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## Diebold withdraws promotion featuring election administrator—

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) -

Diebold Election Systems yesterday withdrew a sales brochure featuring Maryland Elections Administrator Linda H. Lamone.

In the brochure, Lamone praised the company's equipment, prompting criticism from election watchdogs that it constituted a conflict of interest.

The brochure was for an electronic poll book that debuted in Maryland's September primary.

The poll book allows election workers to verify that voters are registered and eligible to vote. However, the system crashed repeatedly during the primary. The problems were fixed by the November general election.

Voting rights advocates complained of a conflict of interest because Lamone led Maryland's efforts to purchase the touch-screen machines.

Diebold said it was complying with a request from Lamone to remove her photograph and statements.

Information from: The (Baltimore) Sun

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