

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER HOSTS NBC AND INFOVOTER TECHNOLOGY'S VOTER ALERT LINE ON ELECTION DAY

Philadelphia, PA (October 26, 2004) – Given the controversies that surrounded the vote count in Florida and elsewhere in the 2000 Presidential Election, and the dramatic increases in recent voter registration, people don't really know what to expect from Election 2004. But information gathered by InfoVoter Technologies at the National Constitution Center may help provide answers.

InfoVoter Technologies' MYVOTE1 Voter Alert Line (1-866-MYVOTE1) will be operated from the National Constitution Center on Election Day, November 2, 2004, from 6 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Voters throughout the country will be able to call the MYVOTE1 Voter Alert Line (1-866-MYVOTE1) to report irregularities at their local polling location. The alert will give voters an opportunity to record a brief description (in either English or Spanish) for NBC News of the problems they are facing. The system retains their phone number, location and polling concern as part of a .wav file, and transfers it in real time to an online map of calls, indicating hotspots of activity. Then the caller has the option to be transferred to their local election official for assistance. Voters who call the MYVOTE1 Voter Alert Line will also be able to receive information about their local polling location.

InfoVoter Technologies -- a bipartisan joint venture representing VoterLink Data Systems and Chesapeake Enterprises -- will manage the voter contact technology along with a team of bipartisan analysts at the National Constitution Center. The team of analysts, who will be assisted by graduate students from the University of Pennsylvania Fels' School of Government and bilingual students from The Hispanic Voter Project at Johns Hopkins University, will examine the volume and the location of the calls and will analyze the content of individual calls for insight into local, regional or nationwide voting problems.

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER ELECTION DAY/ADD ONE

The Voter Alert Line is already up and running. Thousands of poll location requests and polling problems have already been processed.

The nationwide broadcasting of the Voter Alert Line analysis is part of "Making Your Vote Count," one of the centerpieces of NBC News' Decision 2004 political coverage. "Making Your Vote Count" includes on-going reporting through Election Day about whether voter procedures and facilities in every state are ready for Election Night, as well as the Election Day analysis from InfoVoter Technologies. Led by NBC News' Chip Reid and a team of researchers, reports are airing on MSNBC, Today, and NBC Nightly News, MSNBC.com and on the local NBC stations, including Philadelphia's NBC 10.

In addition, on Election Night, NBC News' Natalie Morales will report for NBC News/MSNBC on information coming in through the Voter Alert Line from the Constitution Center in Philadelphia, and Cristina Londono will report for Telemundo, NBC's Spanish language network.

Philadelphia's NBC 10 will also broadcast election results and highlights throughout the day from the National Constitution Center. In addition, NBC10 News Anchor Renee Chenault-Fattah will co-anchor the 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts from the Center.

The Making Your Vote Count site on MSNBC.com (<<http://vote.msnbc.com/>>) will highlight reporting from all the NBC News programs, as well as provide voter registration information and sign up, voter technology interactive applications and the latest headlines on voting issues. On Election Day, MSNBC.com will show data collected through the Voter Alert Line, displaying hot spots with a high volume of calls reporting voting problems. Users will be able to view information on national, state and congressional district levels.

The Voter Alert Line is funded by a range of non-partisan organizations and academic institutions including: The Common Cause Education Fund, The University of Pennsylvania Fels' School of Government, The Reform Institute, and The Hispanic Voter Project at Johns Hopkins University. The National Constitution Center is a partner in this consortium.

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