

Stichting “Wij vertrouwen stemcomputers niet”

Linnaeusparkweg 98
1098 EJ Amsterdam
The Netherlands

tel: +31 20 463 6394

fax: +31 20 663 8511

mail: info@wijvertrouwenstemcomputersniet.nl

To: Ministerie van BZK
t.a.v. state secretary Bijleveld
Postbus 20011
2500 EA Den Haag

Subject: Extortion by Mr. Groenendaal with regard to voting computers

Amsterdam, February 28th 2007,

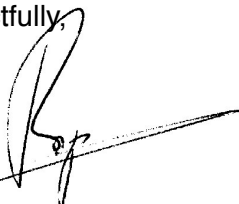
Dear state secretary Bijleveld ,

As you probably know our foundation is worried about the state of the electoral process. At this moment we would like draw your attention to a matter which underlines the seriousness of the matter at hand and which we feel demands immediate action on your part. We recently received some unnerving documents from the Electoral Council as a result of a Freedom of Information request we filed there. From these documents it becomes clear that your predecessor Mr. Nicolai at the time of the last elections was being extorted by the largest seller of voting computers and election software. Attached you will find a copy of the press release as it can be found on the website of our foundation. This website also has copies of all supporting documents mentioned in the press release.

Unfortunately we are faced with a situation in which independent verification with regard to voting computers is often interpreted to mean that the manufacturers inspect themselves. In this light we wonder how to explain to the Dutch voters that before the last elections the minister issued a press release stating “no doubts over trustworthiness of voting machine” while at the same time he was being extorted by the company selling the software without which elections cannot be held. (Among other things the owner of the company wanted the government to buy his company in trade for his continued cooperation during the upcoming provincial elections)

Although the government has itself to blame for the vulnerable and dependent position in which it finds itself today, we feel this is not an excuse to let these threats pass by. For as far as you haven't acted already, the “We do not trust voting computers” foundation calls upon you to take all legal and other measures needed to restore faith in the electoral process and to show that our government cannot be extorted.

Yours truly,
Respectfully,



“We do not trust voting computers” foundation,
Rop Gonggrijp, chairman