



Deborah Clark
Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Nancy Whitlock, Communications Director,
Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections
(727) 464-7493 or 464-6108

Computer Server Delays Municipal Election Results

A computer server in the Pinellas County Elections Center froze on Tuesday night and delayed election results by almost two hours. "It was an unfortunate delay, but we were able to provide accurate results," said Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark. "We have since revised our procedures for the March 14 elections."

Clark explained that the server stopped processing cartridges because the database was too small to accommodate the amount of information being processed. The current software, produced by Sequoia Voting Systems, requires staff to set parameters for the database size based on estimated data expected.

Processing stopped about 8:38 p.m. Tuesday, and elections staff called the Sequoia support desk for assistance. Once it was determined that the database was full, elections staff increased the database size and began processing the remaining cartridges at 10:18 p.m. Election results were completed by 10:36 p.m.

Today, elections staff reprocessed the entire election and obtained the exact same results.

"We have resized the database for the March 14 elections," Clark said. "A new release of the Sequoia software, which will be in place for the September Primary Election, will automatically accommodate the data."

For online results from the March 7 elections, visit www.votepinellas.com.

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