

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR MILLER-WILLIAMS**

Re: Requesting a complete accounting regarding recent events at the Board of Elections that call into question the integrity of elections in Erie County

WHEREAS, in a democratic society the integrity of all elections and officials who work the elections must be above reproach; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body has asked for explanations several times in the past for incidences including alleged voting irregularities at polling locations on Primary Election Day in 2010 and the actions of a Commissioner regarding refusing of placement of a local law passed by the Honorable Body onto the General Election 2010 ballot; and

WHEREAS, it has now come to our attention through the local news media that an employee of the Board of Elections tampered with absentee ballots prior to mailing to voters; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Department is investigating the incident and have indicated in the media that an arrest of at least one individual in this matter is imminent; and

WHEREAS, there are many questions that the members of both this Honorable Body and the public would like answered in order to be assured that there is not a potential pattern of corruption regarding elections in Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby strongly request that both the Democratic and Republican Commissioners of the Board of Elections come before the Government Affairs Committee to discuss this incident, what safeguards are in place to avoid such future incidents, along with any other instances where there may be allegations of voting irregularity by any employees of the Board of Elections; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature be informed at that time regarding steps that the Board of Elections Commissioners have taken to assure this Honorable Body and the members of the public that the upcoming election and all future elections are conducted with the highest ethical standards and with complete accountability for all actions taken by any employee of the Erie County Board of Elections; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Erie County Democratic and Republican Board of Elections Commissioners, the Erie County Sheriff, the Erie County Attorney, the Director of the State Board of Elections and the U.S. Department of Justice.

FISCAL IMPACT: None for the resolution