



Municipality of Anchorage

P.O. Box 196650 • Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650 • Telephone: (907) 343-4311 • Fax: (907) 249-7999 <http://www.muni.org/assembly>

Office of the Municipal Clerk

DATE: April 12, 2022
TO: Nial Sherwood Williams
FROM: Barbara A. Jones, Municipal Clerk *BAJ*
SUBJECT: Response to Your Complaint Re Adjudication Batch 1-230 Filed April 5, 2022

Thank you for your complaint filed on April 5, 2022. We appreciate the opportunity to explain how the ballot adjudication process works. Your complaint stated that Batch 1-230 contains many ballots with a “very unique bubbling style of a heavily shaded check mark in black” and you “challenge[d] that these ballots were ... potentially filled out by a stamp. Or the same person.”

An Observer Liaison spoke with you and offered that if you were able to come back to the Election Center during adjudication, she would be able to explain the system and your observation. Essentially, the scanning, adjudication, and tabulation system identifies certain ballots (blanks) and votes on certain races or measure (overvotes, stray marks, write-ins) that require “adjudication” – further review by Election Officials. The system also offers Election Officials the computer interpretation for the voters’ marks on the ballot, featured by large checks over the ovals on the ballot image on the monitors. The ballots are not actually checked – the checks are presented in an overlay over the image of the ballot. Election Officials can “hide” the overlay to see the exact image with the voters’ marks. If the exact image is not clear, the Election Officials pull the original ballot to view it and determine the correct adjudication. The checks on the computer overlay look identical on every ballot that is identified for adjudication, thus leading to your concern that a stamp was used or the checks were done by one person, but again, this is not the case; it was an overlay.

Although the Municipal code does not allow a challenge to an entire batch of adjudicated ballots (the code at AMC 28.80.050D specifically states that an observer may challenge “a vote,”), the MOA Elections Team provides this response to your complaint to explain how the ballot adjudication process works. Please feel free to stop by the Election Center during adjudication before the Public Session of Canvass on April 18, 2022, so that we might demonstrate the process. The Observer Liaison is Dee Ennis, and she would be glad to assist you. This response has been developed in collaboration with the Deputy Clerk – Elections and the Observer Liaisons.

C: Jamie Heinz, Deputy Clerk – Elections
Dee Ennis, Observer Liaison
Ralph Duerre, Observer Liaison
Observer Contacts for other campaign



Municipality of Anchorage
 April 5, 2022 Regular Municipal Election
 Complaint Form

OBSERVER INFORMATION	Date <u>04/06/2022</u>
	Printed Name Of Observer <u>Nial Sherwood Williams</u>
	Name Of Candidate Or Organization/Group Representing <u>Nial Sherwood Williams</u>

COMPLAINT	SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING COMPLAINT, INCLUDING ELECTION OFFICIAL NAME, IF APPLICABLE: <u>Batch "1-230". Many ballots in batch appear to have a very unique bubbling style of a heavily shaded check mark in black. I challenge that these ballots ^{ballots} were not potentially filled out by a stamp on the</u>
-----------	---

SIGNATURES	<u>[Signature]</u> <u>Same person.</u> Signature of Observer	<u>04/06/2022</u> Date Submitted
	Signature of Municipal Clerk or Designee	Date Received

