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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: May 20, 2014

To: The Honorable Ally Miller, Member  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator 

Re: **Your Undated Press Release Regarding the Sunnyside School Board Recall Election**

In the fifth paragraph of your press release regarding the Sunnyside School Board Recall Election (attached), you indicate Pima County is the only county in Arizona that conducts elections through an elections department reporting directly to the County Administrator.

This statement is incorrect. Nine of Arizona's 15 counties have a bifurcated election system, which improves the check-and-balance provisions associated with election integrity. Recently, this has been as high as 11, but the number of counties varies over time. Pima County follows this process. Only a few counties have the combined elections and voter registration process, which places all of the power of conducting elections in one official.

While I have no view on the efficiencies of either process, I do know the bifurcated check-and-balance, or separation of powers, helps assure fair elections. The functions are separated, not combined with a single entity, official or organization.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors  
The Honorable F. Ann Rodriguez, Pima County Recorder  
Brad Nelson, Director, Elections Department



PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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**ALLY MILLER**  
 SUPERVISOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jeannie Davis, Chief of Staff  
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**SUPERVISOR ALLY MILLER CALLS FOR EMERGENCY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING REGARDING THE SUNNYSIDE SCHOOL BOARD RECALL ELECTION**

May 13, 2014 – (Pima County, AZ) – Pima County Supervisor, Ally Miller, has asked the Board of Supervisors to hold an emergency meeting to address concerns voters have expressed regarding the Sunnyside School Board recall election.

Following the Pima County Election Integrity Commission meeting that was held on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Miller fielded numerous phone calls from voters demanding answers and transparency in the elections process. A video from the recent election integrity meeting can be found here: <http://youtu.be/WpGG-PpAaY>.

A request for an emergency meeting was sent to the Clerk of the Board this morning in hopes the Board can meet to discuss this subject Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Miller stated, "This is a non-partisan issue involving the need for a more transparent, fair elections process and we must address the concerns of the voters and insure that everyone has the clear and undisputed right for their vote to be counted".

Pima County Election Integrity Commission member Bill Beard said, "There have been various concerns over the years about election integrity and the transparency of procedures with the Pima County elections process. The current Sunnyside recall election has done nothing but validate these concerns."

Pima County is the only county in the State of Arizona that has an elections department which reports directly to the County Administrator. In the majority of the other counties, the elections department reports to the county Recorder's office.

Supervisor Ally Miller, elected in November of 2012, is currently serving her first term as a member of the Pima County Board of Supervisors representing District 1. Supervisor Miller holds a B.S. in Business Administration (Finance) from The University of Arizona and a Masters in Business Administration from The University of Arizona Eller School of Management and has been a resident of Pima County for more than 30 years.

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