



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2745



For immediate release
March 18, 2014

Contact: Tamara L. Robinson
(202) 727-2511; trobenson@dcboee.org

Board Releases Statement on Spanish-language Ballots at One Judiciary Square

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) today released the following statement from Clifford D. Tatum, Executive Director:

"On Monday, March 17, 2014, the Board learned of an inaccurate Spanish-language translation on its touch screen voting machines. The instruction implies that incomplete ballots cast in Spanish will not be counted. This instruction is incorrect.

Upon examining the issue, we immediately contacted Election Systems & Software, which produces and supplies the iVotronic voting machines for DCBOE. We determined that we cannot immediately reprogram the iVotronics, as doing so would disrupt Early Voting and Election Day on April 1. However, we are working to ensure the problem will be corrected in time for the November 4 General Election.

We understand the concerns of our Spanish-speaking voters and assure them that all ballots will be tabulated.

All voters should know that we conducted extensive logic and accuracy testing of our voting machines beginning February 18, 2014, and we are confident that all votes are being counted despite yesterday's error.

In the interim, DCBOE has posted special instructions in Spanish next to each voting machine and at prominent locations in and around the Early Voting Center at One Judiciary Square. Spanish-speaking voters who do not feel comfortable using the touch screens are more than welcome to use paper ballots at this location during Early Voting and at their polling place on Election Day.

Again, we want to reiterate that all votes will be counted regardless of the method utilized, and we apologize for any confusion this situation has caused."

The District of Columbia Board of Elections is an independent agency of the District of Columbia Government responsible for the administration of elections, ballot access, and voter registration.

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