



# Municipality of Anchorage

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Office of the Municipal Clerk

## **MEDIA ADVISORY 13**

DATE: MAY 4, 2012

At the May 3, 2012 Special Assembly Meeting and in response to a question from the Assembly about whether there was a report of a broken security seal on a precinct accu-vote machine, the Election Commission Chair stated “In our interviews, in the emails that came in, in all of that, we did not have a report of that.” Unknown to the Chair at that time was the existence of one precinct worker interview worksheet that notes “Red plastic ziptie shaped like a square – was cut the last 2 elections I have worked (I don’t believe it could break in transit).” According to Municipal records, the individual worked the 2008 and 2012 elections, but none in between. When the existence of this worksheet note was brought to the Election Commission Chair’s attention, the Election Chair initiated an interview of the chairperson responsible for that particular precinct and its accu-vote machine. According to the interview notes, the precinct chair does not remember the seal being broken, or any discussion about the seal by or with any of the precinct workers during the election. The notes also reflect that the precinct chair also believed the fact of a broken seal probably would have or should have been discussed with her had it been broken. The precinct was issued 275 ballots and returned 60 unused ballots. Both interview sheets are attached.

*Community, Security, Prosperity*

Romig

Isbell Wendy  
 Last Name, First Name MI (Please Print)

Wendy  
 Worker

675  
 Precinct Worked

Did your precinct run out of ballots?  Yes  No  
*Yes - envelopes for questioned ballots*

At supply pickup, did you feel that you were given enough ballots?  Yes  No  
*(Not clear) but concerned there weren't enough.*

When did you notice you were running low on ballots?  
*About 5pm.*

Did you contact anyone, if so when and whom?  Yes at \_\_\_\_\_  No  
 Troubleshooter  Other Precincts  
 Clerk's Office

Response? *for questioned envelopes Troubleshooter took 1 1/2 hrs to respond*

When did you run out of ballots?  
*Didn't run out of ballots*

What did you use while waiting? (Check all that apply)  Sample Ballots  Different Style  
 Copies  Waited  
*N/A*

How did you process the alternate ballots?  Emergency Slot  Questioned  
 Both  Neither  
*N/A*

How long did you wait for more ballots to arrive?  
*Questioned ballots took 1 1/2 hrs. to arrive*

What did you tell voters during ballot shortage?  Stay and wait for ballots  
 Go to surrounding precincts  
 Go to absentee locations  
*N/A*

At anytime, was there nothing to vote upon?  Yes  No

Was your polling location kept open until 8p.m.?  Yes  No

How would you improve the mechanics of the election?  
*To have the amt. of ballots on hand. I know there were fewer ballots than in previous years.  
 Accuvote machine should be discarded to polling place  
 Not to Precinct check*

What would you recommend to resolve the present situation?  
*I think we need a new election and I believe we should get rid of AccuVote machines.*

Worker Signature: Wendy Isbell

Election Commissioner Initials: AS

Chapel by the Sea. I found this interesting  
(I believe church used Home Guard)

Questioned envelopes ran out -

Troubleshotter eventually brought  
a big stack.

Troubleshotter also took ballots from us  
to take envelopes close

Card can be manipulated to  
My - Concerns - change yes votes to no votes  
& no votes to yes votes.  
My #1 concern is with security assoc.  
with the AccuVote machine

Q. m. concerned that Chair has Accu-Vote  
machine & Memory Card. I believe Accu-Vote  
machine can be manipulated.

Red plastic zip tie shaped like a square -  
was cut the last 2 elections I have worked  
(I don't believe it could break in transit)

I question whether there could be  
tampered with.

In general - a cheat person could be anyone.  
There is potential for people to skew election by being  
"cheat person"  
Wendy Isbell

Election Worker Interview Worksheet

11:49 AM

w/ Owen & Jim

13 min by phone

675

Shaina Sordner

Last Name, First Name, MI (Please Print)

Precinct Worked

Did your precinct run out of ballots?  Yes  No

At supply pickup, did you feel that you were given enough ballots?  Yes  No

When did you notice you were running low on ballots? *gave some to East*

Did you contact anyone, if so when and whom? *out question sleeves - 6:00 AM*

Response? *busy, but would bring ASAP*

When did you run out of ballots? *N/A*

What did you use while waiting? (Check all that apply)  Sample Ballots  Different Style  Copies  Waited

How did you process the alternate ballots?  Emergency Slot  Questioned  Both  Neither

How long did you wait for more ballots to arrive? *question envel - about 45 min*

What did you tell voters during ballot shortage?  Stay and wait for ballots  Go to surrounding precincts  Go to absentee locations

At anytime, was there nothing to vote upon?  Yes  No

Was your polling location kept open until 8p.m.?  Yes  No

How would you improve the mechanics of the election? *Working two years in a row* *2nd year is down* *160 or registered*

*more - troubleshooters maybe 1 for 4 or 5*

*> 18' lines last year*

What would you recommend to resolve the present situation? *drop it*

Worker Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Election Commissioner Initials: *JM*

feel good - working  
got homework done - walked hall a little  
went to West to help

equip - pens didn't work  
no supply or equipment issues.

3

don't remember it being broken - we have an <sup>extra</sup>

don't remember it being tilted w/ marker  
it probably would have been if it had.

no problems w/ ballots going

150 people voted

no trouble workers

workers Donna done it forever

friend

first year in this precinct - Wendy