

HARRISBURG OFFICE
PO BOX 202062
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2062
PHONE: (717) 705-7173
FAX: (717) 705-1947

www.repdavereed.net
dreed@pahousegop.com



MAJORITY LEADER

House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

DAVE REED
62ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
March 22, 2017

The Honorable Josh Shapiro
Pennsylvania Attorney General
16th Floor, Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear General Shapiro:

We write to you regarding a matter of great urgency to every Pennsylvanian. Yesterday, pursuant to the writ issued by the Speaker of the House, a Special Election was held to fill the vacancy for the 197th Legislative District. As you know, this vacancy was created by the resignation of former Representative Leslie Acosta, who resigned after pleading guilty to a federal felony of conspiracy to commit money laundering.

We have received reports that multiple violations of Pennsylvania's Election Code occurred during yesterday's election. Specifically, it is alleged election officials working the polls improperly marked up sample ballots with specialized "write-in" instructions; maintained and distributed stamps to facilitate write-in votes (despite the clear language in the Election Code prohibiting such conduct *and* an order from the Court of Common Pleas for Philadelphia prohibiting them from doing so); and improperly distributed campaign materials for a particular candidate inside the polling place.

Attached, you will find pictures publically accessible on Twitter, purportedly taken at Philadelphia polling places in the 197th Legislative District which support the allegations made.

Sections 1642 and 1854 of the Pennsylvania Election Code (25 P.S. §§ 3260b and 3555) clearly provide that the Commonwealth's Attorney General has primary jurisdiction over Election Code violations. Both sections state that your office "shall have prosecutorial jurisdiction over all violations committed under this act," and grant the district attorney "concurrent powers" to do the same. Given the current state of affairs in the Philadelphia District Attorney's office, we ask that you immediately investigate these allegations.

550 PHILADELPHIA STREET
INDIANA, PA 15701
PHONE: (724) 465-0220
FAX: (724) 465-0221

122 E. MARKET STREET
BLAIRSVILLE, PA 15717
PHONE: (724) 459-3245
FAX: (724) 459-7270

30 E. WILEY STREET
HOMER CITY, PA 15748
PHONE: (724) 479-5585
FAX: (724) 479-8007

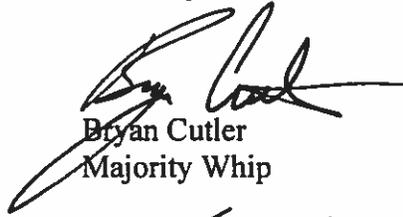
We owe a duty to all Pennsylvanians to protect the integrity of our electoral process – to ensure against the disenfranchisement of Pennsylvania voters, and to preserve the fundamental notions of representative democracy. Not just in Philadelphia, but across our Commonwealth, each and every candidate for office, as well as each and every voter, deserves a level playing field at the polling place.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

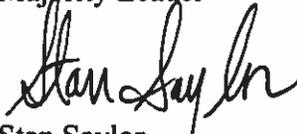
Sincerely,



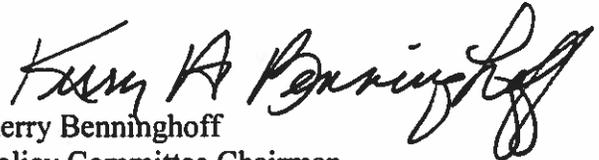
Dave Reed
Majority Leader



Bryan Cutler
Majority Whip



Stan Saylor
Chairman, Appropriations Committee



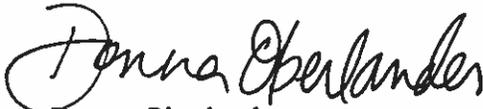
Kerry Benninghoff
Policy Committee Chairman



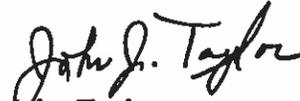
Kurt Masser
Caucus Administrator



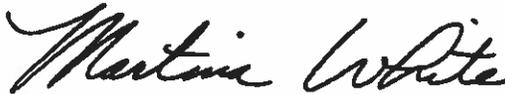
Marcy Toppel
Caucus Chairman



Donna Oberlander
Caucus Secretary



John Taylor
177th Legislative District



Martina White
170th Legislative District

PAHouse District Election Day 197 recap



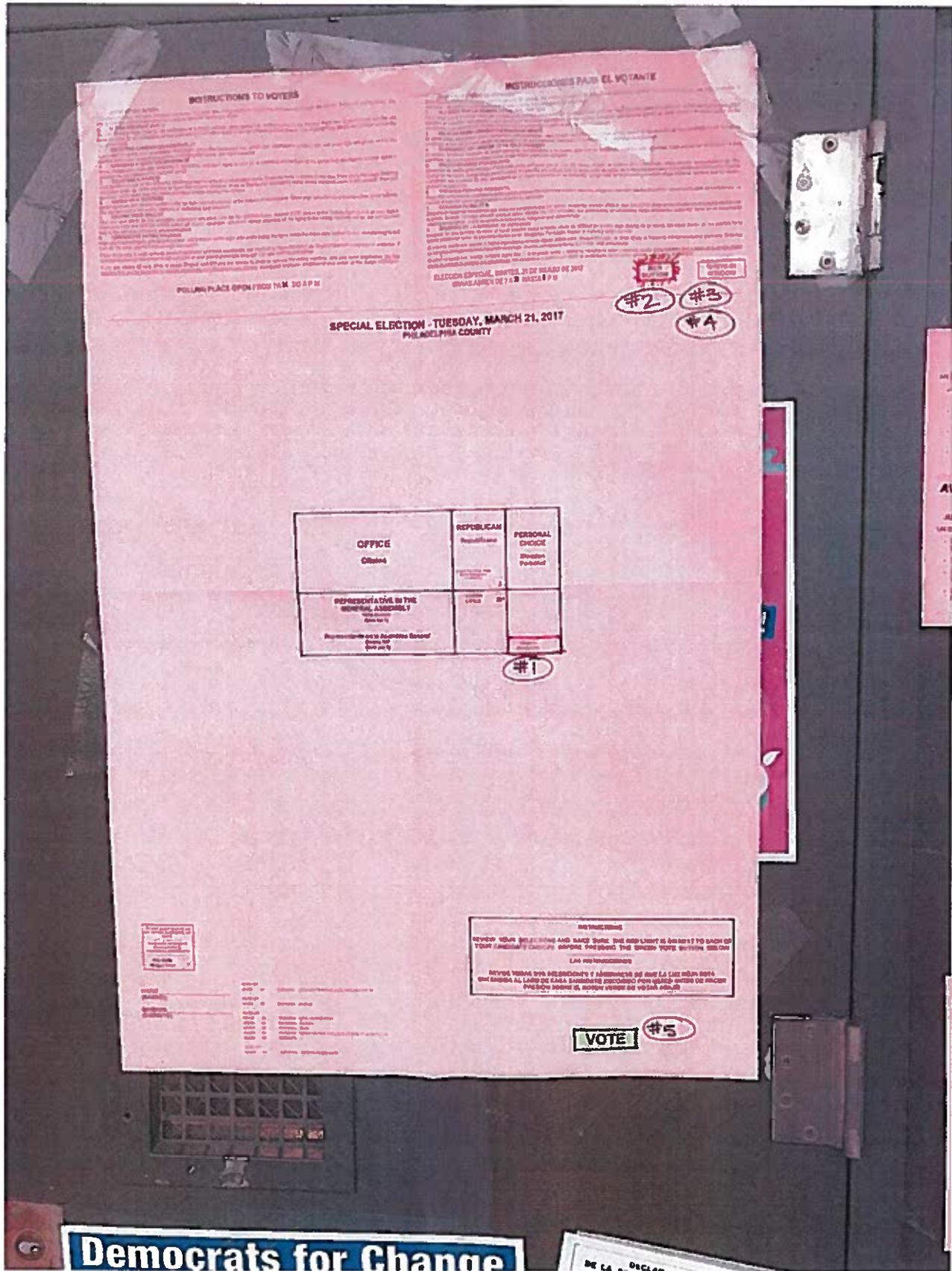
PA House Republicans
@PAHouseGOP

Like

Tweet



Photo via @bstew74



Democrats for Change

Bob Stewart @bstew74 · Mar 21

Taxpayer paid election sheets with specialized write-in instructions at Bethune #197th

8 3



Bob Stewart
@bstew74 · Mar 21

2 1

DA's office investigating write-in candidate stamps inside multiple polling locations ... #197th @TheSpiritNews



Bob Stewart
@bstew74 · Mar 21

8 5

Dem worker in ward 19 admits walking in w/voter w/stamp for Emilio Vazquez. Says she had no idea about write-in rules #197th @TheSpiritNews



Philly GOP
@PhillyGOP · Mar 21

1 3

#specialelection197 illegal assistance 169 w Wyoming bethel worship called DA 42nd ward 3rd division.



Philly GOP
@PhillyGOP · Mar 21

3 5

#specialelection197 election board shoving stamps in people's faces 19/2 Munoz school #illegalelectioneering



Bob Stewart @bstew74 · Mar 21

1 1

More doctored up taxpayer-paid-for ballots at ward 42 div 6,22 at the Library. Free candy though, which is nice 😊

**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR PHILADELPHIA COUNTY
ELECTION COURT - SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE 197TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 2017**

IN RE: Illegal Distribution of Stamps

: MARCH TERM, 2017

: NO. **002036**

: Courtroom 676 City Hall

Date of Special Election: March 21, 2017

ORDER

AND NOW, this day of March, 2017, upon consideration of the matter of:
Illegal Distribution of Stamps, after

Oral Petition & Argument and any responses thereto

written Petition and Argument and any responses thereto

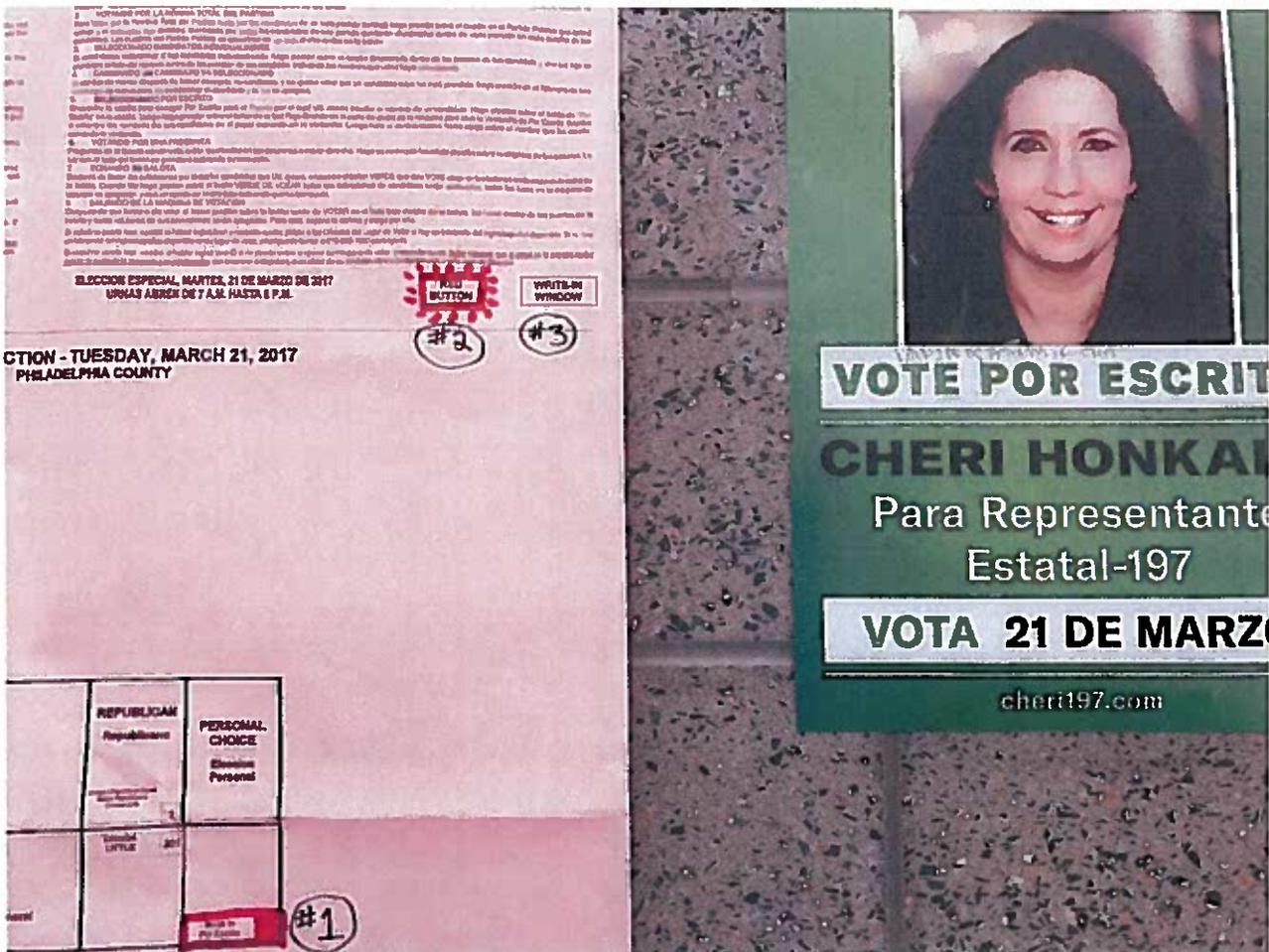
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED and DECREED that:

Judges of Elections and other Election Board personnel are prohibited from possessing or distributing any stamps to facilitate write-in votes. Further, Judges of Elections and other Election Board personnel shall ensure that voters remove any stamps.

Philly GOP @PhillyGOP · Mar 21

17 19

Court order: ILLEGAL DISTRIBUTION OF STAMPS



Bob Stewart @bstew74 · Mar 21

2 1

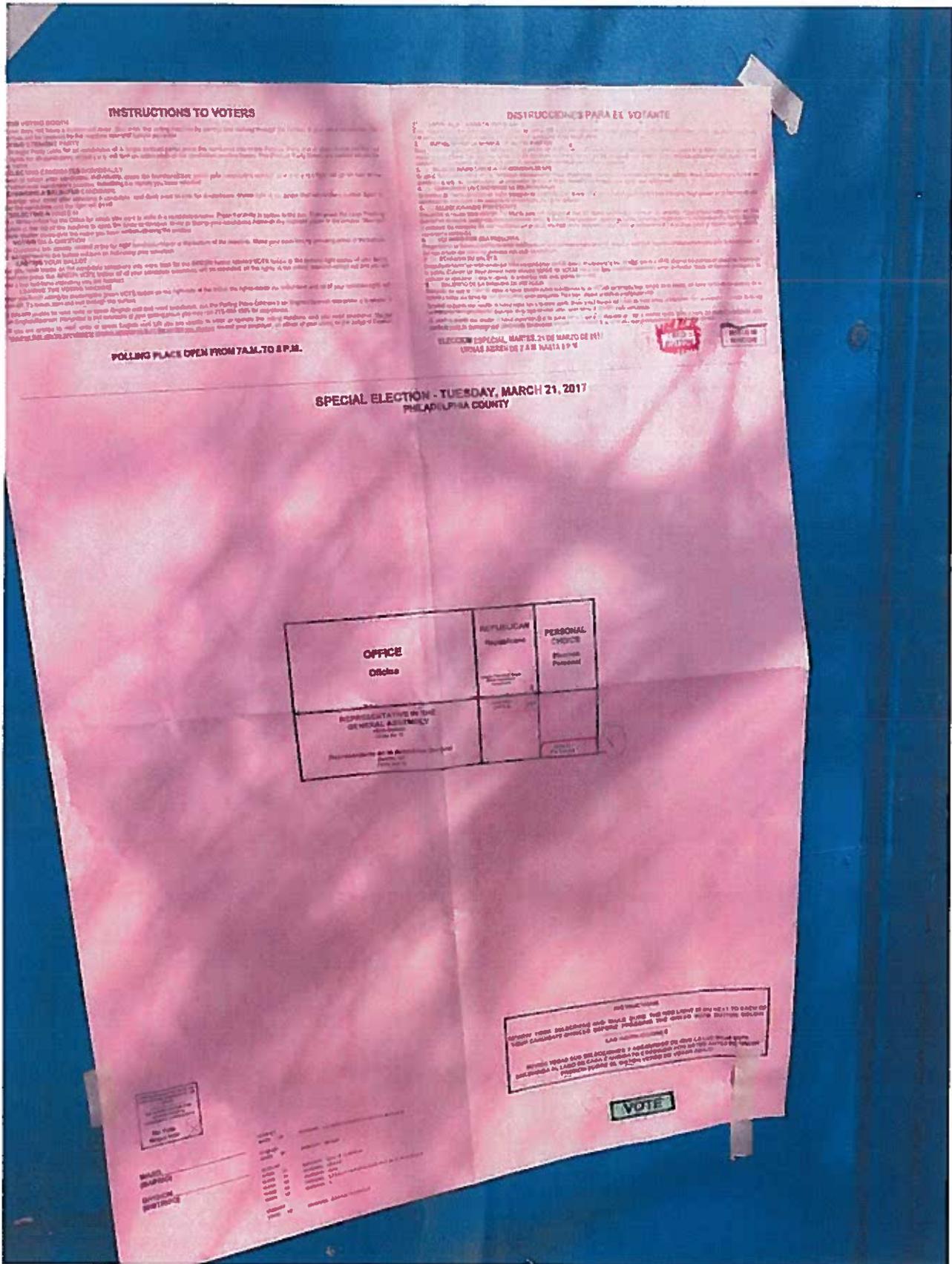
#197th @TheSpiritNews more official sheets inked up. Cheri supporter scrawled "paid for by friends of Cheri" on her sign at 6th-Cayuga



Bob Stewart
@bstew74 · Mar 21

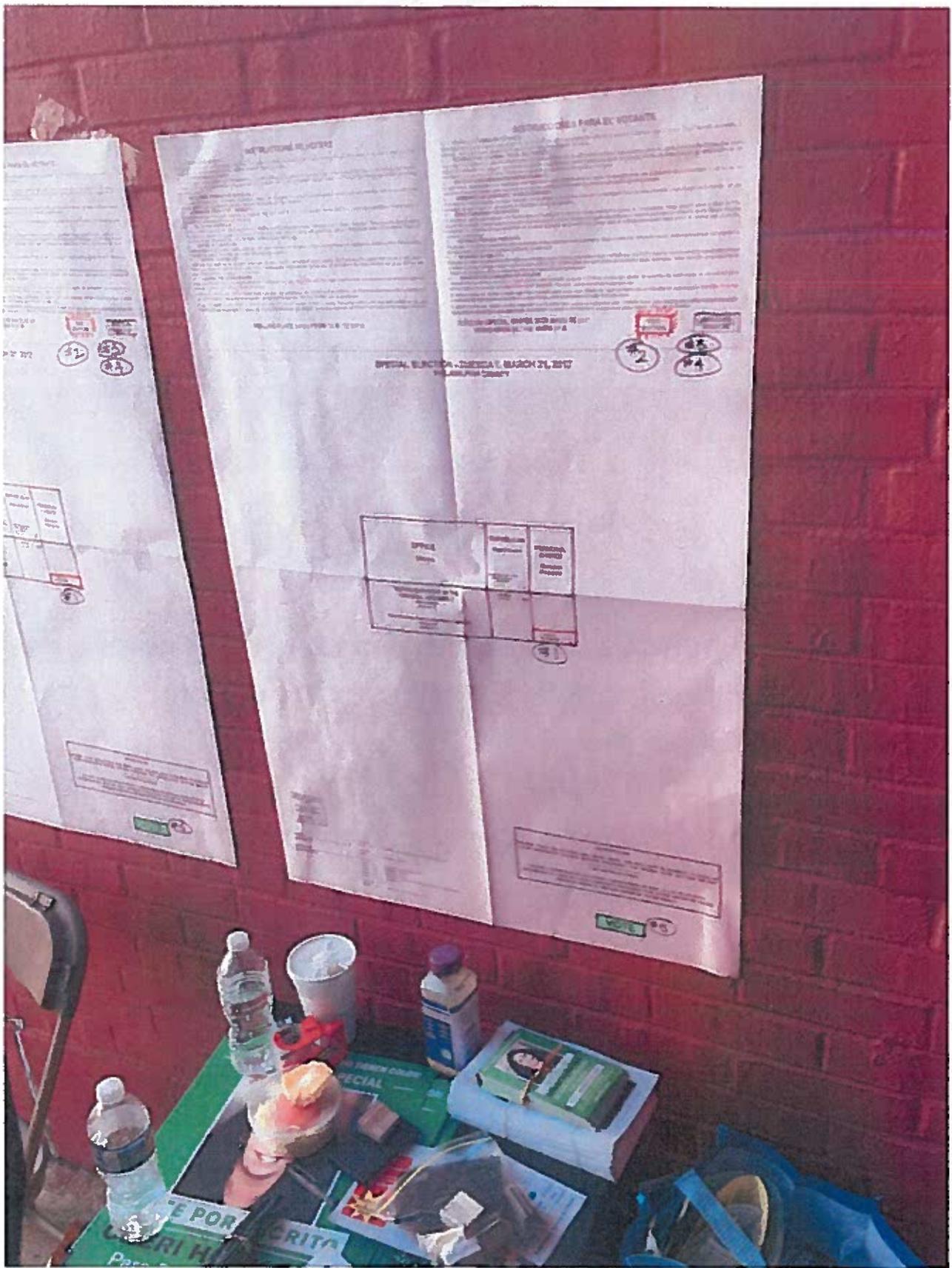
2 1

The New Green-Republican alliance is pointing out that Dem workers are back to handing out stamps inside at Bethune.
[@TheSpiritNews](#) #197th



Philly GOP @PhillyGOP · 22h

Illegal pink ballots at Rivera Rec #SpecialElection197



Philly GOP @PhillyGOP · 20h

2 4

More illegal pink sheets at Taylor School #SpecialElection197



Spirit Newspapers
@TheSpiritNews · 19h

Part 1: poll watchers confront man trying to enter polling location. #197th



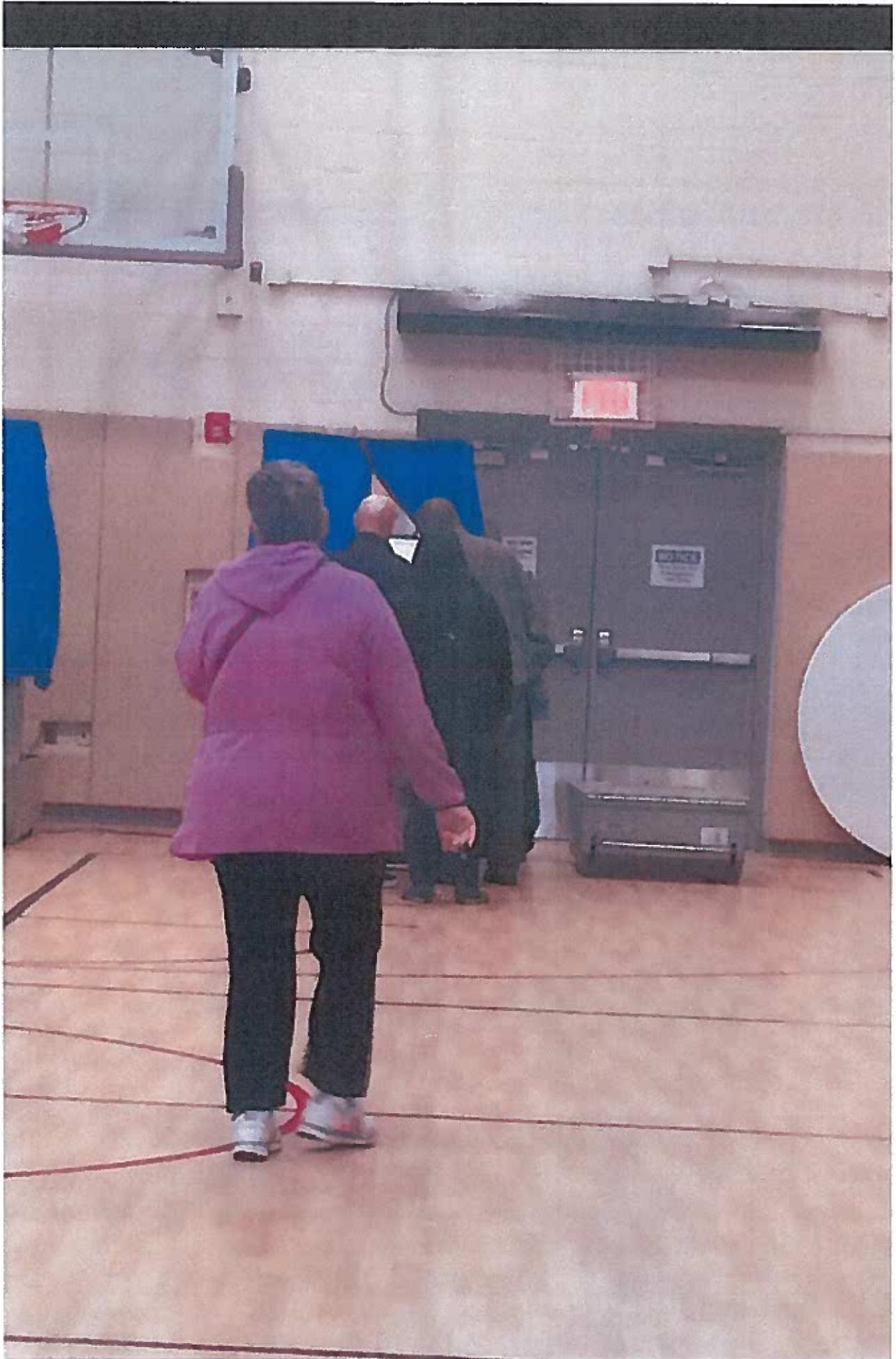
Bob Stewart @bstew74
So this happened ... @TheSpiritNews #197th

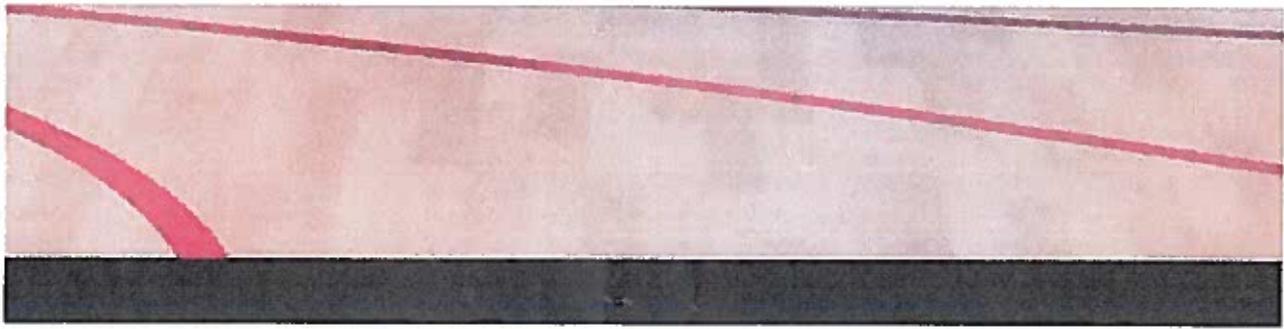


Bob Stewart
@bstew74 · 19h

1 2

One of the judge-of-elections at Esperanza: "I ain't never seen nothin' like this. Nothin'! In 40 something years."
#197th @TheSpiritNews





Bob Stewart @bstew74 · Mar 21

Voters getting "help" at 6th and Cayuga. @TheSpiritNews #197th (Attn DA's office: No, I didn't take this pic lol!)