



## FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS

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April 25, 2012

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Governor Rick Scott  
Office of the Governor  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

On Tuesday, the Division of Elections and the Department of State distributed to Supervisors of Elections a document titled "SOE Survey Information." In that survey, the constitutionally-specified, independently-elected Supervisors of Elections in the 67 counties in Florida were "scored" by the Department of State, based on responses to a survey conducted by the Division of Elections following the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary. To be clear, the purpose of the survey was not conveyed to us until well *after* we were asked to complete it.

Unfortunately, the items used in the survey are not, by themselves, true indicators of the performance of a Supervisor of Elections' office. Furthermore, the data is flawed in certain instances, thereby yielding a result which is inaccurate. Today, we participated in a conference call with Secretary Detzner and staff from the Department of State and Division of Elections, in which Supervisors of Elections from across the state passionately shared their concerns. We urged Secretary Detzner to not publish the flawed survey, at least until our valid concerns have been addressed.

Given the matters evaluated and the process followed, which included giving "extra credit" to individuals who returned the survey early, we firmly believe this is an inappropriate measure of the performance of the duties of Supervisors of Elections throughout the state. It also has the potential to undermine confidence in Florida's elections, which we work tirelessly to instill in the public. As you are well aware, we are responsible for carrying out our duties and the citizens and voters in our counties

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State of Florida  
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are the persons best able to evaluate that performance. Of note, Secretary Detzner and Division Director Salas today praised our performance in the Presidential Preference Primary.

It was made clear to us that the survey and ranking were initiated out of the Governor's office. We have requested a meeting with your office to discuss our serious concerns on this issue on numerous occasions over the past several weeks, but have yet to receive a response. Based upon the foregoing and on behalf of the Supervisors of Elections throughout the state, I ask that you or your staff meet with us to hear our valid concerns directly. In the meantime, we ask that you direct the Division of Elections to not publish the flawed report until such time as these serious concerns can be addressed.

We look forward to hearing back from you or your staff as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



David H. Stafford  
FSASE President

Copy: Ken Detzner, Secretary, Department of State  
Gisela Salas, Division of Elections  
Steve MacNamara, Chief of Staff