

TENESHIA HUDSPETH COUNTY CLERK

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Election Day Storms Cannot Stop Democracy Harris County Clerk Announces Unofficial Primary Runoff Elections Results

(Houston, TX)— The <u>unofficial results</u> for the May 28 Primary Runoff Elections were released early Wednesday as Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth, the county's chief election official, reflected on how the Elections Department responded to challenges presented by Tuesday's severe weather.

"Storms cannot stop democracy. Our office communicated with election judges during and after the severe weather to determine how we could best support each vote center's needs," **explained Clerk Hudspeth**. "We continued processing voters after locations temporarily lost power, because Harris County's voting machines are equipped with an internal battery that has between four and six hours of battery life when disconnected from a power supply."

Tuesday afternoon's severe storms affected less than five percent of the 313 Election Day vote centers. Power was restored within a short period at most of the affected locations. The Elections Department quickly dispatched generators to vote centers that experienced prolonged power outages.

"Only one location, the Houston Texans YMCA, in southeast Houston, closed due to the storm's damage," **said Clerk Hudspeth**. "As always, our office's top priority is to ensure the safety of our election workers and voters."

In total, more than 49,000 ballots were cast by voters in the May 28 Primary Runoff Elections. About 37% of the ballots were cast in person during early voting, 24% were received by mail, and 39% were cast in person on Election Day.

"Primary runoff elections are the last stop for each of the two major political parties to determine their candidates for November's general election," **added Clerk Hudspeth**. "I am thankful for the Countywide Polling Place program in Harris County that allows voters the option to vote at any vote center, and the 4,000 election workers who ensured the integrity of free and fair elections."

The Harris County Clerk's Elections Department will publish the official results once the canvass is complete.

Additional election information is available on www.HarrisVotes.com. For news and updates on social media, follow **@HarrisVotes**.

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