

**Statement from Lee County Judge Frank Malinak**

**Voting Machine Malfunction**

**October 22, 2024**

It has been brought to my attention that a voting machine appeared to be malfunctioning yesterday at the Giddings Library voting location. This voting machine was taken out of service by our Election Administrator. It is believed this machine's calibration was off, possibly due to damage that may have occurred during shipping. This issue has not been encountered in the other voting machines.

Computers have a latency period, or a slight delay when you click on a selected object. Our voting machines are computerized. On this machine, after making the selection, the machine didn't immediately advance like it should have so when the selection was clicked again, that selection was registered when the machine advanced to the next slide, possibly causing an incorrect candidate selection.

Voters are asked to review their selections on the final slide to ensure the integrity of their vote. Voters are also asked to review their printed card to ensure the proper vote has been cast. I will be asking questions of our voting machine manufacturer and supplier to determine how this could happen. We must have confidence and trust in our election system, so I will be pursuing answers to this issue. I voted this morning at the Giddings Library and encountered no problems. We have had no additional issues reported, however, if a voting problem occurs, please contact an on site Election Judge for assistance. Thank you.

County Judge Frank Malinak 979-542-3178.