

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

REPORT OF ELECTION MONITOR

To: The Voters of the Town of New Boston, Secretary of State, William M. Gardner, and Attorney General, Michael A. Delaney:

Background:

Pursuant to the findings of the Department of Justice dated June 17, 2011 issued by Matthew J. Mavrogeorge, Assistant Attorney General, and further pursuant to the appointment of the Secretary of State, William Gardner dated January 9, 2012, please be advised that I did in fact monitor election processes and methodologies of the Town of New Boston on January 10, 2012 during the Presidential primary .

My review of the state election laws and best practices for election procedures began before I entered the polling place. I observed placement of campaign signs and campaign workers outside of the polling area to be in full compliance with state law and election processes. Specifically, voters in the Town of New Boston could easily come and go to and from the polling place without interference of anyone representing the interests of any given candidate. I was pleased to see that ingress and egress was unfettered so that a voter could avoid interaction with campaign workers unless some interaction was desired and initiated by the voter.

Upon entering the polling place I observed and confirmed that the required sample ballots, voter information, and general election information were posted as required by law. In fact, the postings were more than required by law and were easily accessible to any voters seeking information about the process. The voting area was scrupulously clean of any partisan materials. I paid particular attention to the voting booths including the one established for handicapped or disabled voters. The booths were more than sufficiently private and were properly equipped and maintained throughout my five hour observation period.

The ballot clerks appeared to be well trained, attentive, and committed to their job. The ballot clerks were highly organized, allowing for quick and easy ballot acquisition and general avoidance of voting lines.

Throughout the entire polling place there was signage which clearly directed voters to

ballot clerks, supervisors of the checklist, and/or town clerk or moderator. The same day registration processes seemed to be handled very efficiently as did the process of return to undeclared status for those voters who being undeclared chose a ballot of either party.

I spend considerable time with the town moderator, Lee Nyquist and closely observed his methodologies for assisting voters and monitoring the entry of ballots into the Diebold ballot scanner. Moderator Nyquist throughout the day remained helpful to voters without being overreaching - a balance of duties which a moderator must always follow. Moderator Nyquist's attention to detail and general election oversight was at all times impeccably impartial.

At the close of voting, I paid particular attention to the interaction of Moderator Nyquist with the town clerk and observed what proved to be a well orchestrated methodology for securing the voting machine, running the tabulation tapes, and retrieving the write-in ballots for manual counting.

I remained through the counting process as instructed by the Department of Justice in the second paragraph of their June 17, 2011 letter to Moderator Nyquist and observed the count to be careful and thoughtful in full compliance with state law and best practices.

Conclusions:

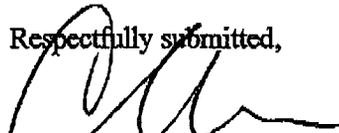
Having been a town, school district, and fire district moderator for more years than I choose to calculate, and having sat as a Ballot Law Commissioner for six years and having been a Member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives serving on committees involving elections as well as legal counsel to municipalities, I am pleased to employ this background to make observations of the town of New Boston election procedures and report to the voters. Citizens of New Boston should be extremely proud of the individuals who volunteer, participate and conduct elections in their town. Not only is the polling place more than adequate, it was extremely well organized and maintained to the point that it is clear to me that the minimal requirement of the state and election place processes are far exceeded.

It was obvious during the May 17, 2011 Special Election, that there was a serious problem in the New Boston polling place. A mistake was made in that the signs posted requiring the production of a photo ID were wrongfully displayed. I now conclude that the error was an absolute aberration in a town, which is otherwise clearly committed to excellent election processes.

I commend all election officials of the Town of New Boston and with this report assure the voters that the town is in good hands on election day.

Mr. Secretary and Mr. Attorney General on this issue be assured that every vote cast in New Boston is processed properly and counted reliably.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Chandler', written over the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Charles W. Chandler
Election Monitor