As a voter, I am concerned with the sanctity of my vote. That said, I served in the military for 10 years and held a Top Secret clearance that entire time. I have a solution to this whole debacle regarding Dominion’s, Smartmatic’s, and ES&S’s position regarding their systems.   
  
It is of vital importance for transparency in our elections at every level. If the citizens of our county, let alone our country do not have faith in our election process, they do not have faith in our government. I am coming from a position of a concerned citizen who wants to ensure truth and transparency in our elections. Now that I am working with the election integrity committee, I find it even more important that we find a way to ensure to the voters that their votes are protected. I talk with my neighbors and one topic that I often hear is about these machines. I think I have a way to give them the peace of mind they are looking for and give these companies the opportunity to prove themselves to the communities they serve.  
  
My solution is to have each of these companies draft up a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA). I would like to take a forensic analyst of my own choosing to look at their system for integrity and to find any vulnerabilities. I understand that these companies go through a certification process and that is all well and good, but I want to be able to bring in highly vetted individuals whom we trust, at any given time. If these systems are straight forward, there should be no issue with us coming in whenever we choose and on whatever machine we choose.   
  
If the arguments “this is proprietary software, you cannot look at it” or “there is Personal Identifiable Information (PII) in here and we cannot show that to you” are used, then I would like those companies to draft up an NDA for both myself and the forensic analyst to sign that says if we use ANY of the information gathered from their system to disclose anything other than discrepancies and release classified information from their system, then we can be held legally responsible in a court of law. This should put these companies at ease to know that we will do ONLY what is necessary, but not more than is necessary to ensure our constituents that everything is good to go.   
  
If for whatever reason these companies do NOT comply with this request, then I think it is in the best interest of the state of Florida and its constituents to remove the machines from that company and replace with another OR go to paper ballots.   
  
I see no problem with them allowing us this access if they are sure that we will not exploit it for nefarious purposes. I think it can rebuild their name if they are willing to work with us on this endeavor. The people need to know and trust that their vote counts. They elect us to represent them, so ANY one of us should be able to look at ANY machine ANY time that we would like to. This includes moments after the polls are closed. At the NSA, we were subject to Inspector General coming through and we did not get to choose what they looked at or when. We had a slight heads up, but that was about it.   
  
If these companies refuse to allow us this access, then we should refuse their services going forward and return to a paper ballot system, non negotiable. I started a slogan when I got involved on the election integrity committee and I think it sums this topic up nicely, “transparency, or it’s not for me”.