

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ELECTION CHALLENGE FORM

I hereby submit my challenge for the Pico Union

Neighborhood Council Election held on 04/03/2014

I affirm that I am a stakeholder in this Neighborhood Council and that I have personal knowledge of the following challenge. check here

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REASON FOR CHALLENGE: Campaign Material Issues

Please state the facts for your challenge.
(max 500 words)

On March 24, 2014 PUNC created and circulated a flyer for the upcoming election. Contained within this flyer is a sample ballot with candidates, (some with misspelled names), listed under the five categories that have open seats. Four of the categories only have one open seat. The fifth category, Organization Representatives, has five candidates running for election for three open seats. Under the Organization Representatives the Pico Union NC flyer states that the voting is as follows: 1. Vote for One, District 1, name listed Zoila Banuelos with a check box next to her name. 2. Vote for One, District 2, name listed Elizabeth Guevara, Estrella M. Galindo, Isreal Chaider, with a check box next to each name. 3. Vote for One, District 3, name listed Miguel Amaya with a check box next to his name. According to this sample ballot Zoila Banuelos and Miguel Amaya have been separated into a single vote category where they are unopposed for the Organization Representative Seat. According to the Pico Union NC bylaws these seats are not divided by district. Pico Union NC Bylaws, dated July 8, 2013, Article V, #4 states: 4. Organizational Stakeholder Board Members (3) – Open to Stakeholders 18 years of age or older who participate in a religious institution, educational institution, community organization, non-profit organization, neighborhood association, school/parent group, faith based group, senior group, youth group, arts association, service organization, boys or girls club, cultural group, business group, political group, environmental group, advisory board, or public agency within the NC boundaries. There shall be no more than two organizational Board members from any one of the three geographic districts. According to the PUNC bylaws, the five candidates should be listed under the one category, that of

Organizational Representative not by district. If the intention was that there be an elected stakeholder in each district, PUNC bylaws should have been amended prior to the election. I presume that the Pico Union NC, when they wrote their bylaws, took into account the chance of three individuals from one district winning the election, and have a procedure in place, since only two can serve from one a district, that would deal with that scenario. As the sample ballot appears in the PUNC flyer, the Pico Union NC appears to be openly directing which way the vote goes for two of the candidates. This very point was clarified during the candidacy filing period by the City Election Clerk's Office, and I know that this information was relayed to the Pico Union NC since Peter Sean, PUNC President, confronted me about this at a general meeting. In fact one candidate, who also sits on the Outreach Committee, continually expressed that he had been told that under the Organization Representative, he was unopposed by PUNC. Whether this is a case of human error or an intentional maneuver it is detrimental to the election process and to the Pico Union Stakeholders.

Please state your desired remedy. (max 100 words)

The Independent Election Administrator has informed me that PUNC has been told to stop distributing the flyers and that the door hangers had to be approved before printing. I suggest that this election be monitored closely. At several meetings Stakeholders are still being told if they only come to Pico Union to eat at a restaurant this makes them a stakeholder and they can vote. In spite of warnings the PUNC Board continues to give this information out to potential voters.

Attach all supporting documentation: [election_flyer.jpeg](#)

Created: Mar 25, 2014 05:36:07 PM, IP: 172.6.129.19, By: Public