

Memorandum



Date: May 17, 2013

To: Honorable Jean Monestime
Commissioner, District 2

From:

Carlos Gimenez
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos Gimenez", written over a horizontal line.

Subject: Response to the Request for Immediate Review of North Miami Election Reporting

After learning about the press conference scheduled for this afternoon alleging absentee ballots were missing from the City of North Miami Election, the Elections Department immediately began to research the issue. The Department learned that there was an error regarding the information that was provided, but it had no impact on the processing of absentee ballots.

The Department's research revealed that a candidate's order filled on May 6, 2013 was incorrectly replied to by the Department. The candidate requested absentee ballots **cast** for the City of North Miami. The order, while labeled "absentee ballots cast," contained all absentee ballots **requested**, meaning all absentee ballot **requests** the Department had on file. Not all voters who request an absentee ballot actually cast a ballot. This is the difference in the number that was provided. Rest assured; all ballots for North Miami have been accounted for.

After confirming this was the source of miscommunication, we followed up with the candidate and apologized for the miscommunication, and fulfilled the request with the correct data as well as the complete absentee ballot voter list.

In the spirit of full transparency, the Department will be providing an opportunity for all candidates on the North Miami ballot to examine the ballots cast in this election. I am certain this will alleviate any concerns regarding the accuracy of the results.

We apologize for any inconvenience that may have been caused by the incorrect information that was provided, but it is important that you and the voters of North Miami rest assured that this has had no impact on the tabulation of results for this election.

Should you have additional questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Supervisor of Elections Penelope Townsley at 305-499-8509.

c: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa and Members, Board of County Commissioners
R. A. Cuevas, Jr., County Manager
Alina T. Hudak, Deputy Mayor
Penelope Townsley, Supervisor of Elections