

## **PRESS RELEASE**

In today's General Municipal Election, the Clay County Election Board discovered 64 ballot styles contained ballots in which the same races appeared on the front as well as the back of the ballot. The ballots should have only been one sided. The Board had correctly programmed the tabulators to not accept such a ballot.

The Board recognized this problem early in the morning. At the opening of the polls, voters were still able to cast their ballots and those will be counted. To further ensure the integrity of the voting process, the Board had also instructed poll workers to provide voters with alternative options. Voters may choose to cast their votes using touchscreen machines, as the tabulator is equipped to accept ballots printed from the Express Vote system. Additionally, early voters who received the ballot with races on both sides, had an "X" marked through the duplicate races to minimize any confusion to the voter.

The Board has provided corrected ballots to all voting precincts that received the double-sided ballots. Auxiliary checks quickly identified and corrected the issue with this double-sided ballot. The Board is conducting an investigation of the vendor who provided the double-sided ballots to determine how this error occurred. The limited number of early votes that had the double-sided printed ballots will be inspected and counted by bipartisan teams to assure correct tabulation.

The Board appreciates its hard-working staff, election employees and voters. The Board has complete confidence that the bipartisan inspection and tabulation of each of the very limited number of double-sided ballots and regular ballots will render the correct results of the voters in this General Municipal Election.