images in violation of state law. Democratic Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, the bipartisan Michigan Senate Oversight Committee, Dominion Voting Systems, and University of Michigan Professor of Computer Science and Engineering Dr. J. Alex Halderman – who performed an independent analysis – concluded that ASOG's claims had no factual basis for several reasons.

Our analysis of all reports and data showed that, for the most part, the defendants correctly rebutted ASOG's claims. No evidence suggests that Antrim County's DVS machines had fraudulent features in their designs, were online, or suffered from wiped ballot images.

Vulnerabilities in the system did exist, however, although mostly due to human error and negligence. Due to missing poll tapes, one local race could not correctly audit or accurately account for 72 ballots. In another race, a 3-ballot discrepancy changed the outcome of the race, with machine error as a conspicuous suspect. That race also had prior scan records erased without explanation. These instances alone should decertify DVS machines.

Furthermore, our research uncovered evidence that Dominion violated its state contract because the tabulators and memory cards failed to store write-in ballot images as specified in contract point 1.1.A.23, they violated the state agreement. These points along with the tabulation errors provide sufficient cause to decertify the DVS machines.

As nobody could view the source code due to DVS products being proprietary, "black box voting" machines, nobody outside Dominion knows for sure what it contains. All of these issues could be resolved through the adoption of open source voting machines, with requirements to archive ballot images and ballot definitions.

Chronology of Events

<u>January 2017</u> – Former Michigan Secretary of State (SOS) Ruth Johnson, a Republican, announces the purchase of Dominion Voting Systems (DVS), Election Software & Services (ES&S), and HartInterCivic for state elections.¹

<u>March 1, 2017</u> – Dominion Voting Systems signs a 10-year contract with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget.²

<u>January 19, 2019</u> – The U.S. Election Commission certifies Dominion Voting Systems' Democracy Suite 5.5-A (modification) election management system.³

November 5, 2019 – Antrim County, Michigan has its first two elections using DVS' Democracy Suite in Warner Township and for Boyne Falls Public Schools.⁴

<u>August 25, 2020</u> – DVS employee Cheryl Homes sends an email summarizing the efficacy of the election process following the primaries. The email describes issues related to the transmission of vote totals via wireless modems, and it states that DVS turned off image saving.

<u>November 4, 2020</u> – Unofficial results posted by the Antrim County Clerk show that Joe Biden got over 7,700 votes, or 3,000 more than Donald Trump. Antrim County voted 62% in favor of President Trump in 2016.

<u>November 5, 2020</u> – Media outlets publish the county's first attempt to rectify the initial vote discrepancy, which shows Trump with 9,783 votes and Biden with 7,289 votes.

<u>November 6, 2020</u> – The Allied Security Operations Group (ASOG), on behalf of DePerno Law, on behalf of client Bill Bailey, begins its independent investigation after the re-tabulation.

November 7, 2020 – Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, a Democrat, releases a statement: "After discovering the error in reporting the unofficial results, the clerk worked diligently to report correct unofficial results by reviewing the printed totals tape on each tabulator and hand-entering the results for each race, for each precinct in the county." ⁵

November 16, 2020 – Michigan state's Official Vote report releases.

<u>November 21, 2020</u> – Per the ASOG report, someone unsuccessfully attempts to zero out the election results on the same day as the canvass/certification. The bipartisan Michigan Senate Oversight Committee (MSOC) also begins its own investigation on this day.

The Antrim Report Look Ahead America

¹ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/SecJohnsonAnnounce 549600 7.pdf

² https://www.michigan.gov/documents/localgov/7700117 555468 7.pdf

³ https://www.eac.gov/voting-equipment/democracy-suite-55-modification

⁴ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Aug 6 2019 Elec Jurisdictions 657811 7.pdf

⁵ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Antrim Fact Check 707197 7.pdf

<u>December 6, 2020</u> – Forensics acquisition of Antrim County election equipment.

December 13, 2020 - Russell Ramsland, Jr. publishes the ASOG Report findings and allegations.⁶

<u>December 14, 2020</u> – Dominion issues a public relations piece regarding various election claims titled "Setting the Record Straight: Facts & Rumors."⁷

<u>December 15, 2020</u> – Dominion Voting Systems CEO John Poulos goes before Michigan's Senate Oversight Committee and gives testimony under oath.

<u>December 17, 2020</u> – The State Bureau of Elections conducts the Antrim County recount of the presidential race only. The final count shows that President Trump won the county.

March 26, 2021 – Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Michigan, Dr. J. Alex Halderman offers his analysis on behalf of the Michigan SOS, countering ASOG.⁸

April 9, 2021 - DePerno Law files a follow-up claim.9

<u>June 23, 2021</u> – MSOC issues a report which concludes that although the election had many severe weaknesses, there were no significant acts of fraud.¹⁰

June 24, 2021 – Dominion issues their "Fact Check" of the ASOG report.

September 15, 2021 - Dominion revises "Setting the Record Straight: Facts & Rumors." 11

⁶https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/antrim michigan forensics report [121320] v2 [red acted].pdf

⁷ https://www.dominionvoting.com/election2020-setting-the-record-straight/

https://ftt-uploads.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/29140718/Antrim.pdf

⁹ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf

¹⁰ https://misenategopcdn.s3.us-east-

^{1.}amazonaws.com/99/doccuments/20210623/SMPO 2020ElectionReport 2.pdf

¹¹ https://www.dominionvoting.com/election2020-setting-the-record-straight/

Summary of the Vote Numbers Over Time 12

	Date	Registered Voters	Total Votes Cast	Biden	Trump	Third Party	Write-In	TOTAL VOTES for President	Note
1.	Nov. 4	22,082	16,044	5,960	9,748	239	23	15,970	Tabulator tapes- official results (Not reported on election night).
2.	Nov. 4	22,082	16,047	7,769	4,509	145	14	12,437	Clerk's computer- unofficial results (publicly reported).
3.	Nov. 5	22,082	18,059	7,289	9,783	255	20	17,347	First attempt to rectify discrepancy.
4.	Nov. 6	22,082	16,044	5,960	9,748	241	20	15,969	Completion of re-tabulation.
5.	Nov. 16	22,082	16,044	5,960	9,748	241	20	15,969	Official Vote report.
6.	Nov. 21	22,082	16,044	5,960	9,748	241	20	15,969	Canvass/certification
7.	Dec. 17	22,082	16,044	5,959	9,759	244	20	15,982	Hand Recount

Parties to the Dispute

The Allied Security Operations Group

The Allied Security Operations Group (ASOG) alleged that Dominion Voting Systems (DVS) intentionally and purposefully had inherent errors built into its design schematics in order to create systemic fraud and influence election results. ASOG claimed that the system intentionally generated an enormously high number of ballot errors in the electronic ballots in order to transfer them to adjudication with no oversight, transparency, or audit trail. ASOG claimed that this process led to election fraud as a result of machine and/or software error, not human error. The ASOG Report concluded that because 48 other counties in Michigan used these same machines and software, their alleged finds cast doubt on Michigan's elections.

DePerno Law

DePerno Law claimed that the machines used in Antrim County used wireless modems and transmitted the results online and overseas in violation of state and federal laws. The firm primarily relied on The ASOG Report by Russell Ramsland, Jr., who headed the group. Ramsland claimed that an unauthorized user attempted to zero out election results on November 21, 2020, which demonstrated intent to deliberately remove the log files. He also cited a DVS training manual mentioning the digital adjudication feature, which they claimed proved that the Antrim machines had digital adjudication that allowed county workers to change votes. DePerno Law also cited an internal email from DVS employees following the 2020 primary election discussing wireless transmission and turning off the ballot image feature as evidence.

https://misenategopcdn.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/99/doccuments/20210623/SMPO 2020ElectionReport 2.pdf The Antrim Report

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson first explained the difference between the voting machines and the election management systems (EMS): "Antrim County uses the Dominion Voting Systems election management system and voting machines (tabulators), which count hand-marked paper ballots. Counties use election management systems to program tabulators and also to report unofficial election results." She explained that the anomalous tabulation event was due to "human error" and isolated to Antrim County, and did not affect other states, counties, or overall election results: "When the software was reprogrammed, the County also had to update the software on all of the media drives that are placed in tabulators to ensure tabulators communicate properly with the election management system [....] However, because the county did not update the media drives for the tabulators that did not have changes to races, those tabulators did not communicate properly with the County's central election management system software when the county combined and reported unofficial results." ¹³

Dominion Voting Systems

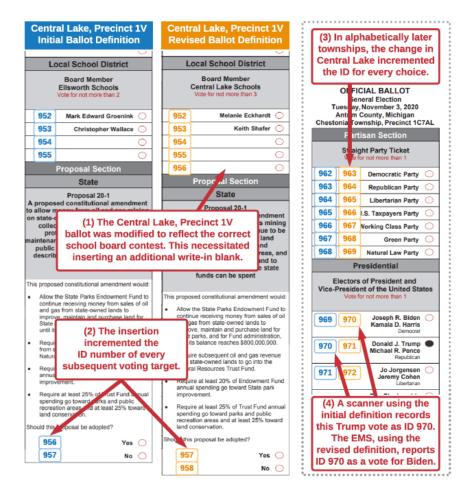
Dominion Voting Systems responded with a series of "Fact Checks" meant to debunk the ASOG Report in its entirety on June 24, 2021. 14 Often arguing from authority and using circular reasoning (such as citing the statement from Michigan's Secretary of State, which cited the DVS site as a debunking source, which in turn cited her statement), it disputed ASOG's claims as unfounded and baseless. It largely relied on Dr. J. Alex Halderman's analysis for its response.

Dr. J. Alex Halderman

University of Michigan Professor of Computer Science and Engineering Dr. J. Alex Halderman provided the most objective review. Dr. Halderman concluded that human errors resulted in inaccurate vote totals in his investigation. He explained that the corrected ballots did not affect the presidential candidate's ballot position, but that changes affected everything downstream; everything had a 1+ in terms of assignment, so that votes cast for Trump went to Biden.

¹³ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Antrim Fact Check 707197 7.pdf

¹⁴ https://www.dominionvoting.com/election-2020-setting-the-record-straight-antrim-county-michigan/



The Allegations

Many allegations and rebuttals regarding the conduct and accuracy of the Antrim elections came out of these events. We review each of them individually below.

The Tabulator Wireless Modem Quote Claim

In its April 9, 2021 filing, DePerno Law persisted in its claims that the machines used in Antrim County used wireless modems. "Two versions of Michigan voting systems both Dominion and ESS [sic] have been found to have utilized wireless technology. The Dominion Voting Systems proposal for Antrim County shows a quote for wireless transmission capabilities." The Michigan Senate Oversight Committee stated, "The cited proof of [wireless] modems is from a quote for purchasing received by the county from Dominion, not an actual purchase receipt or physical sighting of any [wireless] modems." Modems."

¹⁵ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Dominion quotes 554556 7.pdf

¹⁶ https://misenategopcdn.s3.us-east-

^{1.}amazonaws.com/99/doccuments/20210623/SMPO 2020ElectionReport 2.pdf

According to Halderman, the Democracy Suite had ImageCast X (ICX) ballot-marking devices (BMDs), which had wireless capabilities:

Antrim County adopted the Democracy Suite system produced by Dominion Voting Systems, consisting of ImageCast Precinct (ICP) ballot scanners, ImageCast X (ICX) ballot-marking devices (BMDs), and the Democracy Suite election management system (EMS). As deployed in Antrim, the EMS consists of a single desktop PC running specialized software for election preparation and results aggregation and reporting. Antrim uses Democracy Suite version 5.5, which is federally certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.¹⁷

DePerno Law relied on cybersecurity expert James Penrose's report for evidence of wireless transmission. His report showed a Dominion ICX schematic, stating that it had the ability to use an external wireless modem and wired connectivity.

The ICX machine may also utilize an external wireless for communications modem with the central listener server for Dominion Democracy Suite. See the previously listed proposal from Dominion to Antrim County. The manual for the ICX also shows an Ethernet port for wired connectivity [emphasis added].¹⁸

Penrose's evidence referred to a proposal and not a purchase order, however, which even his own report acknowledged. Furthermore, the proposal document cited had no signature and therefore no authorization, as seen in the blank, unsigned line above "Authorizing Signature, Title." Some Michigan counties had signed and authorized proposals (with different details and criteria), which, when compared to Antrim County's unsigned, unauthorized proposal, indicated that not all counties left theirs blank and so this was not a uniform collection of county proposals all without signatures. Furthermore, Michigan only uses ICXs as BMDs; in that configuration they do not record votes at all, so they never have any results to transmit.

This assumption that an unsigned, unauthorized proposal equaled a purchase order explains why Ben Cotton, founder of CyFIR, LLC, wrote that he had seen purchase documents:

I examined the purchase documents produced by Antrim County with respect to the purchase of the Dominion Voting system and note that the following system components listed on the purchase documents were not produced:

- (a) ImageCast Listener Express Server
- (b) ImageCast Express Firewall

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¹⁷ https://ftt-uploads.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/29140718/Antrim.pdf

¹⁸ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 6, Figure 4)

¹⁹https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 6, Figure 1)

²⁰ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Dominion quotes 554556 7.pdf

- (c) EMS Express Managed Switch
- (d) ICP Wireless Modems (17)
- (e) Image Cast Communications Manager Server
- (f) ImageCast Listener Express RAS (remote access server) System
- (g) ImageCast USB Modems (5)²¹

Again, these items appeared on the unauthorized, unsigned proposal under "Results Transmission" but not on any purchase documents provided by DePerno Law. This fact would also confirm Halderman's analysis and other report's findings.

One should ask why if DePerno Law had a purchase order that showed Antrim's purchase of all these items, then why did the firm not include this key document in their evidence instead of relying on an unsigned purchase proposal as its proof? Why have neither Antrim County workers, Dominion workers, voters, nor poll watchers come forward to report wired or external, wireless transmission equipment on any machines in Antrim County? Even though the ICX had wireless capability, it does not mean that anything went online. While it could pose a potential vulnerability, it does not in and of itself prove that any exploits occurred.

The Tabulator Wireless Chip Claim

The ASOG Report introduced an image in evidence of a wireless chip, suggesting fraud in Michigan. ²² It came from ES&S, however, a company not used in Antrim County. The MSOC Report countered in a footnote that Antrim County DVS machines had no modems in them: "ES&S and Hart InterCivic tabulators have internal modems, but not Dominion. However, they are not turned on until the polls are closed and tabulation has concluded."

According to the contract between DVS and Michigan, however, these machines did contain internal dial-up modems: "ImageCast Precinct: The ImageCast Precinct tabulators are equipped with internal dial-up modems, and can also transmit results via an external cellular modem." Bois Blanc Township confirmed that Antrim machines had internal modems: "While the State of Michigan requires all tabulation systems to be capable of transmitting election results from the precincts via modems, Antrim County does not use modems." Pn. J. Alex Halderman also confirmed that Antrim lacked external wireless, cellular modems: "Antrim County did not purchase and does not use the Dominion wireless results transmission functionality." NBC News had confirmed that Dominion put them in tabulators and scanners: "The three largest voting manufacturing companies — Election Systems & Software, Dominion Voting Systems and Hart InterCivic — have acknowledged they all put modems in some of their tabulators and scanners. The reason? So that unofficial election results can more quickly be relayed to the public." In

²¹ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 8)

https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 6, Figure 5)

²³ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/localgov/7700117 555468 7.pdf (p. 112)

²⁴http://www.boisblanctownship.org/downloads/to satisfy the numerous questions about the dominion tabulators used in our township voting process.pdf

²⁵ https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/elections/online-vulnerable-experts-find-nearly-three-dozen-u-s-voting-n1112436

other words, the machines could transmit online with their internal dial-up modems as required by law, but did not use them.

Although ASOG erred on the external modem claim, the MSOC and DVS also misled by claiming these machines had no wireless modems. In actuality, they had no external, wireless modems, and they had internal, dial-up modems.

The Taiwan and Germany IP Address Claim

DePerno cited a report by Penrose which stated he found two IPs, one in Taiwan and the other in Germany. "The first IP address was: 120.125.201.101. This IP address is registered to Ministry of Education Computer Center located in Taipei, Taiwan. The second IP address was: 62.146.7.95. This IP address is registered to EDV-BV GmbH QSC Subkunde located in Nurenberg, Germany." Additionally, DePerno Law also cited Ben Cotton, founder of CyFIR, LLC, who provided an image of IP addresses located in an unallocated space. Indeed, the image shows a loopback address (127.0.0.1) and default gateway (192.168.0.1). It also shows the address 120.125.201.101 that Penrose cited, but not 62.146.7.79 and 62.146.210.52, nor 62.146.7.95 that Penrose cited, nor the private File Transfer Protocol network that Cotton mentioned.

Even assuming that this IP information proves true, Cotton's report also noted that "the unallocated nature of the artifact precludes the exact definition of the date and time that this data was created." Without time lines on IP connections, one cannot confirm that they were connected on Election Day. One has no idea what happened with those machines from their time of manufacture in Taiwan to their set up in Antrim County. Given that these IP addresses come from Taiwan, the manufacturer could have connected the machines as a quality control measure, although this remains equally as speculative as DePerno's claims.

Halderman confirmed that Cotton's screenshot shows a fragment of a real piece of malware, but clearly a Windows executable (it references to ntdll.dll, for instance). He noted that seems strange, since he states that he found it in unallocated space on the ICX, which runs Android. Halderman also confirmed that a stock Windows installation from around the time Michigan purchased the equipment contains a very similar fragment of the same malware, but it's part of the Windows Defender antivirus signature database (used for identifying malware), and not any kind of actual infection. Apparently the ICX originally had Windows loaded – perhaps at the factory for testing – then Dominion installed Android without completely erasing the storage. That would explain how these addresses ended up in unallocated space.²⁸ In any case, these IP addresses seem to indicate one of the reasons why Michigan demanded that the machines be built in the USA in its contract.

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Look Ahead America

²⁶ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf

²⁷ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 8, Figure 1)

²⁸ Email with Dr. J. Alex Halderman, 19 October 2021

The Internal Email from Dominion Claim

DePerno law cited an email from DVS employees as evidence that the machines went online and wiped ballot images. ²⁹ It stated "Dominion representatives also confirmed issues with wireless transmission of vote totals and even went as far as disabling the saving of ballot images without explicit authorization." The MSOC responded, "The context in the email, to make electronically transmitting the results after the election with the attachable modem function better, makes the instruction to turn off transmitting the image a reasonable instruction when coupled with there being no law in Michigan to save the images." Further examination of this email reveals that it appeared to be internal, and unrelated to Antrim County. Second, clearly the email discussed 3G, wireless signals, and thus the attachable modem referred to an *external*, wireless modem, which Antrim County did not have. Finally, it came from an election before the 2020 General Election and would not have been relevant anyway, even if what ASOG had claimed was true.

The International Server Claim

Having shown that these machines in Antrim were not online, the claims that Dominion servers were owned and operated from Canada, Spain, Serbia, and Germany would not have affected Antrim either way. Even so we reviewed the claim. MSOC explained international connections:

Mr. John Polous, Dominion CEO denied the existence of Dominion servers in Spain and Germany, emphasizing that ballots remain local, are counted locally, and are not moved over state lines, let alone overseas [...] County clerks then report these unofficial results both locally and to the secretary of state. The secretary of state releases the unofficial results to media and their own page. Clarity, a Spanish based company, also takes in these unofficial results from the county or the state. This company, which is based in Spain and has servers in Europe, makes the unofficial results available to multiple users, especially media subscribers who utilize the unofficial results in their election night prognostications. Scytl and others are companies that provide similar services. All of these activities, especially due to media inquiries, constitute a significant explanation for much of the cyber activity across the country and the globe on election night.³⁰

Indeed, the overseas servers did not belong to Dominion but rather to Scytl. One must prove that Dominion owned Scytl or held a majority share in it, and ASOG did not.

The International Subsidiary Claim

The report explained that DVS is a Canadian owned company with global subsidiaries, owned by Staple Street Capital, a New York hedge fund, which is in turn owned by UBS Securities LLC, of

1.amazonaws.com/99/doccuments/20210623/SMPO 2020ElectionReport 2.pdf (p. 20-22)

²⁹ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 6, Figure 4)

³⁰ https://misenategopcdn.s3.us-east-

which 3 of their 7 board members are Chinese nationals. Dominion refuted this as impossible with the oversights and full disclosure, with which they must comply. Although Dominion's main headquarters are in Toronto, Canada, it incorporated in Denver, Colorado, making it legal. Furthermore, the report wrongly attributed US-based UBS Securities LLC's purchase of Staple Street Capital in October 2020 to the Chinese subsidiary, UBS Securities Co., Ltd. Additionally, nothing suggested that UBS Securities LLC would remain the eventual buyer. The report showed no direct ties between Dominion and the Chinese Communist Party, and could not connect the dots with any certainty. Instead it relied on speculation, which has no legal weight.

The Smartmatic Connection Claim

ASOG claimed that Dominion either bought or leased (depending on its argument) Smartmatic software in order to connect it to Venezuela. It cited a former Venezuelan professor of mathematics and alumni of University of Michigan Gustavo Delfino who claimed that software in the Smartmatic electronic voting machines got incorporated into Dominion Voting Systems during the 2004 Venezuela national referendum. Dominion responded that they are two separate companies that make electronic voting systems, and do not use or license Smartmatic software and/or its software from Sequoia. Smartmatic also refuted such claims. Indeed, no evidence presented has shown a connection between these companies, or that the Michigan voting system software used the Venezuela voting system software.

The Wiped Ballot Images Claim

DePerno Law insisted that much of the purported fraud occurred due to a high rate of digital adjudication of votes in Antrim County. Dominion claimed that Antrim County opted out of the adjudication service. Dr. Halderman confirmed this fact and so the claim would not apply: "Dominion's adjudication system stores the ballot image together with the scanner's interpretation of the votes and a log of any changes made by the system operator. Adjudication is an optional feature of the Dominion system and was not used in Antrim County." Antrim County could not delete or disable any ballot images, and the media drives failed to load ballot images, precisely because the county chose not to purchase this feature. DePerno's citing a DVS training manual only applied to machines with the feature, therefore, was irrelevant. While Halderman noted that a ballot image saving option should be mandatory for future elections, DePerno's evidence showed that ballot images were unavailable, not that deletions occurred.

The Removed Vote Adjudication Logs Claim

The report stated that the computer system showed vote adjudication logs for prior years but missing adjudication log entries for the 2020 election cycle. The report's authors believed that this showed evidence that manual removal of the 2020 election cycle records occurred. Due to purportedly missing files and adjudication logs, it had not yet determined where bulk adjudication occurred or who was responsible.

The Failed Attempt to "Zero Out" Claim

Russell Ramsland, Jr. also claimed that an unauthorized user attempted to zero out election results on November 21, 2020, which demonstrated intent to deliberately remove the log files. Halderman showed that Ramsland did not understand how programming code functions:

The only evidence he offers for this assertion is an EMS log file entry that reads "EmsLogger - There is no permission to {0}", which he claims "is direct proof of an attempt to tamper with evidence". This is absurd and misleading. A programmer would immediately recognize that {0} is merely a placeholder, in this case one that was intended to be replaced with a description of the attempted action. It has nothing to do with "zeroing" election results.

In many programming languages, anything indexed begins with the index 0 instead of 1, contrary to what non-programmers might expect; non-programmers expect the first value to always be "value #1" not "value #0". In any case, this evidence did not indicate voter fraud.

The 90-Day Safe Harbor Act Violation Claim

The ASOG Report had claimed that the Antrim County election workers violated the "Help America Vote Act, Safe Harbor" (HAVA) 90-day period. MSOC explained that no such definition exists in HAVA. Indeed, no such statement exists in this document.³¹ No such statement appears in any Michigan state law or document either. Therefore, it is a baseless claim.

The Reprogramming the Ballots Claim

The ASOG Report argued that new ballot programming occurred on Dominion ImageCast Precinct Cards both on 10/23/2020 and on 11/05/2020. These system changes affected how the machines read and tabulated ballots. The report concluded that the only reason to change the software after the election was to obfuscate evidence of fraud and/or to correct program errors that would decertify the election. Halderman demonstrated that the October changes resulted from the local election update, and the change in November from this correction.

The Exceeding the Maximum Allowable Error Rate Claim

ASOG forensic researchers allegedly observed an error rate of 68.05% in Antrim County using the tabulation log. They asserted that it recorded 10,667 of 15,676 individual events (68.05%) as errors. They added that Central Lake Township purportedly had 1,222 ballots reversed out of 1,491 total ballots cast (an 81.96% rejection rate) that led to the sending of these ballots to adjudication for a decision by election personnel without oversight. Halderman explained that the "error rate" resulted from standard operating system error messages for basic computerized machine operations. For example: error logs generated during start up or shut down sequences, or issues such as not properly inserting a ballot. These do not represent large batches of human

³¹ https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/eac_assets/1/6/HAVA41.PDF

adjudicated ballots. While Halderman showed that the ASOG Report failed to produce the claimed 68.05% error rate, he neglected to mention that the report misstated its source claim in three ways: (1) the Federal Election Commission never cited an allowable 1 in 250,000 ballots error rate, (2) 1 in 250,000 ballots would equal 0.0004% not 0.0008%, (3) the report later cited its source as the National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL) error rate of 1 in 125,000 (0.0008%), correcting its earlier misstatement.³² These failures to substantiate mathematical claims, coupled with an incorrect citation and calculation, undermined the report's credibility.

The Vote Switches / Software Glitches Claim

Dominion argued that no votes were "switched" by "software glitches" in Antrim County, but rather by user-error. The Michigan SOS stated this occurred as well. Our research showed that the issue stemmed from ballot issues, inadequate staff training, and a failure to update software. The ASOG Report stated that "the vote flip occurred because of machine error built into the voting software designed to create error." Yet, Dominion's source code remains inaccessible and thus ASOG cannot make such a determination.

The Ranked Choice Voting Claim

The ASOG Report claimed that the ranked choice voting feature present in DVS allowed a bad actor to assign fractional vote counts to specified candidates. Though the report claimed "In the logs we identified that the RCV or Ranked Choice Voting Algorithm was enabled" it only showed a Dominion training manual referencing RCV. DVS' "fact check" and CEO John Poulos countered under oath before MSOC that Michigan does not use RCV, nor support fractional or "weighted" voting. Although Antrim did not have RCV, Eastpointe, Michigan does use RCV.^{33 34} While RCV remains illegal in US presidential elections, it has legal use in some state and local elections. Dominion markets itself to any state or municipal organization willing to purchase their EMS. Therefore, RCV features in DVS would reflect laws established in some areas. However, this does not support any claim that Antrim County machines had or used this feature.

The SQL / EAC Claim

ASOG claimed that Dominion systems had Microsoft (MS) Structured Query Language (SQL) software. It referenced MS SQL as a tool that used but provided no additional reference as to whether Dominion installed the program or if the program came installed already. Halderman stated the system already had MS SQL Server Management Studio installed with no need for additional passwords to view and edit election databases. DePerno later cited Cyber Ninjas' finds that they identified an installation, and that it was not a component of Election Assistance

³² https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/eac_assets/1/28/VVSG.1.1.VOL.1.FINAL1.pdf

³³ https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-reaches-agreement-city-eastpointe-michigan-under-voting-rights-act

³⁴https://www.fairvote.org/ eastpointe michigan to become first in state to implement ranked choice votin

Commission (EAC) Dominion Certification Configuration, which meant that the actual voting system used was not in compliance with its certification.³⁵

While the EAC serves to ensure HAVA compliance, however, HAVA specifically says that EAC certification criteria and guidelines serve as exactly that: guidelines. In fact, the certification states upfront "The voting system identified on this certificate has been evaluated at an accredited voting system testing laboratory for conformance to the *Voluntary Voting System Guidelines Version* 1.0 (VVSG 1.0). [...] This certificate is not an endorsement of the product by any agency of the U.S. Government and no warranty of the product is either expressed or implied." ³⁶ It acts as a set of voluntary voting guidelines. The certification also states:

An EAC certification is an official recognition that a voting system (in a specific configuration or configurations) has been tested to and has met an identified set of Federal voting system standards.

An EAC certification is not:

- An endorsement of a Manufacturer, voting system, or any of the system's components.
- A Federal warranty of the voting system or any of its components.
- A determination that a voting system, when fielded, will be operated in a manner that meets all HAVA requirements.
- A substitute for State or local certification and testing.
- A determination that the system is ready for use in an election.
- A determination that any particular component of a certified system is itself certified for use outside the certified configuration.

The EAC guidelines act as a best practice rather than as a requirement. Unless a specific Michigan state law was violated in relation to the EAC, no legal enforcement exists in terms of EAC guidance. In good faith, Michigan should decertify, but, legally speaking, the state has no grounds for doing so when going by EAC/HAVA "guidelines". While MS SQL poses problems due to malicious code possibilities and many hacker tools pertaining to SQL, citing noncompliance with EAC certification has no legal weight.

The Security Vulnerability Claims

The ASOG investigators discovered a number of security issues. They found an election program thumb drive outside of a security vault specifically used to secure data memory cards and other election-purposed thumb drives. ASOG investigators discovered election data package files on an unsecured desktop computer, apparently a component of the EMS. In addition, the desktop hard drive containing these data packages had no encryption, with software and security updates/patches over two years out of date. The users operating this computer primarily logged in with "Super User" privileges. This credential allows the user to have significant access

³⁵https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 7)

³⁶ https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/voting_system/files/DSuite55_CertConf_Scope%28FINAL%29.pdf

to all aspects of the data and operating system present on the computer. Also, multiple users shared login credentials (likely "Super User" credentials), making full audits of election data activity significantly more difficult. Halderman confirmed all these claims and commented on Antrim's lack of election security practices. He did not conclude that it led to fraud or that any exploits had occurred, but that such negligence posed serious security vulnerabilities. He disagreed that machine decertification should occur on these grounds, however, noting that "missing software updates are frequently an unfortunate consequence of the federal certification process, under which voting system vendors must obtain EAC approval for any changes to election system software, including Windows updates." He provided many suggestions for the county and state to follow to ensure that these issues never recurred, and even MSOC acknowledged these security issues. Indeed, this election was not secure at all.

Contractual Violations

A more significant reason to decertify these machines is that they violated the state contract and state regulations, specifically item 1.1.A.23.³⁷

The Contractor shall describe in detail all aspects of the write-in vote and adjudication process. The tabulator shall allow for the voter to cast a write-in vote by marking the target area and writing the candidate name of their choice in a provided area. The tabulator shall store an image of the write-in vote, which can be separated out (as a group) for later determination and adjudication of valid write-in votes. [emphasis added]

Dominion agreed to this contractual item and even made the comment:

The ImageCast Precinct allows for the voter to cast a write-in vote by marking the target area and writing the candidate name of their choice in a provided area. The tabulators will divert ballots with write-in votes to the write-in bin for easy retrieval after the polls have closed. Additionally, all tabulators save the ballot image which includes the write-in name. Ballot images can be sorted by all conditions including write-in votes, allowing election officials to separate write-in votes as a group for later determination and adjudication. The Results Tally & Reporting module allows the manual entry of qualified write-in candidates and the associated vote totals which appear on the results reports [...] The ImageCast X allows the voter to enter a write-in name which is printed on the Verifiable Choice Summary Ballot. The image of the write-in name is saved by the ImageCast Precinct tabulator. [emphasis added]"

When Halderman focused on the re-zeroing issue (yellow highlighted), he showed an image titled "Figure 3: Memory Cards Mistakenly Re-zeroed" (red square). It does not seem that the machines stored write-in images, though ASOG and others who support the wiped image log theory might believe this. In reality, this line would indicate something being reset like a

 ^{37 &}lt;a href="https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/071B7700117">https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/071B7700117 Dominion Exhibit 2 to Sch A Tech Req 555357 7.
 pdf 1.1.A.23: "Voting System HARDWARE Technical Requirements - Ballot Counter / Tabulator - Write-in Votes"
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partition, but it alone cannot confirm or deny whether the files were previously blank or had previously stored data. The presence of this line likely indicates that write-in ballot images were enabled, but does not indicate whether any images were actually stored. In sum, one cannot determine from this data alone.

```
Nov 03/2020 20:32:59
                         Admin chose Utilities Options
Nov 03/2020 20:33:07
                         Admin chose to Rezero the Results.
                         Correct passcode entered for Rezero.
Nov 03/2020 20:33:16
Nov 03/2020 20:33:16
                         Start election database re-zero poll procedure.
Nov 03/2020 20:33:20 Comparing Raw Results files on primary and secondary cards...
Nov 03/2020 20:33:20 ... Raw Results files match.
Nov 03/2020 20:33:20 Comparing Detail Results files on primary and secondary cards...
Nov 03/2020 20:33:20
                         ... Detail Results files match.
Nov 03/2020 20:33:20 Comparing Write-in Image files on primary and secondary cards...
Nov 03/2020 20:33:20
                         ... Write-in Images files match.
Nov 03/2020 20:33:21
                         Image Partition reset.
Nov 03/2020 20:33:21
                         Results re-zeroed.
```

Halderman's report confirmed that the machines complied with providing the ability to select a write-in option, write-in a candidate, and separate write-in ballots, as their contract required:

Mr. Ramsland makes several further mistakes in interpreting the election system logs. He states that the scanner log shows that "Divert Options" were selected and claims that this means "all write-in ballots were sent for 'adjudication' by a poll worker or election official to process the ballot based on voter 'intent'. Adjudication files allow a computer operator to decide to whom to award those votes (or to trash them)." In reality, the divert option simply means that when a voter has selected a write-in, the scanner directs the physical ballot into a separate compartment within the ballot box. This makes it more convenient for a worker to later read the name that was written in. All voter selections, including the presence of a write-in, are processed normally by the scanner and reflected on the poll tape. The setting has nothing to do with electronic adjudication. [emphasis added]

Nevertheless, Halderman confirmed that these tabulators not only disabled the adjudication software, but did not even install it:

[A]djudication functionality was not enabled at all in Antrim County during the November 2020 election. The adjudication software application is an optional component of Democracy Suite. Antrim did not purchase it, and my examination of the EMS shows that it was not installed. There are no adjudication logs for the simple reason that adjudication was not used.

One must ask whether image storage for regular ballots was different from that of write-in ballots, which may or may not have required adjudication? If they were not distinct and used the same software that was required to take and store images of write-in ballots, then the software configuration purchased was non-compliant for certification. If these two categories of ballots were distinct, then the choice of Antrim County not to purchase the adjudication

feature says nothing as to whether the tabulators were in compliance with contract requirements specified in 1.1.A.23. Halderman answered this question in the next sentence:

Moreover, the tabulators were not configured to store ballot images—a necessary precondition for adjudication—and my inspection of the memory cards confirms that no ballot images are present. This means that it would have been impossible to use the adjudication feature even if the software were somehow installed after the election [emphasis added].

Additionally, Cyber Ninjas even confirmed that not only were no ballot images stored (and therefore not wiped), but that without ballot images no write-in candidates were handled:

None of the Compact Flash drives appeared to hold ballot images, and no ballot images had otherwise been imported into the EMS. Ballot images are a critical artifact and are essential for any type of system audit to determine how an electronic voting machine interpreted results and where it might be malfunctioning. Vendor training clearly state [sic] that ballot images should be imported into the EMS immediately following the election, but this was never done, and the images don't even seem to be present. Without ballot images its [sic] near impossible to match up and see the origin of where errors might be happening.

It is unclear how write-in candidates could have been properly handled without ballot images available for review.³⁸

Regarding the write-in candidates mentioned, ballots with write-in images get physically separated by the scanner into a different compartment for manual review. Nevertheless, one must conclude that Dominion Voting Systems violated contract item 1.1.A.23 as it failed to include images of write-in ballots as mandated by contract and law. These analyses remain consistent with that evidence, and this supports enough reason to decertify Dominion.

Decertify Dominion Because of Inaccuracies

Halderman's analysis gave yet another reason for decertification:

[M]y analysis shows that both the poll tapes and the final results are inaccurate with respect to a few down-ballot contests in the three precincts where ballot designs changed, as a result of the county's failure to appropriately distinguish between ballots voted using the old and new ballot designs. The largest discrepancy is in Central Lake Village, where the poll tape is inaccurate for the Central Lake Schools school board contest and State Proposal 20-1. I estimate that approximately 72 ballots are affected. Small numbers of votes may also have been affected in Mancelona Village for the Village Trustee race and in

³⁸ https://www.depernolaw.com/uploads/2/7/0/2/27029178/ex 5-10.pdf (Exhibit 7)

Warner Township for the Boyne Falls Public Schools Sinking Fund Millage Proposal. The circumstances that caused these discrepancies did not affect any other contests and do not affect enough votes to change the outcome of any contest.

While the presidential election did not get impacted, this discrepancy affected down ballot issues, such as the legalization of marijuana (state proposal 20-1), and the Central Lake Schools school board contest. Although the outcomes of both contests did not change with this discrepancy, 72 of 16,044 ballots cast produced an error rate of 0.45%, a number significantly higher than the allowable election error rate as established by the National Conference of State Legislatures' guidelines of 1 in 125,000 ballots (0.0008%). Furthermore, it directly affected the outcome of a local race for legalizing a marijuana retailer.

In the presidential election, Halderman confirmed a higher percentage than 0.0008%. He wrote, "In December, the state conducted a county-wide hand count of the presidential contest that agreed with the final reported results to within 0.08%. In January, the state conducted a state-wide risk-limiting audit of the presidential contest that affirmed the reported outcome. These findings and my analysis all support the conclusion that there are no significant errors in Antrim County's final presidential results." ³⁹

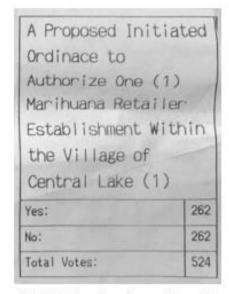
While Halderman showed why ASOG incorrectly claimed that misfed ballots equated to errors, the professor glossed over the 13-ballot difference found in the presidential hand recount as well as a 72-ballot difference in down-ballot contests. A variance of 13 of the 16,044 ballots cast in the presidential contest (0.081%) and 72 of the 16,044 ballots cast in the local contests (0.45%), exceeded the allowable ballot error rate of 1 in 125,000 cast (0.0008%). True enough, neither discrepancy affected the overall outcome of the presidential race, nor state or local contests. Yet Halderman mentioned that a key item for a forensic audit, the poll tapes, had several inaccuracies in three precincts. Nevertheless, Halderman dismissed it: "Since State Proposal 20-1 was decided by a margin of more than 3 million votes, the error could not have affected the outcome." By this logic, no matter how large the discrepancy found in Antrim County's 16,044 votes, no amount of errors found in Antrim could overturn the 3 million votes already cast by Michiganders.

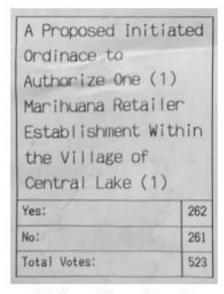
Most notably, he explored a discrepancy that directly affected the outcome of a marijuana initiative, which failed the first time when scanned, but passed on the second scan. Additionally, he noted someone overwrote the records from the first pass to do the second. (Why nobody made a copy he did not explain.) Halderman assigned the blame to human error, but could not entirely avoid the possibility of it having stemmed from faulty machines:

Beyond the discrepancies noted above, the poll tapes from the two Central Lake scans show a large number of smaller differences. Many contests have one or two fewer votes in the second scan. One of these differences potentially affected the outcome of a contest. As shown in Figure 6, in the first scan, the Central Lake

³⁹ https://ftt-uploads.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/29140718/Antrim.pdf

Village Marihuana Retailer Initiative was tied (and thus defeated), but in the second scan, which became the final result, it passed by a single vote. The data I examined suggests that three ballots that were included in the first scan were omitted when the ballots were scanned again, either correctly or due to human error. The scanner log from election day, as recorded in the EMS database, shows that 1494 ballots were scanned. Yet the log from the memory card shows that only 1491 ballots were scanned on November 6. The memory card from the first scan was overwritten to prepare it for the second scan, so the original digital records of the ballots are not available. [...] The data supports the conclusion that these three ballots fully account for the residual differences between the poll tapes from the two scans. There are multiple possibilities for why they were not included in the second scan. While it is possible that they were ruled invalid due to some defect and properly excluded, it is also possible that elections staff simply did not scan them the second time, due to human error. If these ballots are valid, it is likely that the final reported outcome of the Central Lake Village Marihuana Retailer Initiative is incorrect and that the true result is a tie, as shown on the election day poll tape [emphasis added].





(a) Election Day Scan (Nov. 3)

(b) Second Scan (Nov. 6)

Figure 6: Central Lake Village Marihuana Retailer Initiative. In this local contest, the poll tapes differ by one vote—enough to change the outcome. The data suggests that three ballots that were scanned on Nov. 3 were omitted when the ballots were re-scanned on Nov. 6, either correctly or due to human error.

Ballot 1 — Central Lake Township, Precinct 1CENT President and Vice President of the United States : Donald J. Trump / Michael R. Pence United States Senator for State: John James Representative in Congress 1st District : Jack Bergman Representative in State Legislature 105th District : Ken Borton Member of the State Board of Education : Tami Carlone, Michelle A. Frederick Regent of the University of Michigan : Sarah Hubbard, Carl Meyers Trustee of Michigan State University: Pat O'Keefe, Tonya Schuitmaker Governor of Wayne State University : Don Gates County Prosecuting Attorney : Write-in County Sheriff: Write-in County Clerk : Sheryl Guy County Treasurer : Sherry A. Comben County Register of Deeds : Patty Niepoth County Drain Commissioner : Mark Stone County Surveyor : Scott Papineau County Commissioner 2nd District : Joshua E. Watrous Township Supervisor for Central Lake Township : Write-in Township Clerk for Central Lake Township : Judy Kosloski Township Treasurer for Central Lake Township : Andrew Smith Township Trustee for Central Lake Township : Patrick Hanlon, Pat Marshall Justice of Supreme Court : Katherine Mary Nepton, Brock Swartzle Judge of Court of Appeals 4th District Incumbent Position : Michael J. Kelly, Amy Ronayne Krause Judge of Court of Appeals 4th District Non-Incumbent Position : Michelle Rick Judge of Circuit Court 13th Circuit Incumbent Position : Kevin A. Elsenheimer Board Member for Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District 6 Year Term : Thelma A. Chellis State Proposal 20-1 : Yes State Proposal 20-2 : Yes

Ballot 2 — Central Lake Township, Precinct 1V

[*No selections.]

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Ballot 3 — Central Lake Township, Precinct 1V
Straight Party Ticket: Republican Party
President and Vice President of the United States : Donald J. Trump / Michael R. Pence
United States Senator for State: John James
Representative in Congress 1st District : Jack Bergman
Member of the State Board of Education : Tami Carlone, Michelle A. Frederick
Regent of the University of Michigan : Sarah Hubbard, Carl Meyers
Trustee of Michigan State University: Pat O'Keefe, Tonya Schuitmaker
County Prosecuting Attorney: James L. Rossiter
County Sheriff: Daniel S. Bear
County Clerk : Sheryl Guy
County Treasurer : Sherry A. Comben
County Register of Deeds: Patty Niepoth
County Commissioner 2nd District : Joshua E. Watrous
Township Supervisor for Central Lake Township : Stanley A. Bean 
Village President for Village of Central Lake : Rob Tyler
Village Trustee for Village of Central Lake : Bill Chapma
 School Board Member for Central Lake Schools : Melanie Eckhardt, Keith Shafer
* State Proposal 20-1 :

    State Proposal 20-2 :

A Proposed Initiated Ordinace to Authorize One (1) Marihuana Retailer Establishment Within the Village of
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Figure 7: Reconstructed Omitted Ballots from Central Lake. This figure shows selections registered by the scanner on Nov. 3 for three ballots that were not included when the ballots were scanned again on Nov. 6. It is possible that these ballots were properly excluded due to some disqualifying defect. However, if Ballot 3 was valid and omitted due to human error, it is likely that the outcome of the Central Lake Village Marihuana Retailer Initiative is incorrect.

Final Assessment of the ASOG Report & Antrim Events

The ASOG Report demonstrated many possibilities where election security could have been compromised, but failed to prove any actual compromise or intent of compromise from Dominion Voting Systems. It seems likely that ASOG allowed their findings in previous forensic investigations of election irregularities to influence their conclusions in the Antrim County General Election forensic report. Although the Michigan Senate Oversight Committee claimed that ASOG intentionally misrepresented its findings, it seems more likely that unconscious confirmation bias seeped into the report.

^{*} indicates contests that are potentially incomplete due to limited data.

The ASOG Report exposed insufficient oversight for election system procedures in Antrim County. By its nature, the design of Dominion Voting Systems has additional points of potential failure in the chain of election events. While human error demonstrably had the largest contributing factor in the reported election irregularities, seemingly unintentional design flaws in Dominion Voting Systems (as well as the lack of publicly available documentation and disclosure of its design) increased that potential for human error. That no parties could review the source code made the claims difficult to prove, but likewise difficult to disprove.

Nevertheless, the ASOG Report revealed a pattern of negligence by Antrim County in the 2020 General Election. Upon examining Halderman's and Cyber Ninjas' evidence, our research team confirmed that the Dominion Voting Systems machines violated contract item 1.1.A.23. At minimum, the 72-ballot difference in a local race raised issues of reliability with inaccurate paper trails. Halderman did not rule out machine error as a possibility for the 3-ballot discrepancy in the local marijuana initiative, which exceeded the NSCL error rate and directly changed the election outcome. This lack of certainty with the discrepancies appears emblematic of DVS machines' unreliability. For these contract violations and variances, Michigan should decertify Dominion Voting Systems machines.

An Open Source Solution

Open source voting would have rendered these unaddressed issues irrelevant by allowing any interested party to inspect the source code and restore transparency to the voting process. In short, it would have removed all lingering doubts. We recommend that counties investigate our link to more information on open source voting: https://lookaheadamerica.org/blackbox/.

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Get Involved!

If you wish to help the Research Group, then please volunteer at https://lookaheadamerica.org/volunteer/.

If you liked our work and wish to support it, then please make a tax-deductible donation at https://lookaheadamerica.org/donate/.