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## PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

Durham, NC, May 5, 2016 A discrepancy relating to the provisional ballots cast during the March 15<sup>th</sup> primary election was discovered within a week after the local canvass. After a brief internal investigation by the Durham County Director of Elections, it was determined that this discrepancy could not be resolved and the matter immediately was referred to the State Board of Elections. The members of the Durham County Board of Elections also were informed, as was the office of the Durham County Attorney. The State Board of Elections has been conducting an investigation, with which the Durham County Board of Elections has been cooperating fully.

According to the State Board of Elections and the Durham County Board of Elections' own calculations, the number of provisional ballots in question is not enough to affect any local races.

As of this morning, we have been informed that the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections, Ms. Kim Strach's likely recommendation will be that the Durham County Board of Elections re-canvass the election results, without including the provisional ballots. This then will allow the State Board of Elections to canvass the entire state and certify the election results.

When the investigation is complete, its results will be announced to the public.

In the meantime, we are unable to comment further due to the pending State Board of Elections investigation. However, the Durham County Board of Elections will be studying ways to insure that no such event ever can happen again. It is important to the Durham County Board of Elections that we preserve the integrity of the electoral process.