



CONGRESSWOMAN STEPHANIE MURPHY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FLORIDA, 7TH DISTRICT

October 21, 2020

The Honorable Chris Anderson
Seminole County Supervisor of Elections
1500 E. Airport Blvd.
Sanford, FL 32773

Dear Supervisor Anderson,

Thank you for your efforts to date to ensure that every eligible voter in Seminole County voter can exercise their legal right to vote in the 2020 General Election. As you know, under Florida law, registered voters can vote either in person or by mail. If they vote in person, they can vote early—between October 19 and November 1—or they can vote on Election Day—November 3. If they vote by mail, their ballot must be returned and received by your office no later than 7 p.m. local time on November 3 in order to be counted.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is expected that many eligible voters in Seminole County will choose to vote by mail rather than in person. Therefore, it is incumbent upon county election supervisors to take all reasonable steps to ensure that mail-in ballots are properly counted. To that end, I respectfully request that your office work with the United States Postal Service (USPS) to develop and execute an effective plan to collect and count mail-in ballots. I further ask that you explain this plan to the voting public so they have confidence in the accuracy and integrity of the voting process.

Other county election supervisors have taken such affirmative steps in coordination with USPS. For example, as detailed in the enclosed documents, the election supervisor in Broward County coordinated with USPS to help ensure that mail-in ballots are collected and counted by the 7 p.m. deadline on November 3. Pursuant to the arrangement:

- On Monday, November 2, USPS will collect mail-in ballots from various post offices in Broward County and coordinate their delivery to a single post office, whereupon they will subsequently be delivered to the election office by the deadline.
- On Tuesday, November 3, the USPS will run an early sortation to retrieve any ballots in the mail stream. In addition, USPS will collect and ensure any additional ballots are delivered to the election office by the deadline.

Thank you for your attention to this issue, which is essential to safeguarding our democratic process during this challenging time. My office can provide any assistance you may need.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress