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## More Election Officials in Diebold Sales Literature

By Kim Zetter [✉](#) July 06, 2007 | 3:15:00 PM Categories: [E-Voting](#)

Maryland's Linda Lamone isn't the only election official appearing in literature to market Diebold voting systems (see [this post](#) from last week). Another, older, brochure has surfaced featuring photos and quotes from four other current and former election officials from Maryland and other states. [Conny McCormack](#), the registrar of voters from Los Angeles County; Margaret Jurgensen, election director of Montgomery County, Maryland; Cathy Cox, Georgia's former secretary of state; and Connie Schmidt, former election commissioner of Johnson County, Kansas. All four appear in a Diebold brochure titled "We Won't Rest" touting the company and its machines.

Last week Lamone, Maryland's Board of Elections administrator, was chastised by the governor after *Wired News* revealed

Lamone's participation in a Diebold brochure praising Diebold's new e-pollbook product -- a product that experienced widespread failure during the state's September primary last year. The governor ordered Lamone to tell Diebold to cease using the brochure, which she did, and asked the state ethics commission to look into the matter. Lamone's actions violated a state ethics law.

Now Margaret Jurgensen of Montgomery County, Maryland, appears to have violated a similar Montgomery County code, which states in [chapter 19A, Sec. 19A-14](#) under "Misuse of prestige of office":

(a) A public employee must not intentionally use the prestige of office for private gain or the gain of another. Performing usual and customary constituent services, without additional compensation, is not prohibited by this subsection.

(b) Unless expressly authorized by the Chief Administrative Officer, a person must not use an official County or agency title or insignia in connection with any private enterprise.

A group of voting activists with [Saveourvotes.org](#) has filed a complaint with the Montgomery County Ethics Commission regarding Jurgensen. The commission has promised to discuss the issue at its July 24th meeting.

With regard to Conny McCormack in California, there appears to be no law governing this kind of action on the part of an official unless the official receives payment for such an endorsement. Nonetheless, Robert Stern, president of the [Center for Governmental Studies](#) says, "If I were the election official I would not do it. Just because I think it can create some appearance problems (regarding) why is she doing it, what benefit is she getting . . . even if she's not getting any benefit. Election officials need to be better than everybody else. So I think you have to be much more careful when you're an election official to not do something that creates appearances that raise questions."

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Add to this, testimonials from Michelle Townsend (CA), Theresa LePore (FL), Deborah Clark (FL) and Larry Lomax (NV).

<http://web.archive.org/web/20041105020706/http://www.workablepeace.org/voting/testim>

Then start looking at how many government officials have gone to work for voting machine vendors--Kathryn Ferguson for Sequoia (put Sequoia machines into three states as election official, Alfie Charles (former CA Deputy Secretary of State)for Sequoia, Fran Dzik (former Hamilton County, TN election admin)for Diebold, Bob Terwilliger who eventually worked for Diebold but gave testimonials for Snohomish County, WA as County Auditor.

**Posted by: Beth Feehan | Jul 8, 2007 7:45:21 PM**

And of course don't forget Chuck Hagel. He comes from the corporate sector, so he's never been an election official as such. But he's not just an elected official; he owns the company! . . .

**Posted by: | Jul 9, 2007 12:19:56 PM**

Sorry -- the previous comment was mine, but in my haste to finish typing in the big box I forgot to go back and put in my name.

**Posted by: John Anthony La Pietra | Jul 9, 2007 12:21:08 PM**

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