

Citizens Union • Common Cause New York • League of Women Voters of the City of New York • New York Public Interest Research Group • Women's City Club of New York

December 14, 2010

Julie Dent, President
Juan Carlos Polanco, Secretary
New York City Board of Elections
32 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Commissioners Dent and Polanco,

We are writing to congratulate the Board of Elections in the City of New York for a productive campaign to help New York City's voters understand the switch from lever machines to paper ballots and optical scanners. Employing a wide variety of strategies including diverse communication and media outlets, and extensive mobile outreach, the Board took important steps to make sure voters were not surprised by the absence of lever machines when they went to their poll sites this fall.

We also appreciate the Board's efforts to communicate with our organizations, invite feedback and incorporate our suggestions during the campaign. The level of collaboration that took place was encouraging and we are eager to continue working with the Board to improve voter understanding and participation in the City's elections. In particular, we are delighted by the Board's recent decision to give voters the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the ballot before the election by linking sample ballots to the Poll Site Locator.

We look forward to building an ongoing dialogue with the Board that will lead to innovations that benefit New York City's voters.

Sincerely,

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cc: Commissioners of Elections
Dawn Sandow, Deputy Director
Valerie Vazquez, Communications and Public Affairs