

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS**

)
IN THE MATTER OF)
) Administrative Hearing
) Docket No. 00-041
Leron P. Latimer)
) Re: Appeal of Rejection of Special Ballot
)
_____)

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

This matter came before the Board on Friday, November 17, 2000 pursuant to an appeal by Leron P. Latimer of the Board's preliminary rejection of her special ballot, cast in the November 7, 2000 General Election.

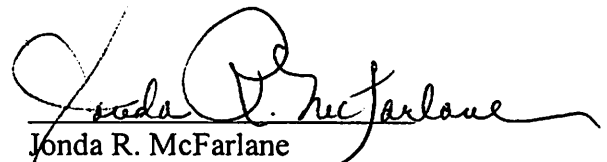
Ms. Latimer was made to cast her vote in the General Election by special ballot because she was not listed on the Master Index, which lists all individuals who are registered to vote in the District of Columbia. Subsequently, her ballot was rejected because a review of the Board's voter registration records indicated that she was not a registered voter in the District of Columbia.

Ms. Latimer appealed the Board's rejection of her special ballot, claiming that she completed a voter registration application at the Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") during a visit to that office on Monday, August 7, 2000 for the purpose of obtaining a driver's license and registering her car. The Board contacted the DMV to verify this claim. While the DMV was unable to verify that Ms. Latimer completed a voter registration application during her visit, it was able to confirm that the visit did in fact occur. Additionally, Ms. Latimer testified under oath during the Board hearing that she did complete a voter registration application during her visit to the DMV.

The Board views these facts as sufficient justification to accept and count Ms. Latimer's special ballot. Accordingly, it is this 20th day of November, 2000,

ORDERED that the special ballot cast by Leron P. Latimer during the November 7, 2000 General Election be accepted and counted.

November 20, 2000
Date


Jonda R. McFarlane
D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics