STATEMENT ON MARCH 15 ELECTIONS

FROM BILL COWLES, ORANGE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

We have identified the cause of the problem and isolated the issue to precincts where municipal elections are also taking place today. A data glitch caused the number of ballots printed for each party to be transposed with the non-partisan ballots for the municipal elections. We have heard of issues from about a dozen of the 251 precincts in Orange County and those locations have already received or are currently receiving an adequate number of additional ballots.

Additionally, a request was made to the Secretary of State to extend voting an extra hour to 8pm in precincts where municipal elections are taking place. The request is pending approval by the Governor.

Furthermore, to ensure every voter in Orange County is able to vote we have implemented the following options:

- Voters were immediately allowed to use the Express vote machines on location.
- Mechanisms were triggered to allow anyone to come to the Supervisor of Elections office at 119 West Kaley Avenue to vote.
- Finally if voters have had an issue and cannot return to the polling place, they can contact the SOE at 407-836-8683 (VOTE) immediately and we will send an Elections office representative to you with an absentee ballot that will be counted.

Know that we are in constant communication with each of our polling locations conducting municipal elections to ensure they will continue to have the adequate number of ballots for everyone to vote.