



March 16, 2017
Chairman DuBose Porter
Democratic Party of Georgia
501 Pulliam Street SW Suite 400
Atlanta, GA, 30312
DuBose@georgiademocrat.org / 678-278-2016 x 302

Samuel S. Olens
President, Kennesaw State University
585 Cobb Avenue NW
Kennesaw, GA 30144

Re: Maintenance of Georgia Voting Records and Machines

Dear President Olens,

As you are aware, there was a recent cyber attack on the voting records of the Georgia Secretary of State maintained by and housed on your campus. We are writing to demand your action with respect to assuring the security of these records in light of the upcoming special election in the 6th Congressional District.

Under contract with the Georgia Secretary of State, Kennesaw State University provides various services to the State of Georgia with respect to its voter records, voting machines, and voting processes. We understand that on March 2, 2017, you notified Georgia government officials that there had been a data breach at the Center for Election Systems. Again according to reports, the next day, March 3, 2017, at the direction of Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, the Federal Bureau of Investigation opened an investigation of the intrusion.

As you know there is a special election in the 6th Congressional District coming with early voting starting on March 27 and Election Day on April 18th. There is no doubt this election has serious national implications. At this time there can be no confidence in the integrity of the voting process or the fulfillment of the contractual commitments of KSU to manage various aspects of the voting process in Georgia or maintain the security of either voting records or machines. Accordingly, we demand that you:

- Contact the United States Department of Homeland Security immediately and accept their repeated offer to scan our elections infrastructure, using the following but not limited to cyber hygiene scans and the acceptance of on-the-ground assistance of field-based cybersecurity advisors and protective security advisors to run risk and vulnerability assessments, and whatever else they deem appropriate to ensure the sanctity and security of our elections system;
- Identify and make public with particularity the times, types, and extent of breaches and attacks incurred by the Georgia election system, indicating both what has been compromised and what is clearly known not to have been compromised;
- Identify a process for assuring all aspects of the voting system—whether or not previously compromised—will be secure and sound for proceeding with the Special Election;

The security of—and confidence in—our voting system is a bedrock of American democracy. According to the Center for Election Systems’ website, KSU is responsible for building “ballots for the majority of Georgia counties and review all ballots for completeness and correctness” and producing “compact flash cards with state voter registration rolls for distribution to all counties (159), prior to each election.” It is your contractual obligation to provide Georgians with assurance that our voting system is sound and secure. We look forward to a response that will assure all Georgians that is the case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DuBose Porter". The signature is stylized with large, flowing letters.

DuBose Porter

Chair, Democratic Party of Georgia

CC: Governor Nathan Deal
Mr. Brian Kemp, Secretary of State
Mr. Tex McIver, Vice Chairperson
Mr. David J. Worley
Mrs. Rebecca N. Sullivan
Judge Ralph F. "Rusty" Simpson
Attorney General Chris Carr
Mrs. Pinney Allen
Mr. Michael Jablonski