

# TALKING POINTS

On November 1, 2007, a Voting Rights lawsuit was filed

against the election officials in all 50 states.

1. The Complaint and the Court Summons is now being served on all Governors, Attorneys General and the chief election officials.
2. The suit seeks an order directing the States to use hand-marked, hand-counted paper ballots in the primaries and general elections in the 2008 Presidential election cycle and beyond.
3. The suit seeks to prevent the use of machine and computerized voting systems.
4. Individuals not only have the Right to cast a vote, they have the Right to cast an *effective* vote, meaning they have the Right to have their vote counted accurately.
5. Machine and computer based voting procedures heighten the possibility of confusion, deception, frustration and fraud, and are constitutionally prohibited.
6. Lacking in integrity of an open, verifiable, transparent, machine and computer free election with the hand counting of all votes and a 'People's chain of custody,' existing voting procedures have the appearance of a rigged gambling table or game show where the 'house' determines who wins. Unfortunately for the Plaintiffs, and the balance of America , the outcome of the upcoming series of primary elections poses a very real threat affecting the choices of the American voters in 2008 and potentially altering the future of the nation itself.
7. This week, the Plaintiffs intend to file a motion for injunctive relief, asking the Court to preliminarily prohibit and enjoin the States from conducting their primaries and caucuses until the questions presented to the Court are finally determined.
8. The case ( *Schulz, et al., v State of New York , et al.* ), was filed by 150 registered voters: three from each state. The case was filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York. The case number is 07-943.
9. These hand marked, hand counted paper ballots (in the ballot box until the polling place closes) must always be kept in public view and in the custody of the people from the time the election day begins until the votes are counted and publicly posted in the hours following the closing of the polling place.
10. This means machine-free, computer-free elections.
11. The Supreme Court has ruled twice that our right to vote consists of two parts: a) the right to cast a ballot; b) the right to know that it was counted accurately. Elections using machines and computers are in effect "black box" elections into which the public cannot effectively look. That is why we are asking the court to forbid states to allow the use of election systems using computers or machines. The computer and machine systems in place in 49 states and in some towns in New Hampshire – violate the second part of our right to vote, as defined by the Supreme Court in 1964 and in 1915.
12. Many of the towns in New Hampshire still count the vote the way all of the United States counted the votes for the first 180 years or so. Thus, there is no question that it is possible for the people to count the votes in the open and in accordance with our constitutional rights and with the relevant rulings of the US Supreme Court.
13. "Those who CAST the votes decide nothing; those who COUNT the votes decide everything."  
Attributed to Communist tyrant Joseph Stalin.
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