



Municipality of Anchorage

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Office of the Municipal Clerk

DATE: April 23, 2022

TO: Nial Sherwood Williams

FROM: Barbara A. Jones, Municipal Clerk *[Signature]*
Dee Ennis, Observer Liaison

SUBJECT: Observer Complaint re Phone Use and Discussion with Observer Liaison

Thank you for your Complaint dated April 6, 2022. You characterize a conversation with an Observer Liaison on April 6, 2022, as a “public shaming” and state that you were falsely accused of using your cell phone to take video at the Election Center. In a conversation with the Observer Liaison following the underlying incident on April 5, 2022, you had informed the Observer Liaison that you were not taking pictures with your cell phone but communicating by text with your wife.

According to the Observer Liaison, as you entered the building on April 6, 2022, he approached you at the reception desk to remind you that photographs were prohibited in designated areas at the Election Center. The Liaison was not aware of anyone else being present in the reception area other than the receptionist and one or more security guards, which are stationed at the entrance.

The Observer Liaison had no intent to publicly shame you; he intended to provide further guidance for you not to take photos in a designated area in the Election Center, including when you are standing in the yellow brick road. The Observer Handbook and training included information that use of a cell phone to take pictures in a designated area is prohibited.

On many occasions, the Observer Liaisons and Election Officials asked members of the public and observers to put away cell phones. This incident demonstrates why the cell phone use rules need to be continually and clearly stated and why observers should not have cell phones in the yellow brick road and other designated areas both in terms of enforcement and confidentiality.

C: Ralph Duerre, Observer Liaison
Jamie Heinz, Deputy Clerk - Elections
Observer Contacts for other campaigns



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

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

COMPLAINT	SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING COMPLAINT, INCLUDING ELECTION OFFICIAL NAME, IF APPLICABLE: <u>On 04/06/2022, Upon initial arrival I was publicly⁺ falsely accused of using my phone to take video at Ship Creek. This is false. Public shaming occurred at my arrival by Robert @ 2:51 P.M. At 4:23 P.M., observer Michelle walked by Jamir Heinz, Deitra, & Robert, phone in hand: placing</u>

SIGNATURES	<u>[Signature]</u> Signature of Observer	<u>04/06/2022</u> Date Submitted
	 Signature of Municipal Clerk or Designee	<u>4:31 PM</u> Date Received



Ralph Duerre, Liaison at the MOA Election Center, met Mr. Nial Williams at the Election Center reception desk upon his arrival the afternoon of Wednesday, April 6, 2022. Mr. Duerre told Mr. Williams that photographs were prohibited by Observers at the Center. Mr. Duerre was not aware of anyone within hearing distance of the conversation.

Later, while on the Yellow Brick Road, Mr. Williams approached Mr. Duerre while talking with Dee Ennis, also a Liaison at the Election Center. Mr. Duerre told Mr. Williams that if he sees anyone taking pictures in the Center, he needs to tell Mr. Duerre (or Ms. Ennis) immediately.