

Judge rules public can see voting machine test results

by [Diane C. Walsh](#)/The Star-Ledger

Friday June 20, 2008, 12:51 PM

A Superior Court judge in Trenton today agreed to overturn her ruling barring computer experts from publicizing test results of electronic voting machines.

The move was a victory for the American Civil Liberties Union and New Jersey media organizations that argued the public should be privy to the results before the presidential election.

"This is a historic moment. This is the first time a court has recognized the public's right to examine voting computers," said Penny Venetis, a professor at Rutgers Law Clinic who is representing the plaintiffs.

The judge, Linda Feinberg, had forbid the experts from releasing the results, saying they would unfairly expose Sequoia's trade secrets. But the ACLU attorneys contend it's in the public's interest to know the results as soon as possible, especially with the presidential election occurring in November.

The tests, conducted by Princeton University computer experts, will begin June 30. The final report will be released in late September, roughly one month before the November election.