

Thursday, 19 October 2006

TO: Kenneth McGhie
General Counsel
Board of Elections and Ethics
of the District of Columbia
441 Judiciary Square, Suite 270
Washington, DC 20001

FROM: Philip J. Blair, jr.
1518 Kearney Street, NE
Brookland, DC 20017

RE: COMPLAINT AND REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION:
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON REPUBLICAN PRIMARY IN WARD 5

Dear sir:

I have already sent you two complaints regarding the conduct of the primary election of September 12 in Ward 5, both of which focused on the D.C. Statehood-Green Party vote.

I have recently had the occasion to review the voting in the Republican primary in Ward 5, although not as comprehensively as I was able to review the Statehood-Green vote.

I still find the same pattern of "lost votes": the number of voters far exceeds the number of votes recorded in the election.

The CD version of the list of registered voters with voting histories indicates that 335 Republicans voted in their primary in Ward 5. The Board of Elections turnout figure is 202. Fully forty percent of the Republican votes were lost from the count, if the CD data and the BOEE's turnout count are to be believed.

(This CD is electronically labelled "061004_1735"; it is a Microsoft Access 2000 file named "DC Voters.mdb")

I have already done a line-by-line examination of the pollbooks (which should be more reliable than the CD) for two precincts. The results are:

In Precinct 19, voting at Dunbar Senior High School, 20 Republican voters signed the pollbook, but only 7 votes were recorded. Fully 65% of the Republican votes were "lost."

In Precinct 66, voting at Bertie Backus Junior High School, 32 Republican voters signed in, but only 11 votes were recorded. Fully 66% of the Republican votes were "lost."

I hope that this information, which you should develop farther by examining the precincts I was unable to examine line-by-line in the pollbooks, will help you determine what went wrong in the primary elections and how the discrepancies occurred. As always, I stand ready to share with you any facts that I and my colleagues can develop from our research.

I hope that this information will be used to devise a plan to insure that future elections do not suffer from the problems that have been uncovered, in addition to a clear explanation of the deficiencies of this election. It is simply unacceptable, to me, or to any other District voter, that the votes of more than one-third of the persons who appeared at the polls to vote in their primary were not counted appropriately.

Sincerely yours,

Philip J. Blair, jr.

cc:

Steering Committee, District of Columbia Statehood-Green Party

District of Columbia Republican Committee [rkabel@dcgop.com]