



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

November 11, 2010

Errol R. Arthur, Chair
Board of Elections & Ethics
Government of the District of Columbia
One Judiciary Square
441 4th Street NW
Suite 250 North
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Inappropriate Security Screening at Precinct 141

Dear Chairman Arthur:

The Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2B) at its November 2010 public meeting discussed the issue of security screening at Precinct 141, the Reeves Center at 14th and U Streets Northwest. The Commission unanimously passed the following resolution:

Whereas voters in Precinct 141, the Reeves Center and 14th & U Streets NW, were required on election day to pass through the building's security gates, including showing identification, placing bags on a scanned conveyor belt, removing items from pockets, removing belts, and other procedures;

Whereas such procedures deter voters, due to both the invasiveness and the length of time of the procedures;

Whereas while ANC 2B understands that D.C. Government buildings like the Reeves Center may require some additional security, this security is not appropriate as applied to voters exercising their right to vote;

Whereas, as a counter-example, the early voting precinct at 441 4th Street NW does not require voters to go through the security checkpoint of that D.C. Government building, but rather allows voters to enter directly into the voting room through the building's side door;

Therefore be it resolved that ANC 2B finds the Reeves Center security checkpoint to be an inappropriate barrier to voting;

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B urges the Board of Elections and Ethics to either (1) make accommodations for Precinct 141 voters to bypass this inappropriate additional security; or (2) move Precinct 141 to an alternative location.

We are available to work with the Board of Elections and Ethics to help address this issue or to assist in finding an alternate location for the precinct. We thank you very much for your attention to this and other issues related to the right to vote in the District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William F. Stephens". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Will Stephens, Chair

cc:

Mayor Adrian Fenty

Mayor-Elect Vincent Gray (vgray@dccouncil.us)

Councilman Jack Evans (jackevans@dccouncil.us)