

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN SUPREME COURT
A08-2169

Norm Coleman, et al.,

Petitioners,

vs.

Mark Ritchie, Minnesota Secretary of
State, The Minnesota State Canvassing
Board, Isanti County Canvassing Board, et
al.,

Respondents.

**AFFIDAVIT OF
JOYCE STEINHOFF**

Al Franken for Senate and Al Franken,

Intervenor-Respondents.

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF PIPESTONE)

Joyce Steinhoff, being first duly sworn, hereby deposes and states as follows:

1. That I am the duly elected County Auditor for Pipestone County, Minnesota.
2. That this affidavit is made in response to paragraph 2 of this Court's Order dated January 2, 2009.
3. That as ordered by paragraph 2 of this Court's Order dated December 18, 2008, I notified the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State on December 22, 2008, that there were no absentee ballot envelopes in Pipestone County that the local election officials and the candidates agreed were rejected in error.
4. That on December 30, 2008, the Coleman campaign identified two previously rejected ballot envelopes which had been rejected for one of the four valid statutory reasons, specifically

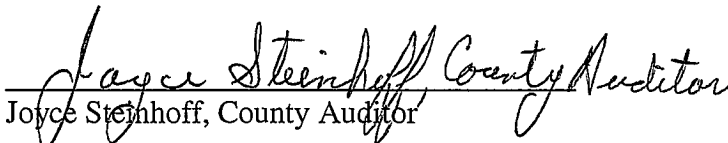
because the signatures on the applications did not match the signatures on the ballot envelopes, and requested that they be reconsidered.

5. That I did reconsider the additional rejected absentee ballots identified by the Coleman campaign by pulling the rejected ballots and once again comparing the signatures, and concluded that said ballots had been properly rejected because the signatures on the applications did not match the signatures on the return envelopes. That my conclusion was in agreement with the County Absentee Ballot Board and two City of Pipestone election judges who reviewed the rejected absentees as requested on December 9, 2008 with representatives of the Campaign Committees present for observation.

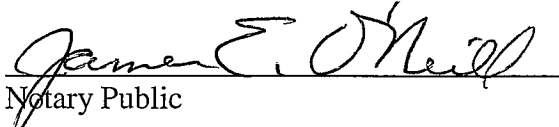
6. That at approximately the same time as the Coleman campaign request was made with regard to the additional rejected absentee ballots a communication was received from the Franken campaign that no additional rejected absentee ballots should be reconsidered.

7. That the additional rejected absentee ballots were not submitted to the Secretary of State for the reason stated above and to be in conformity with this Court's Order that only those rejected absentee ballots which the respective campaigns and the local election officials agree were rejected in error should be reconsidered.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.


Joyce Steinhoff, County Auditor

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 2nd day of January, 2009.


Notary Public

