



*Muriel Bowser*  
*Ward 4 Councilmember*  
*Council of the District of Columbia*

*Chair,*  
*Public Services and Consumer Affairs*  
*Committee Member*  
*Economic Development*  
*Human Services*  
*Public Safety and Judiciary*  
*Public Works and Transportation*

August 16, 2010

Mr. Rokey W. Suleman  
Executive Director  
District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Suleman:

By letter dated August 2, 2010, you informed me that the Board of Elections and Ethics (Board) approved the relocation of the voting location for Precinct #46 from the current site at Clark Elementary School, 4501 Kansas Avenue, N.W., to a new site, McFarland Middle School, located at 4400 Iowa Avenue, N.W., which is three blocks outside of the precinct boundaries. You state that this action was necessary because the current site is being renovated, and that there are no other alternative locations available within the precinct boundaries to serve as a polling location.

I am writing to object to the relocation approved by the Board at its July 28, 2010, meeting. You state that the final decision to relocate Precinct #46 was made "at its regular board meeting scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 28, 2010." However, according to the public notice of the meeting published that same day, July 28, 2010, in the Washington Examiner, the meeting was a "Special Board Meeting" to be convened at 11:00 a.m., and not a regularly scheduled board meeting. There is no evidence that any other public notice of the meeting was provided. Furthermore, the agenda for the July 28, 2010, meeting also stated that it was a "Special Board Meeting." Thus, from all indications, the decision to relocate Precinct #46 was not made at a regularly scheduled board meeting; instead it was made at a "Special Board Meeting."

According to D.C. Code 1-1001.05 (a-1)(1), the Board shall hold "regular monthly meetings in accordance with a schedule established by the Board. Additional meetings maybe called as needed by the Board. Except in the case of an emergency, the Board shall provide at least 48 hours notice of any additional meeting." Unless the decision to relocate Precinct #46 is deemed to have been an emergency, it appears that the Board's decision was not in compliance with the law because it did not "provide at least 48 notice of" the "Special Board Meeting."

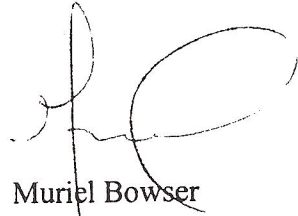
Mr. Rokey W. Suleman

August 16, 2010

Page 2

Should the Board proceed with this location outside of the actual precinct, at least 3 media outlets should be used to advertise this change, including the Washington Post and the Northwest Current which serve the each household in the precinct.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Muriel Bowser', with a large, stylized initial 'M' and 'B'.

Muriel Bowser

Councilmember Ward 4

cc: Joe Martin, Chair, ANC 4C  
Shanel Anthony, ANC 4C07