

The State of Texas



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Rolando B. Pablos
Secretary of State

April 20, 2017

Bert Cobb, M.D.
Hays County Judge
111 E. San Antonio St.
Suite 300
San Marcos, Texas 78666

Dear Judge Cobb,

We have received your letter of March 9, 2017. As you probably know, our office does not have any investigative authority. Our role is to assist and advise Texas election officials in carrying out their duties. In that capacity, our office has spoken several times with Ms. Anderson regarding the November 8, 2016 general election and subsequent investigation in Hays County. We have also received a written report of the investigation from Ms. Anderson dated February 17th. This report provides a thorough overview of the problem that arose, the significance of the problem and the corrective measures being taken to prevent it in the future.

From our discussions and the report, our office learned that a mobile ballot box was taken out of service during the election and that election workers didn't have procedures in place to maintain its chain of custody. Thereafter this MBB was not counted and its votes were not contained within the canvassed vote totals.

It is clear to our office that the new elections administrator has correctly identified the process problem and is taking appropriate steps to insure that a similar event does not happen in the future. We do not believe that further review is necessary in this matter.

Thank you for your interest in insuring election integrity. We share this interest with you and are ready willing and able to assist your election administrator in whatever manner is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Ingram".

Keith Ingram
Director of Elections

CC: Hays County Election Administrator
Jennifer Anderson
712 South Stagecoach Trail, Ste. 1045
San Marcos, Texas 78666