CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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September 17, 2019

To the Philadelphia Board of Elections:

Hon. Giovanni Campbell	Hon. Vincent Furlong	City Commissioner Anthony Clark
Stout Justice Center, Rm. 1408	1501 Arch St., Rm. 1417	City Hall, Rm. 132
Philadelphia, PA 19107	Philadelphia, PA 19103	Philadelphia, PA 19107

Via electronic mail: Giovanni.Campbell@courts.phila.gov, Vincent.Furlong@courts.phila.gov, Michael.Quintero.Moore@Phila.Gov

Re: **Use of KNOWiNK, LLC electronic pollbooks in November 5, 2019 elections**

Dear Judge Campbell, Judge Furlong, and Commissioner Clark:

On February 20, 2019, the Board of Elections approved KNOWiNK, LLC's ("KNOWiNK") electronic pollbooks for use in Philadelphia elections. Pursuant to that approval, the City of Philadelphia and KNOWiNK entered into a contract[1] with the objective of deploying an electronic pollbook system for the City of Philadelphia in time for use in the November 5, 2019 elections. The KNOWiNK pollbook system, when deployed properly, should, among other things, provide the City with a system for electronic check-in of voters and poll workers, integrate with the City's voting machine printers, and assist in reporting election night results. The pollbooks are separate from the electronic voting system, were not subject to the Governor's mandate, and the election can be effectively administered with either the previously used paper pollbooks or electronic pollbooks.

The safety, security, efficiency and reliability of the entire voting process is crucially important to the City and all of its citizens. For this reason, all equipment and software went through rigorous testing in a simulated election environment (the "Pilot Election"). The Pilot Election was held on August 21, 2019, several months before the November 2019 election in

[1] City of Philadelphia, Procurement Department Contract, June 5, 2019 – Contract Number 196401(the "Contract")

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order to provide the City with enough time to assess the reliability of the new election systems. The Pilot Election was conducted by the Office of Innovation and Technology and the Office of the City Commissioners in consultation with Gartner, Inc., the City's owner's representative for this project. During the Pilot Election, the City observed several problems with KNOWiNK's pollbook system. The observed problems included failures to properly connect to voting machine printers and inadequate election night reporting. Upon a review of the Pilot Election results, a project management team (comprised of representatives from the City Commissioners Office, OIT, Gartner, Inc., and the Chief Administrative Officer) concluded that it does not have confidence that KNOWiNK's pollbook system will be able to perform reliably for this November's election. We believe the City should not use this electronic pollbook system in an election unless there is complete confidence that it will perform reliably.

For these reasons, the project management team recommends that KNOWiNK's pollbook system not be used in the November elections. The City should instead continue to use its traditional paper pollbooks for voter and poll worker check-in. Those traditional paper pollbooks have been used in Philadelphia elections for over 20 years. The City has tested and planned for the use of the traditional paper pollbooks with its new voting system and is confident in moving forward with this alternative.

The project management team therefore recommends the use of traditional paper pollbooks for the November 5, 2019 elections.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Tipton
Acting Chief Administrative Officer