

PRESS RELEASE STATEMENT

As City Clerk for the City of Compton I have charge over all city elections. [Compton City Charter Section 700(e).] On June 6, 2017, the City's General Election Day, two of my poll workers inadvertently took each other's precinct supplies to their respective polls. The election supplies for Precinct 45 (Bursch Elementary) were taken to Precinct 10 (Enterprise Middle School), and *vice versa*. The polls opened at 7:00am and by 8:30am the error was identified and rectified and the precinct materials (roster and street index) were exchanged so that they were in their proper precincts. However, the ballot boxes (marked as precincts 10 and 45) were not exchanged, because ballots had already been deposited in them. When the red ballot boxes that contained the ballots were delivered to City Hall after the polls were closed, I did not inform the persons tabulating the votes that the precinct numbers on the red ballot box were inadvertently switched.

Consequently, on election night when I announced 73 total votes had been cast in Precinct 45, that number was actually the total of votes cast in Precinct 10. Similarly, when I announced 199 total votes had been cast in Precinct 10, that number was actually the total of votes cast in Precinct 45. As a result of this inadvertent error, the printed election voter totals did not reflect the correct numbers for precincts 10 and 45.

I want to assure the candidates and voters that the correct number of ballots were counted and recorded. Although this mishap does not affect the overall voted ballot totals for precincts 10 and 45, in order for the recorded documentation to reflect the correct number of votes and provide complete transparency over the election process, the City will conduct a public re-count of precincts 10 and 45. This re-count will take place on Monday, June 12, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the Compton City Hall Council Chambers located at 205 S. Willowbrook Avenue, Compton, CA 90220. I apologize for any concern this may have caused with the process.

California Elections Code Section 17304 allows all voters to view, but not copy, the following five items following commencement of the official canvass of the votes [emphasis added]:

- Tally Sheets
- Roster of Voters
- Street Index
- Challenge List
- Assisted Voters List

Please note that the provisional and vote by mail votes will be counted on Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The official canvass will verify the preliminary tally of votes.

Thank you.

Alita Godwin
Compton City Clerk