



October 8, 2021

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

Dear Supervisor Anderson,

We appreciate your hard work heading into the coming municipal elections, and we want to congratulate you and the municipal governments of Lake Mary and Oviedo for working together to offer early voting options to their residents. We also appreciate your diligence in implementing the changes brought by SB90 into the materials available for voters, particularly in your vote-by-mail request form.

We do, however, have several concerns about language accessibility that we must bring to your attention. Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act states: "*Whenever any state or political subdivision [covered by the section] provides registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance, or other materials or information relating to the electoral process, including ballots, it shall provide them in the language of the applicable minority group as well as in the English language*". As a covered jurisdiction, this section applies to primary and general elections, bond elections and referenda, and to elections of each municipality, school district or special purpose district within Seminole County.

During the 2020 general election, election protection volunteers flagged issues that particularly affected Spanish-dominant voters in Seminole County. Some of these issues were:

- Bilingual poll workers could not be identified by their badges.
- Spanish language in signage was significantly smaller and harder to read than English signage.
- The website, www.voteseminole.org, contains buttons that do not translate with site translation options.
- Spanish text in materials available on the Supervisor of Elections' website was significantly smaller and harder to read than English text.

If these problems continue going forward, we will see Spanish-language voters face disproportionate challenges at the polls.

Given how close we are to the next election, we wanted to learn what the Supervisor of Elections Office is doing to address these concerns in order to ensure voters' rights are protected during the election process.

We look forward to talking with you and collaborating with you during these municipal elections and the months ahead leading into the 2022 elections cycle.

Cordially,

Ricardo J. Negrón-Almodovar
FL Campaign Manager
All Voting is Local