

From: Katherine Veldran <kveldran@gmail.com>
To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov
Date: 11/5/2012 3:16:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fw: International Observers
Attachments: 20121026162018041_0001.pdf
20121026162018041_0002.pdf

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <mbenson22@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Oct 26, 2012 at 11:47 PM
Subject: Fw: International Observers
To: Kat Veldran <katherineveldran@gov.sc.gov>, Kat Veldran <kveldran@gmail.com>

Fyi...

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----

From: "Andino, Marci" <marci@elections.sc.gov>
Date: Fri, 26 Oct 2012 17:38:42
To: Billy Way<bway@wilsonkibler.com>; E. Allen Dawson<eallen@dawsoninc.com>; Marilyn Bowers<marilyn@bowersems.com>; Mark Benson<mbenson22@gmail.com>; Nicole Spain White<pdgroupinc@yahoo.com>
Subject: International Observers

The United States is a participating country in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe/Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR). As was the case in previous federal election years, election observation teams are invited by the US State Department to observe our elections process. A team of international election observers is in South Carolina to observe the General Election.

Our position has been that elections are public and anyone can observe as long as they do not disrupt the process. The Attorney General supports this position.

As you will see from the attached letter, Representative Clemmons does not agree.

Here are some talking points we are using when answering questions regarding international observers:

- * There are two observers from the United State Mission Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe that are assigned to North Carolina and South Carolina.
- * These two observers are in South Carolina to observe or watch.
- * They are not here to take part in the administration or conduct of the election.
- * Elections are a public process and are conducted openly for anyone to observe. There is no

restriction in state law limiting the observation of elections to only people from this country. In the spirit of fair and open elections, we welcome anyone to observe the election process in South Carolina.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Marci