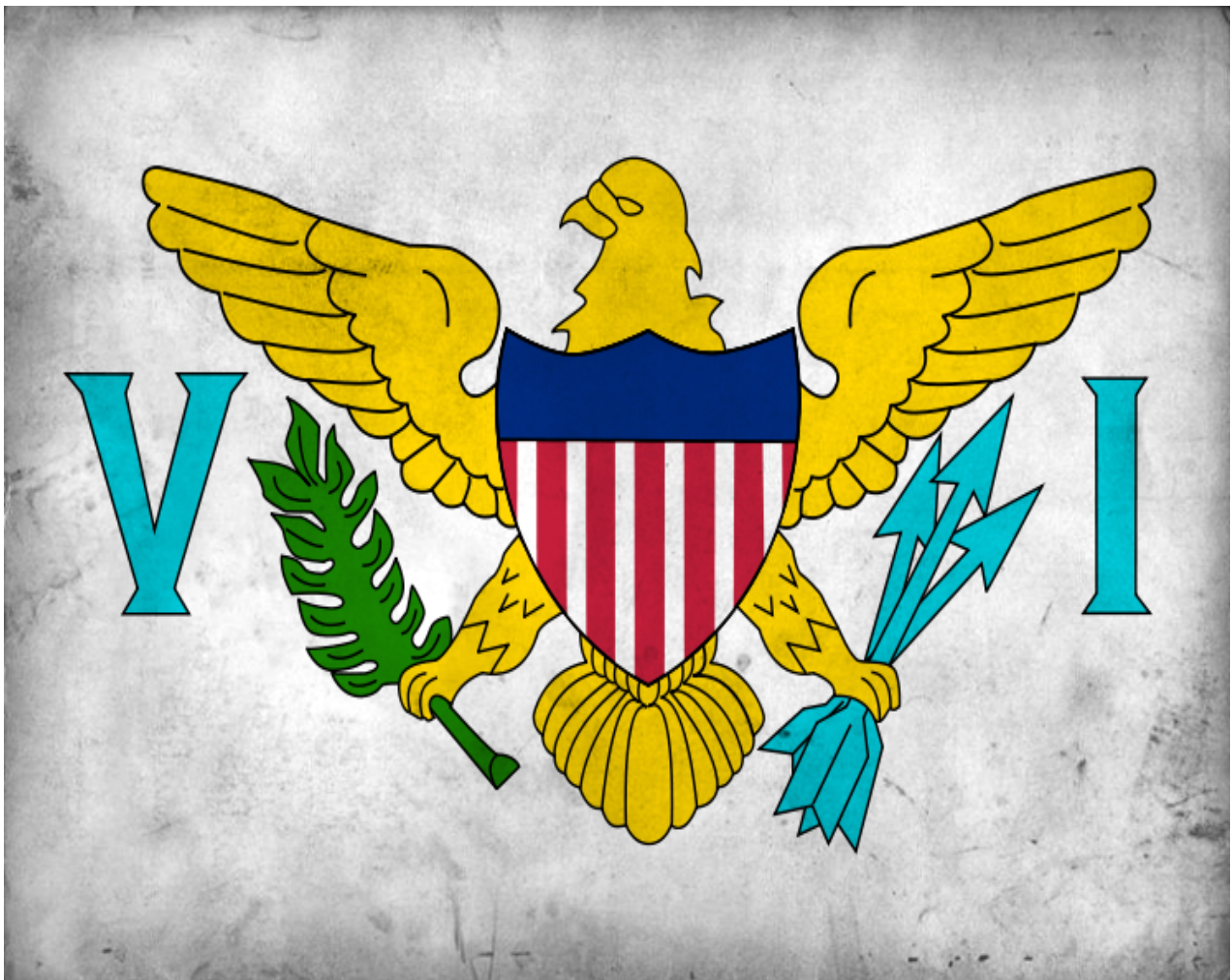


The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. Thomas Elections Board Certifies Primary Results At Last

Politics / **Published On August 20, 2014 03:59 PM /**

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The St. Thomas-St. John District was finally able to certify the results of the August 2nd primary elections, albeit through an uncommon approach during an emergency meeting held on Tuesday.

The results remained unchanged and all candidates who won in the primary will appear on the November 4th general election ballot.

Of the 17,269 registered voters, 4,233 participated in the August 2nd primaries, representing 29.36 of voters.

The casting of lots, scheduled for Tuesday will now take place on Thursday because of the St. Thomas-St. John District Board of Elections oblivious handling of the certification process. The St. Croix District met its deadline and certified the election on Sunday, August 17th.

The St. Thomas-St. John District, meanwhile, couldn't come to a quorum on Sunday or Monday because four of the seven board members were off Island. They include: Arturo Watlington Jr., Lydia Hendricks, Alecia Wells and Harry Daniel.

Daniel, who returned to St. Thomas on Monday, met with remaining board members Claudette Georges and Larry Boschulte, however Wilma Marsh-Monsanto, who was on Island, decided not to show up, citing late notice as the reason.

"I must disassociate myself for my own legal protection," Monsanto wrote.

On Tuesday, the same board members convened, with Wells participating through telephone, and finally came to a quorum.

Results

The Delegate to Congress race remained unchanged, with Shawn-Michael Malone collecting 408 absentee votes and 79 counted by hand for a grand total of 2,410. His election night total was 1,923.

Attorney Stacey Plaskett collected 344 absentee votes and 4 hand count bringing her final tally to 2,272. The prior total was 1,852.

Meanwhile, former Senator Emmett Hansen's numbers barely budged, garnering a paltry 23 absentee ballots and 4 hand count ballots. His grand total was 123.

The gubernatorial race saw the Christensen-Basil team building on their lead, receiving 365 absentee ballots and 70 hand counted ballots, equating to a grand total of 2,027. That's 855 more votes on St. Thomas than the Donastorg-Torres team, who ended with 138 absentee ballots and 34 hand count, reaching a total of 1,172.

In third place was Lieutenant Governor Gregory Francis and his running mate Patrick Sprauve with a total of 697, fourth was the Smith-Frederick ticket with a total of 589 votes, fifth Pickering-Martin with 312 votes and sixth place was the James-Braithwaite ticket with 159 votes.