



NEWS RELEASE

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NALEO Educational Fund Addresses Los Angeles County's Voting Operation Issues on Super Tuesday

Voters, including many Latinos, faced long lines and other obstacles before casting their ballots

LOS ANGELES – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund today released a statement from CEO Arturo Vargas on the problematic voting operation in Los Angeles County:

"We are very disappointed with the many reports our organization received from Los Angeles County voters, citing several troubling issues with voting on Super Tuesday. Eager voters, including a steady stream of Latino voters, showed up to participate and were met with long wait times, malfunctioning equipment, incorrect information, and insufficient Vote Center workers and Spanish-language assistance.

"We are dismayed by the execution of yesterday's voting operation, as many of these issues were foreseeable and avoidable. Latinos represent the largest population in California. It is inappropriate for polling locations in highly-concentrated Latino areas to have a lack of adequate Spanish-speaking assistance and properly-working technology. And with the reality that many voters had been waiting for the Presidential primary field to narrow before they cast their ballots, the County needed to ensure ample Vote Center workers and voting equipment so that it could take on the predictable influx of same-day voters and be in the best position to swiftly address technical malfunctions.

"Los Angeles County residents should be able to show up to the polls, receive correct information, and cast their votes on machines that work without having to wait in line for hours. Unfortunately, because of yesterday's numerous election problems, we believe many voters did not have the opportunity to make their voices heard. We call on the County to take immediate action to investigate what caused these issues and provide adequate solutions so that this will never happen again.

"NALEO Educational Fund stands ready to work alongside our partners and election administrators to help achieve the goals of full voter participation."

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About NALEO Educational Fund

NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates the full participation of Latinos in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.