

## Cooper Miller

Hello,

This is my testimony about the June Primary. Sorry for the delay on this, I work for the BOE so I don't know if it compromises my employment to share information. I'd like to remain anonymous.

I worked in the Bishop Ford building as a relief worker. This last election I was given the task of being the accessibility clerk, even though I wasn't trained as such.

### COVID Issues

Although we were provided with ample supplies, (visors, masks, anti-viral wipes, hand sanitizer) there was no protocol to disinfect and distribute masks to either the workers or the voters. We decided to disinfect the privacy booths every 2 hours. Toward the end of the day I set up a booth inside the foyer to make sure that anyone without a mask felt welcome to take one. There were 2 police officers that took shifts guarding the polling place, one of which took a 1 hour dinner break, without a replacement. 514 people voted, with was about 1/8 the voters that participated in Nov. The coordinator did not endeavor to be socially distant and wore his mask under his chin all day.

### Issue with Managment

The Coordinator does not follow BOE protocol either, but directs everyone to take shortcuts that make his work easier. For example he insists that everyone fill out their affidavits before the votes have been tallied. He also uses some form of shorthand to mark the counts which was also questionable. In the Nov election we had two ballot counting machines fail, one ballot was spit out the back and the coordinator tried to feed it into the machine, rather than follow protocol, he failed and a repair had to be made. He tired to do the bare minimum, and tries to shorten his end of day workload. It is hard to blame him though, because it is a 17 hour work day 5am-10pm at the end of which everyone's brain is mush.

### Issue with the Facility:

All doorways are only 32" wide, not the 36" as required by the ADA. In Nov the narrow doorways caused a numbered security tag to fall off a ballot box that the police removed from the polls. The coordinator told us to ignore it, even though we should have reported it. The gym only has two dual electrical outlets, 500 ft apart, in the November election 5 voting machines were all on the same outlet, which is goes against the policy of the BOE. This time there was only 3 voting machines but since there was no A/C, 3 industrial fans also used the same circuit. This is a city owned building so there is not excuse for a subpar facility.

### Voting Machine Issues

Half way through the day I noticed that the Ballot Marking Device was not functioning, it never booted correctly. Anyone can request to use this touch screen device, but it is designed to specifically help folks who are unable to use a pen to mark a ballot. I reported it directly to the BOE and repairmen came and failed to get it to work after working on it for an hour. Although the repairmen called in a replacement, it was never replaced.

### Endemic Issues

The BOE does a terrible job training staff, despite a 4 hour training almost no time was given to understand how to properly set up the voting machines. At my training session on 9/11/2019 there was an inappropriate open dispute between the teacher and his assistant because he was doing such a poor job teaching. The 20 multiple choice question qualifying test is poorly written, the assistants will also simply give test takers the correct answer without teaching you why. As result 10% of the polling staff are problematically incompetent.

Currently the BOE staff self-evaluate and I believe that is not adequate. Although the BOE HQ is quick to respond to issues, there needs to be a more robust system of poll watching.

Thanks,  
Cooper Miller