

INCIDENT

Voter B received a ballot from the ballot distribution table and noticed it was marked while walking to the privacy booth. **Voter B** returned to the ballot distribution table to alert the poll worker that they received a marked ballot.

ACTIONS

- Assistant Clerk submitted a ticket regarding the above incident to Supervisor of Elections.
- Election Phone Bank provided guidance to Assistant Clerk regarding proper ballot distribution procedures.
- Supervisor of Elections permitted poll watcher to review all pre-printed, unvoted ballots including the spoiled ballot returned by the voter.
- Poll watcher, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk reviewed all unmarked and spoiled ballots.
- Election Phone Bank requested Clerk keep the spoiled ballot separate from other spoiled ballots to be reviewed as part of this investigation.
- A member of Supervisor of Elections staff was dispatched to The Sons of Italy Hall Lodge 1251 and spoke with each member of the Election Board individually to identify what factors contributed to the above issue.

FINDINGS

- **Voter A** received two ballots that were stuck together instead of one ballot from the Ballot Distribution Inspector at the ballot distribution table.
- **Voter A** marked both ballots before approaching the tabulator to cast their ballot.
- **Voter A** cast one ballot and was stopped by the DS200 Inspector before casting the second ballot on the tabulator.
- The DS200 Inspector retrieved the privacy folder and second, marked ballot from **Voter A**.
- The DS200 Inspector returned the privacy folder and second, marked ballot to the ballot distribution table.
- Approximately two minutes later the Ballot Distribution Inspector distributed the marked ballot to **Voter B**.
- **Voter B** noticed their ballot was marked while walking to the privacy booth from the ballot distribution table.
- Votes cast on DS200 reconcile with the number of ePollbook check-ins.

CONCLUSION

Three procedural errors resulted in a **Voter B** receiving **Voter A**'s pre-marked, spoiled ballot:

1. Ballot Distribution Inspector provided two ballots that were stuck together to a voter instead of ensuring that the voter only received one ballot.
2. DS200 Inspector improperly spoiled a ballot by returning it to the Ballot Distribution Table instead of bringing it to the Clerk at the Voter Assistance Table.
3. Ballot Distribution Inspector provided a spoiled ballot to a voter instead of checking that one blank ballot of the correct ballot style was exchanged the voter's ballot style ticket.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

1. Additional guidance was provided to Clerk and Assistant Clerk regarding proper ballot distribution and spoiled ballot procedures.
2. Additional guidance provided to DS200 Inspector regarding proper procedure for spoiling a ballot.
3. Additional guidance provided to Ballot Distribution Inspector regarding proper ballot distribution procedures.