

1 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Good  
2 evening. The Return Board for the 2023  
3 general and special election has reconvened.

4 First, as you know, it is my duty  
5 and obligation to maintain decorum during  
6 these meetings and everyone in attendance  
7 should be on notice that shouting or  
8 disrupting of these meetings will be cause  
9 for them to be asked to leave.

10 The Sunshine Act permits anyone  
11 attending a public meeting to object to a  
12 perceived violation at any time during the  
13 meeting. If you choose to do so, please  
14 succinctly state your objection and be  
15 reminded that objection is not an  
16 opportunity for litigation or speechmaking.

17 We will now move to public  
18 comment. Commentors shall be asked where  
19 they live, or if they're not a resident of  
20 Philadelphia that they are a Philadelphia  
21 taxpayer, or since this is the Return Board  
22 which candidates they may represent. Public  
23 comment is not an opportunity for a dialogue  
24 with the Board or questions and answers or

1     interrogation.  It's a public commentary; a  
2     chance for you to tell us what you think.

3                   Each speaker shall have  
4     approximately two minutes.  However, I may  
5     at my discretion extend that time.  All  
6     comments must be germane or relevant to the  
7     Board business.  Finally, again, it is my  
8     responsibility to preserve the good order  
9     and decorum of these meetings and, as such,  
10    profane, slanderous, discriminatory, or  
11    personal attacks will not be tolerated.  
12    Anyone wishing to offer public comment may  
13    now please step forward.

14                                   (No response).

15                   JUDGE CRUMLISH:  Hearing  
16    none, we'll now move to e-mail public  
17    comments.  Judge Furlong, do we have any  
18    e-mail public comments?

19                   JUDGE FURLONG:  We do, Mr.  
20    Chairman.  Thank you.  All comments that  
21    were e-mailed by 9:45 a.m. were shared with  
22    Members of the Board and the deputies by  
23    10:00 a.m. and have been provided to each  
24    Member of the Board at the beginning of this

1 meeting and are available at the public  
2 comment table.

3 We received one comment from Emma  
4 Tramble, T-R-A-M-B-L-E. I've reviewed the  
5 comment and ask it be moved into the record.

6 JUDGE CRUMLISH: I second  
7 that. Do we have a vote on that motion?

8 (Aye).

9 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Please  
10 reflect unanimous agreement of the Board to  
11 incorporate this public comment that was  
12 e-mailed to us for the record.

13 Next, I would like to make a  
14 motion to amend tonight's agenda due to  
15 today's decision from the Western District  
16 of Pennsylvania, the United States District  
17 Court, and the Pennsylvania State Conference  
18 of the NAACP, et al versus Schmidt, et al.  
19 As such, I will move that we remove the  
20 reading of the results of the canvas and  
21 computation and reconsider our November 15,  
22 2023 ruling on mail ballot sufficiency as to  
23 missing date and incorrectly-dated mail  
24 ballots.

1                   This decision happened less than  
2   24 hours ago and therefore this was not able  
3   to be effected in the original posting and  
4   we must act now in order to certify the  
5   election as expeditiously as possible.

6   Furthermore, an amended agenda shall be  
7   posted on the website. Do I hear a second?

8                   JUDGE FURLONG: Second.

9                   JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in  
10 favor?

11                   (Aye).

12                   JUDGE CRUMLISH: I will now  
13 move that we reconsider our November 15,  
14 2023 mail ballot sufficiency vote as to  
15 missing date mail ballots and canvas the  
16 missing date mail ballots. Is anyone here  
17 representing a candidate to offer argument  
18 or objection or a voter to speak on the  
19 ballot at issue?

20                   MS. DEELEY: Yes, your Honor.

21                   JUDGE CRUMLISH: You may be  
22 heard, Commissioner.

23                   MS. DEELEY: Good evening.

24                   JUDGE CRUMLISH: Good

1 evening, Chair.

2 MS. DEELEY: I'm Lisa Deeley,  
3 candidate for Philadelphia City  
4 Commissioner. Normally I sit where you're  
5 sitting but I am recused as I run for  
6 reelection.

7 I have long argued that missing  
8 date and misdated mail ballots should be  
9 canvassed because the date that the voter  
10 writes on the declaration envelope is not  
11 material in determining whether such  
12 individual is qualified under state law to  
13 vote and that an error or omission of such  
14 date should not disenfranchise that voter.

15 Last year we had the Migliori  
16 decision agree with me and today we had  
17 NAACP vs. Schmidt again rule that way. The  
18 Court has concluded that the Commonwealth's  
19 mandatory application of its date  
20 requirement violates the materiality  
21 provision of the Civil Rights Act.

22 In addition to granting other  
23 relief, the Court specifically enjoined the  
24 secretary, "From directing all county Boards

1 of Elections of the Commonwealth to  
2 segregate, reject, exclude, or in any way  
3 not count timely-received mail ballots based  
4 on a voter's error or omission in relation  
5 to the date on the voter's declaration on  
6 the mail ballot return envelope".

7           The timing of this ruling couldn't  
8 have come at a better time as now over 2,000  
9 Philadelphia voters will have the  
10 opportunity to have their voice heard this  
11 election.

12           I would also like to take a moment  
13 this evening to thank the tremendous staff  
14 of the Philadelphia City Commissioner's  
15 Office for once again performing superbly in  
16 ensuring the Philadelphians had a wonderful  
17 election experience. And I would also like  
18 to take this time to thank you, your Honors,  
19 for the tremendous job that you are doing  
20 running the 2023 elections while we  
21 commissioners are running for office. Thank  
22 you.

23           JUDGE CRUMLISH: We  
24 appreciate it, Madame Chair. It's always

1 nice to see you.

2 MS. DEELEY: Likewise.

3 JUDGE CRUMLISH: And we join  
4 with that same deep appreciation for the  
5 professional staff of the City  
6 Commissioner's Office that have served the  
7 public so well over these years. Having  
8 said that, I'd like to move that motion to  
9 reconsider. Do I hear a second?

10 JUDGE JOHNSON: Second.

11 JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in  
12 favor?

13 JUDGE JOHNSON: Aye.

14 JUDGE FURLONG: I abstain.

15 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Please  
16 record we have two ayes and one abstention.

17 JUDGE FURLONG: Yes. I do  
18 that -- the Commissioner mentioned that it  
19 couldn't have come at a better time. It  
20 could've come at a better time. It just  
21 happens to be -- it's like a meal that I  
22 just ate and haven't digested. I mean, I  
23 don't know what this -- I just haven't had a  
24 chance to look through it again and I'm not

1 in a position to vote yes or no so I'm  
2 abstaining.

3 JUDGE CRUMLISH: We  
4 appreciate that, Judge Furlong. Having said  
5 that, we will commend the record to the  
6 judge's comments and his observations  
7 regarding his abstention. But having said  
8 that, the motion has carried.

9 So next I would move that we  
10 reconsider our November 15, 2023 mail ballot  
11 sufficiency vote as to incorrectly-dated  
12 mail ballots and canvas the  
13 incorrectly-dated mail ballots. Is there  
14 anyone here representing a candidate to  
15 offer an objection or argument or voter to  
16 speak on behalf of that motion or their  
17 ballot?

18 (No response).

19 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Hearing  
20 none, I would move that we reconsider the  
21 motion as just pled. Do I hear a second?

22 JUDGE JOHNSON: Second.

23 JUDGE CRUMLISH: All in  
24 favor?



1 JUDGE JOHNSON: Aye.

2 JUDGE FURLONG: I abstain for  
3 the same reasons.

4 JUDGE CRUMLISH: We will note  
5 Judge Furlong's timely abstention. The  
6 motion carries. So we would like to add --  
7 do we have any added agenda items? Judge  
8 Furlong, do you have any items to be added  
9 to the agenda?

10 JUDGE FURLONG: No, Mr.  
11 Chairman.

12 JUDGE CRUMLISH: Judge  
13 Johnson, do you have any items to be added  
14 to the agenda?

15 JUDGE JOHNSON: No, Mr.  
16 Chairman.

17 JUDGE CRUMLISH: So the Chair  
18 would announce that the Return Board for the  
19 2023 general and special elections will  
20 reconvene during a special meeting for the  
21 Philadelphia County Board of Elections on  
22 Friday, November 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at  
23 the City Commissioner's Office hearing room  
24 here at 11311 Roosevelt Boulevard. Thank

1 you. And with that, we will stand in recess  
2 'til the call of the Chair.

3 - - -

4 (This concludes the meeting.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence noted are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me in the foregoing matter, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

*Amy Margaris*

Court Reporter - Notary Public

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<b>Rights</b>			

Public Comment Submission to Philadelphia City Commissioners Office: Wednesday, November 15, 2023  
Submitted by Emma Tramble, Philadelphia resident, 46-18 ward  
Contact Information: 215-882-9786, [emma@wiserstrategy.com](mailto:emma@wiserstrategy.com)  
Worked as a Poll Worker (Assigned as Majority Inspector): 46-08, November 7, 2023

Dear Commissioners:

I served as a poll worker for the first time on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. As a long-time voter advocate, I would like to share some observations.

### Placement

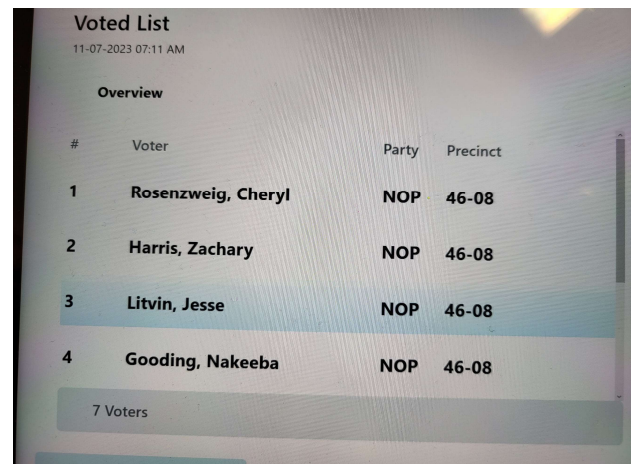
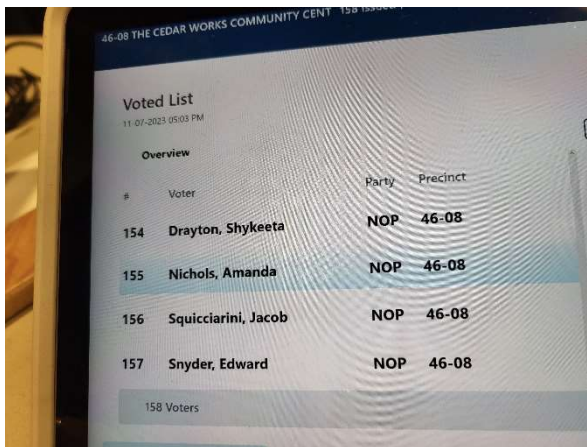
1. I want to commend Shanna Fields's efforts to place me at a poll close to my home. The poll's team and Judge of Elections welcomed me with open arms. We worked well together.

### Poll Book Issue

2. **The poll book software was not displaying the voter's party affiliation on the "Voted List."** The steady stream of voters (220 machines plus Provisionals and surrenders) and sometimes noise levels in the poll did not allow for constant real-time updating of the #2 and #4 books.

Our crew members repeated names, and we devised a method to update the books every few minutes using the poll book. However, the absence of the party designation meant we had to go into individual records, which slowed down the process.

This issue was reported on Election Day to a Commission representative who checked our poll.



### Poll Worker Training

3. I would like to speak offline about the quality of poll worker training. I watched the online videos and took the quiz. My score was 95. I also attended two in-person trainings-- the e-poll book, and poll procedures. I do not want to put on record how I feel about the level of preparedness I experienced after doing my due diligence. In my humble but very experienced opinion, much work needs to be done in this area.