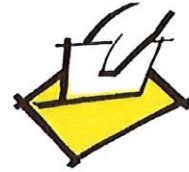




DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF PUERTO RICO
PARTIDO DEMÓCRATA DE PUERTO RICO



COMISION ESTATAL DE ELECCIONES

RULES FOR THE PUERTO RICO DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY PROCESS

APPROVED ON JANUARY 23, 2024

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TITLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1.1 TITLE

These Rules shall be known as the "Rules for the Puerto Rico Democratic Presidential Primary Process."

Section 1.2 LEGAL BASIS

These Rules are adopted and promulgated under the provisions of the Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, Act 58-2020, 16 L.P.R.A. §§ 4501, et seq, from now on "Election Code"; and the "Puerto Rico Delegate Selection Plan for the 2024 Democratic National Convention". In addition, the federal absentee voting laws "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act", Public Law 99-410, as amended, from now on "U.O.C.A.V.A."; "Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act", Public Law 11184 Subtitle H - Military Voting Sections 575-589, from now on "MOVE"; and "Help America Vote Act", Public Law 107-252, from now on "H.A.V.A.", are applicable.

Section 1.3 DEFINITIONS

The applicable definitions contained in Article 2.3 and Article 8.3.a. of the Election Code are hereby made a part of these Rules.

For the purposes of these Rules, the following terms shall have the meanings expressed below:

1) Tally Sheet- The document or documents recording the results of the canvass on the day of the Presidential Primary at the polling stations in the congressional districts and the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra, which shall be completed in all its parts. This sheet shall contain a copy for each member of the corresponding board.

2) General Tally Sheet- The election document or documents where the President and the Electoral Commissioner record the result of the general canvass of votes.

3) Incident Log- The election document or documents in which the polling opening and election ending process, as well as the results and other related incidents, shall be recorded. There shall be incident logs for the polling station boards and local boards, which shall be filled out in all their parts. This document shall include a copy for each member of the corresponding boards.

4) Presidential Candidate - Any person who, having fulfilled the guidelines, rules, regulations, and requirements of the Democratic Party of the United States of America, the provisions of the Election Code, and these Rules, aspires to obtain the Democratic Party's nomination as candidate for President of the United States of America.

5) Election Code- Act 58-2020, as amended, known as the "Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020."

6) Polling Station- Any public or private facility where a polling place authorized by the Presidential Primary Commission is located and where the voting process takes place.

7) Democratic National Committee- The governing body of the Democratic Party of the United States of America known as the Democratic National Committee ("DNC").

8) Commission- The agency of the Government of Puerto Rico known as the "State Elections Commission of Puerto Rico" (CEE, by its Spanish acronym), as created by the Election Code.

9) Presidential Primary Commission- The state election entity responsible for planning, organizing, structuring, directing and supervising the Democratic Presidential Primary composed of the President and the Electoral Commissioner.

10) Electoral Commissioner- The person appointed by the Chair of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico to oversee and represent the Party in all matters related to the Democratic Presidential Primary process.

11) Democratic National Convention- The national assembly or meeting held by the Democratic Party of the United States of America to nominate the person to be its candidate for President of the United States of America in the presidential elections following the convention.

12) Delegate- A person duly selected in accordance with the Election Code and the "Puerto Rico Delegate Selection Plan for the 2024 Democratic National Convention", hereinafter "Plan", to attend the Democratic National Convention with a commitment to vote on the first ballot for a specific candidate for President.

13) Congressional District- The geographic area known as a senatorial district in Puerto Rico that the Constitutional Board for Revision of Senatorial and Representative Electoral Districts has established for electoral purposes.

14) Voter- Any person who complies with the voting requirements of the law, appears in the General Voter Registry by the registration deadline and complies with the provisions of these Rules.

15) Assistive Technology Devices (AT)- A personal and specialized device belonging to a voter with disabilities that allows them to carry out voting processes independently and privately, such as interacting with the electronic canvassing machine,

marking the ballot, or other.

16) Polling Station Board- The electoral entity at the polling station in charge of managing the voting process.

17) Local Board- The electoral entity at the Congressional District level and in the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra, responsible for supervising and conducting the presidential primary in its jurisdiction.

18) Observers- A person appointed by and representing a presidential candidate to observe the voting and canvass processes.

19) Ballot- Document designed by the Presidential Primary Commission and printed by the Commission for the voter to mark their vote.

20) Presidential Preference Ballot - A ballot designed and used for voters to state their preference for a presidential candidate.

21) Challenged Ballot- A ballot that is subject to the challenge process provided in the Election Code and these Rules.

22) Democratic Party- The Democratic Party of the United States of America that nominates and participates in the election of candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States of America.

23) Democratic Party of Puerto Rico- The committee or entity recognized as the affiliate of the Democratic Party of the United States of America in Puerto Rico. It is also identified by the acronym "DPPR".

24) President- The President of the State Elections Commission of Puerto Rico, as such office was created by the Election Code.

25) Presidential Primary- The process whereby voters affiliated with the Democratic Party of the United States of America cast their vote to state their preference with regard to the candidates for the Party's nomination for President of the United States of America and to select the delegate group pledged to a presidential candidate.

26) Challenge- The procedure whereby a polling station official or voter challenges, on the day of the Presidential Primary, the validity of a vote for any of the reasons set forth in the Election Code and these Rules.

Section 1.4 DATE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

The Presidential Primary of the Democratic Party shall be held on April 28, 2024.

Section 1.5 VOTING LOCATION

All voters interested in voting in the Presidential Primary shall vote in the congressional district or in the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra in which they are registered. In addition, during the eight (8) days prior to the date on which the Presidential Primary is to be held, early voting shall be provided to any voter who so requires or prefers. This early vote shall be exercised by means of the "Added by Hand" or provisional voter procedure. To exercise this right, the voter shall go in person to any of the eleven (11) regional offices or seven (7) offices of the Permanent Registration Boards and those special voting centers in different government facilities established and authorized by the Presidential Primary Commission, which shall not exceed twelve (12). The early voting shall be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This vote shall be administered by the Absentee and Early Voting Administrative Board ("JAVAA", by its acronym in Spanish).

Section 1.6 VOTERS WHO MAY VOTE IN THE PRIMARY

Every voter who is qualified to vote in Puerto Rico in the general elections in accordance

with the Election Code, is affiliated with the Democratic Party prior to voting, and has attained the age of eighteen (18) by the date of the next general election, shall be entitled to vote in the Presidential Primary.

Section 1.7 ELECTORAL DOMICILE

Every voter shall vote in the congressional district or in the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra, where they have established their domicile at the time of the closing of the General Voter Registry, which will be March 29, 2024. This Rule shall be governed under the definition of electoral domicile set forth in Article 5.4 of the Election Code.

TITLE II

PROCEDURES PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Section 2.1 FILING OF REORGANIZATION PLAN OR ITS EQUIVALENT

The Democratic Party of Puerto Rico ("DPPR") shall adopt and submit to the President, through the Office of the Secretary of the Commission, a delegate selection plan or its equivalent not later than December 15 of the year preceding the holding of the Presidential Primary.

Any rule to which the DPPR agrees with the Democratic Party, including the delegate selection plan, that is incompatible with the Election Code, shall prevail over it, except as to the date of the Presidential Primary, which shall prevail over any regulation, rule or plan of any affiliated political party.

Section 2.2 AFFILIATION CERTIFICATE

The DPPR shall, within the term provided in Section 2.1 of these Rules, submit to the President evidence certifying that it was acknowledged as an affiliate in Puerto Rico of the Democratic Party. Once this requirement and the registration process provided by the

Election Code have been met, the DPPR shall not be required to register subsequently as such, provided it retains its status as an affiliate of the Democratic Party.

Section 2.3 NAME AND INSIGNIA

The DPPR shall, not later than December 15 of the year preceding the election of the President of the United States of America, register its name and insignia with the President. Such registration shall be in writing and signed by the DPPR Chair. The name and insignia so filed shall constitute the official emblems of the DPPR and shall be printed on the upper margin of all documents related to the Presidential Primary. All matters relating to the adoption, change, determination, or alteration of any name and insignia of the DPPR shall be governed by the provisions of Article 8.7.a of the Electoral Code.

Section 2.4 ELECTORAL COMMISSIONERS

The DPPR Chair shall have the right to appoint an electoral commissioner and an alternate electoral commissioner to conduct the election affairs of the party before the President. These commissioners shall be selected as provided in the Bylaws of the DPPR and shall be persons of recognized moral probity, qualified voters who have resided in Puerto Rico for four (4) years before their appointment and are knowledgeable in electoral matters.

The alternate commissioner shall perform the duties of the electoral commissioner in the event of absence, disability, resignation, death, separation from office, or when the office is vacated for any other cause until the electoral commissioner resumes duties or a new appointment is made.

Section 2.5 OBSERVERS

Each presidential candidate shall be entitled to appoint an observer to the Presidential

Primary Commission and to every local board and polling station board. The presidential candidates or their authorized representatives in Puerto Rico shall issue the appointment forms.

Section 2.6 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

The Secretary of State of Puerto Rico shall determine and prepare a list of the names of the candidates contending for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States of America and shall notify each one of them, by certified mail with return receipt requested, their inclusion in the referenced list not later than January 5, 2024.

The name of each of the candidates on the list shall appear on the ballot as a presidential candidate unless not later than January 10, 2024, such person certifies in writing to the Secretary of State that he or she is not, and does not intend to be, a presidential candidate. Not later than January 15, 2024, the Secretary of State shall notify the Chair of the Democratic National Committee, the Chair of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico, and the President of the names of the persons who shall appear on the ballot as presidential candidates.

Section 2.7 NOTIFICATION OF DELEGATES

No later than January 15, 2024, the DPPR Chair shall file with the Secretary of the Commission a certification of the number of delegates and alternate delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention to which Puerto Rico is entitled to elect.

Section 2.8 CANDIDACY FILING

The delegate nomination processes for the Presidential Primary shall be governed by the Plan approved by the Democratic Party.

Section 2.9 NOTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT DELEGATES

The DPPR Chair shall send an email with a return receipt requested to each presidential candidate or their representative, containing a list of names and addresses of individuals who filed their intention to become a congressional district delegate pledged to such presidential candidate. This notification shall be sent no later than March 1, 2024.

The presidential candidate or their representative will inform the DPPR Chair, by email with the return receipt requested, of the names of approved candidates for delegate for each congressional district no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 5, 2024. The list of approved names will not exceed the number of allocated delegates in each congressional district.

If the presidential candidate or their representative fails to reject or accept a specific individual from the list, the submitted list will be accepted for all intents and purposes. In such cases, the DPPR Chair shall select, by drawing, the names of the delegates who will appear on the ballot from among those who submitted their applications forms of intent to become congressional district delegates pledged to such presidential candidate, consistent with the Plan.

Section 2.10 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT AND ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

The President and the Electoral Commissioner shall constitute the Presidential Primary Commission and shall be responsible for:

1. Regulating, administering, and inspecting all that pertains to the holding of the Presidential Primary.
2. Preparing, producing, and distributing all of the forms, ballots, and documents necessary for the holding of the Presidential Primary.
3. Enforcing the Rules of the Democratic Party and the Plan.

4. Determining the number and selecting the polling centers for the holding of the Presidential Primary.

5. Assigning personnel, materials, and equipment necessary for the holding of the Presidential Primary.

6. Directing the general canvass or recount processes, as the case may be.

Section 2.11 DELEGATION OF DUTIES

When the President is required to attend to other election-related matters provided by law, or for any other justified reason, is unable to discharge, in whole or in part, the duties and obligations entrusted to him/her by the Election Code and these Rules, the person designated for this purpose by a simple majority of the Executive Committee of the DPPR shall substitute him/her in such functions. In all cases, the procedures, requirements, rules, and provisions of the Election Code and these Rules shall be observed in any case. Any act, determination, decision, or action carried out or put into effect by the President prior to being prevented from continuing to implement the provisions of the Presidential Primaries set forth in Subchapter VIII of the Electoral Code and these Rules shall be valid and binding on the person who replaces him/her for such purposes.

Section 2.12 LOCAL BOARDS

In each congressional district and the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra, there shall be a local board which shall be composed of one (1) president and one (1) vice-president appointed by the Electoral Commissioner.

Section 2.13 POLLING STATION BOARDS

At each polling station, there shall be a polling station board composed of three officials: one (1) president, one (1) vice-president, and one (1) secretary appointed by the Electoral Commissioner or by his or her authorized representative. Any vacancy in the polling station

boards that occurs on the election day shall be filled by the president of the appropriate local board.

The members of the polling station board, as well as the observers, while carrying out duties germane to their appointments, shall not wear the uniforms of the United States Armed Forces or of any security or law enforcement body or entity of the Government of Puerto Rico or of any municipality of Puerto Rico.

The members of the polling station board shall be responsible for maintaining order during the proceedings. Likewise, they shall be responsible for resolving any controversy that may arise during the voting and canvassing process and for performing any other function required of them by the Election Code.

The presidential candidates' observers are responsible for ensuring the integrity of the proceedings and can participate in the ballot canvass.

Every member of a polling station board must take an oath before commencing the duties entrusted upon them.

TITLE III

INCOME AND EXPENSES

Section 3.1- INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

No natural or juridical person may, directly or indirectly, make contributions in Puerto Rico to an affiliated political party, candidate for pledged, unpledged, or independent delegate or alternate delegate, or to a group thereof, for a political committee or other organization that promotes or advocates for the election of any delegate or alternate delegate candidates in excess of the amounts established under Section 441 (a) of the "*Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA)*", 11 CFR-110.1 a 110.4.

Section 3.2 USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The provisions of Article 8.1.a of the Electoral Code shall apply. The Supreme Court of Puerto Rico upheld the constitutionality of the Presidential Primary Act. In P.I.P. v. C.E.E., 120 DPR 580 (1988), the Court held that the use of public funds for presidential primaries has a public purpose that does not violate Article II, Section 19, or Sections 1 and 7 of said Article II of the Constitution of Puerto Rico.

TITLE IV

HOLDING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Section 4.1 VOTING SYSTEM

The Presidential Primary shall consist of one ballot on which voters shall express their preference for the Democratic Party's nominee for President.

The Presidential Primary shall be conducted through the open polling system. The voting shall be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Election Code to guarantee at all times the voters' right to equal, direct, free, and secret suffrage. Voters shall be required to show any of the identifications authorized by Article 5.13 of the Election Code. A voting list shall be used to identify the voters on which each voter shall sign next to their name. The signature on the voting list shall represent the voter's intention to be an affiliated voter of the Democratic Party of the United States and its affiliate in Puerto Rico.

Section 4.2 NOTICE TO VOTERS

The Commission shall issue and publish a General Call to the electorate calling and announcing the holding of the Presidential Primary at least thirty (30) days before the date of the election event.

Section 4.3 VOTING HOURS

On election day, voters shall attend the designated polling stations. Polling stations shall open at 9:00 a.m. to receive voters and shall remain open until 3:00 p.m. The voting, however, shall continue uninterruptedly until all voters holding a closed-line card or who are inside the polling station at the time of closing cast their votes.

Section 4.4 DELIVERY OF ELECTION MATERIAL

The President and the Electoral Commissioner shall make arrangements to send the necessary election materials to the Puerto Rico Police stations or any other designated location in each congressional district or the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra before the Presidential Primary is held.

Section 4.5 CONSTITUTION OF LOCAL BOARDS AND POLLING STATION BOARDS

At 7:00 a.m., the local board shall meet at the Puerto Rico Police station or any other designated location in each congressional district or the island municipalities of Vieques and Culebra. The president of each polling station board shall furnish their appointment to the president of the corresponding local board and proceed to receive, with acknowledgment of receipt, the election material. Once the election material is received, the president of the polling station board shall go to the assigned polling station, deliver the election material, and fill out the incident log.

Meanwhile, the vice president of the polling station board will be at the assigned polling station at 7:00 a.m. to receive the polling officials and observers and verify their appointments.

Section 4.6 VERIFICATION OF MATERIAL RECEIVED

The polling station board officials shall proceed to open the election bags, count the

ballots received, and record this information in the polling station's incident log. Then, they will place their initials on the upper left-hand corner of the back of each ballot.

Section 4.7 SUBSTITUTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE POLLING STATION BOARD

The polling station officers and observers may be substituted at any time on the Presidential Primary day prior to the start of the count. In such cases, the required oath may be administered by the president of the local board.

In addition to any other functions and duties required of them by the Democratic Party in its bylaws, the polling station boards shall:

1. Supervise, receive, distribute, and return to the local board the election material of the polling station.
2. Prepare, inspect, and supervise polling stations.
3. Offer orientation to voters on the election day.
4. Administer oaths to the presidential candidates' observers working on the day off the Presidential Primary who have not been sworn in by the local board
5. Maintain order at the polling station assigned.
6. Solve any complaints or disputes that may arise in the polling station by means of unanimous agreements. If no unanimity is reached, refer the complaints or disputes to the local board for resolution.
7. Ensure that voters included in the list of excluded voters are excluded from the voters' list by writing the word "Excluded" in the space provided for the voter's signature. Voters identified as excluded voters shall not vote at the polling station.
8. Fill out the polling station's incident log and tally sheets. The president of each

polling station board shall be responsible for filling out the tally sheets in conjunction with the secretary.

Section 4.8 OPENING OF POLLING STATIONS

At 9:00 a.m., the members present on the polling station board shall declare the polling station open. Voters shall be served in the order they arrive. Each voter shall be located and identified in the voters' list provided by the Commission through an examination of their personal circumstances and voter identification card.

Section 4.9 VOTING PROCESS

At 9:00 a.m. of the Presidential Primary day, the polling station board shall declare the polling station open.

Voters shall stand in line in the order they arrive. The members of the Puerto Rico Police and the Municipal Police who are on duty on the primary day, the duly identified Commission employees, and the members of the local board shall vote with priority in the polling stations where their names appear as voters.

Every voter who attends the polling station to exercise his or her right to vote shall follow the following procedure:

1. The vice-president shall be in charge of the lamp to verify whether or not a voter has voted before. If an ink marking is found, the voter shall be informed that he or she cannot vote. If no ink marking is found, the voter shall proceed to the secretary to present their authorized identification card, and the secretary shall verify the voter's identity with the identification card.

2. The secretary shall verify that the voter appears on the polling station voting list and not on the list of excluded voters. If the voter does not appear in the polling station list

nor on the list of excluded voters, this voter shall be instructed of his or her right to be provisionally added to the voting list and allowed to vote in a special process at the polling station.

3. If, from the above verification, the polling station secretary validates that the voter is entitled to vote in the polling station, the voter shall sign in the space provided next to his or her name on the voter's list. If the voter cannot or is unable to sign, he or she shall make a mark, and the secretary shall sign his or her initials next to the mark.

4. Then, the voter inks his or her finger, receives his or her identification card back and is handed a marker to mark the ballots.

5. Once the preceding step is completed, the president of the polling station will hand out the ballots to the voters and instruct them not to fold them.

6. The voter shall enter the voting partition booth alone and cast his or her vote, making the corresponding markings. Except as otherwise provided by law or regulations for persons with physical disabilities, only one person shall be allowed inside the voting partition booth. Voters may remain inside the voting partition booth for as long as they need in order to cast their vote.

7. Once the voter has voted, he or she shall return the marker and, in the presence of the polling station officials, place the ballot face down in the electronic canvass machine. The electronic canvass machine will warn voters if a ballot is blank or has any ill-polled conditions. The voter may correct this situation by pressing the CORRECT gray button of the electronic canvass machine to retrieve the ballot and vote again, returning to the voting partition booth. In contrast, a voter can confirm that he or she wants the ballot to be considered voted as is by pressing the yellow VOTE button on the electronic canvass

machine. In such case the electronic canvass machine will not return the ballot and will count it as voted. However, when the electronic canvass machine issues a warning concerning a ballot, and the voter takes more than 15 seconds to indicate his or her determination regarding the condition of the ballot, the electronic canvass machine will automatically return the ballot without counting it. In this case, the voter must re-enter the ballot and press the VOTE or CORRECT button.

8. A voter who has received the ballots will not be allowed to leave the polling station until he or she has voted and inserted the ballots in the electronic canvass machine.

9. Every voter who has cast his or her vote shall exit the polling station immediately after the vice president has verified with a lamp that a voter's finger has been inked. If an ink marking is not found, the voter shall be required to ink his or her finger.

Section 4.10 PROVISIONAL VOTING

The polling station board will allow provisional or "Added by Hand" voting only for voters who demand their right to vote and do not appear on the voting lists due to alleged administrative errors by the Commission nor appear on the list of excluded voters. The polling station officials will ensure that, once the provisionally added voter has exercised their right to vote, the ballots are placed in an envelope designated for those purposes, and that envelope is deposited in the ballot box provided by the Commission. The provisionally added by hand voter ballots shall **NOT** be inserted in the electronic canvass machine.

Section 4.11 VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

Any voter who is unable to mark the ballots or complete any other action in the voting process due to any disability shall have the right to choose a person for assistance. Such a person may accompany the voter at the time of exercising their right to vote and mark the

ballot as instructed by the voter. The voter must expressly consent to such action. The person chosen by the voter may be a polling official assigned to the polling station where the voter casts his or her vote. The voter may also use an AT. A polling official may not limit the use of an AT, provided it is compatible with the electronic canvass machine.

The Commission will provide a special Braille template for blind voters wishing to exercise their right to vote independently and a magnifying glass for low-vision voters who require it.

Section 4.12 ASSISTANCE FOR INSERTING THE BALLOTS

Any voter shall have the right to be assisted by another person when inserting their ballots in the electronic canvass machine. The voter must expressly consent to such action. The person chosen by the voter may be a polling official assigned to the polling station where the voter casts his or her vote.

Section 4.13 BALLOT SPOILED BY VOTER

If any voter spoils a ballot or makes a wrong selection, they shall return the ballot to the president of the polling station board, who shall provide them with another ballot. Only one (1) additional ballot may be provided to the same voter who has spoiled a ballot. The president of the polling station board will render useless every spoiled ballot by crossing it with a horizontal line from one end to another over the timelines at the top of the ballot. The following phrase shall be written under the line: "PAPELETA DAÑADA POR EL ELECTOR, SE LE ENTREGÓ OTRA" (SPOILED BALLOT BY THE VOTER, ANOTHER WAS PROVIDED).

Section 4.14 MACHINE MUTILATED BALLOTS

If an electronic canvass machine mechanically mutilates an uncounted ballot, the

president of the polling station board will provide the voter with another ballot. In this case, the spoiled ballot law provision does not apply, which limits to one (1) additional ballot per voter. The president of the polling station board shall render useless every mutilated ballot by crossing it with a horizontal line from one end to the other over the timelines at the top of the ballot. The following phrase shall be written under the line: "PAPELETA MUTILADA POR LA MÁQUINA, SE LE ENTREGÓ OTRA" (MUTILATED BALLOT BY THE MACHINE, ANOTHER WAS PROVIDED").

Section 4.15 UNCOUNTED BALLOT

In cases where the voter returns the ballot without inserting it in the electronic canvass machine or the machine rejects it and the voter does not request another ballot, it will be identified as "PAPELETA NO CONTADA" (UNCOUNTED BALLOT). The uncounted ballots shall be deposited in a special envelope inside the election bag without rendering them useless and shall be adjudicated or voided during the General Canvass.

Section 4.16 INCONSEQUENTIAL MARKS AND SPOTS ON BALLOTS

Small spots that appear in various places on the ballot and which often seem like imperfections of paper or printing will not be accepted as valid marks. Any mark less than four square millimeters (4mm²), whether inside or outside the brand recognition areas, shall be considered inconsequential.

Section 4.17 CLOSING OF POLLING STATIONS

Polling stations will remain open until 3:00 p.m. and shall close at that time. Voting, however, shall continue uninterrupted until all voters holding a closed-line voting card or who were inside the polling station before closing time have cast their vote.

Section 4.18 CLOSED-LINE SYSTEM

If it is impossible to fit all voters who have yet to cast their vote inside the polling station, voters shall be placed in a closed line following the procedure below:

1. Voters shall be placed in a line or queue to be formed beginning at the door of the polling station and extending towards a direction that, in the judgment of the polling station officials, does not interfere with the free flow of traffic at the polling station. No person may join or approach the line after 3:00 p.m., which is the closing time thereof.

2. The members of the Puerto Rico Police, the Municipal Police, and the polling station boards assigned to each polling station shall ensure compliance with this Section.

3. Before joining the line at the polling station, voters shall approach the polling station board to furnish their name and ascertain that they are included in the voter list of said polling station. Upon ascertaining said fact, the polling station board shall provide the voters with a card bearing the initials of the polling station board members, which shall signify the order of arrival of voters; upon collecting said card, voters shall immediately join their place in line.

4. Polling station officials shall call voters off the line in the same order they were assigned thereto. When a number is called, the voter shall get off the line and enter the polling station to cast his or her vote. If a voter is not present when his or her number is called, the voter shall lose the right to vote.

Section 4.19 VOTING OF POLLING STATION BOARD OFFICIALS

Once the voting ends at the polling station, and only then may the officials assigned to the polling station and polling center of the jurisdiction entitled to vote therein and who hold and present their voter identification card to the members of the polling station board, vote in said polling station. If the names of said officials do not appear in the voters' list of the

polling station and polling center where they are serving, they shall add their names, voter identification number, and address to the list and sign in the space provided on the list where they added their names and proceed to ink their finger.

Section 4.20 PROHIBITION TO POLLING OFFICIALS

Once the polling station has closed, no member of the polling station board may leave until all work is completed and the result of the electronic canvass has been announced. This provision applies to polling officials of the early vote, except that the result of electronic canvass will not be printed, transmitted, or announced.

Section 4.21 CLOSING THE ELECTION ON THE ELECTRONIC CANVASS MACHINE

The president of the polling station board shall proceed to close the election on the electronic canvass machine once they have finished assisting all voters entitled to vote. This includes closed-line voters, voters who objected to the inking, and polling officials. In addition, the president of the polling station board shall make sure that there are no ballots in the special emergency compartment of the ballot box. If any, these ballots will be inserted in the electronic canvass machine. The machine will not accept any other ballot after the election is closed.

Section 4.22 TRANSMISSION OF THE RESULTS FROM THE POLLING STATION

The president of the polling station board shall proceed to transmit the result using the memory card of the polling station, through the alternate transmission system available at the Commission's regional office. The alternate transmission system (RTM) shall consist of electronic equipment capable of reading the memory card containing the results of a specific polling station and transmitting them to the results receipt system at the

Commission in the same manner in which the electronic canvassing machines transmit them from the polling stations.

Once the transmission of the polling station results is completed, the Local Board shall verify in the information system the condition of the data transmission. The Local Board will authorize the departure of the polling station once the successful transmission of the results is confirmed.

Section 4.23 GENERAL CANVASS AT THE POLLING STATION

The canvass at the polling station shall be conducted as follows:

1. Count the voters who cast their vote according to the voter list and write down the number in the tally sheet.
2. Count and void any remaining ballots, write down the number in the tally sheet, and place them in a plastic bag and inside the election material bag.
3. Count the ballots spoiled by voters, write down the number in the tally sheet, and place them inside the appropriate envelope.
4. Count the envelopes of the challenged ballots, write down the number in the tally sheet, and place them inside the election material bag.

The president of the polling station board shall print at least three (3) copies of the tally sheet: one (1) for the local board, one (1) to place in the envelope that is deposited in the election material that returns to the Commission, and one (1) for the president of the polling station board. The tally sheet that returns to the Commission will include in the same paper on an ongoing basis, the zero-tally sheet that was printed before the opening of the polling station but was not detached. Additional copies may be provided to persons who served

as observers of the process. The president of the polling station board shall sign all polling station tally sheets.

Section 4.24 OPENING OF THE ELECTRONIC CANVASS MACHINE BALLOT BOX COMPARTMENT

The president of the polling station will remove the ballots from the main ballot box compartment and place them in a plastic bag in the election material bag. Ballots in the main compartment shall not be classified by type, or counted, or rendered useless. The secondary compartment must not contain ballots.

SECTION 4.25 FINAL WORKS AFTER THE CLOSING OF THE POLLING STATION

The president of the polling station board will turn off the machine and remove the memory card from the machine that is located on the right side and identified as "poll worker". The president of the polling station board shall deposit the memory card in an envelope provided for this purpose and hand it over to the local board in conjunction with the election material bag.

The polling station board officials will make sure that any material that has to be returned is inside the election material bag prior to closing and sealing it. Before closing the bag, the number of the seal used to close it will be written on the polling station incident log. In addition, they shall make sure to complete all required documents in accordance with these Rules.

Section 4.26 RETURN OF THE LOCAL BOARD ELECTORAL MATERIAL

The local boards will sign and distribute the tally sheets, as well as organize the envelopes received containing the memory cards of the polling station boards. These envelopes will be placed in order inside the election material bag in a plastic bag next to the local board documents envelope. The election material bag will be sealed with the provided

seal to be transported to the Commission in a duly authorized vehicle.

Section 4.27 GROUNDS OR REASONS FOR CHALLENGE

If a member of the polling station board or a presidential candidate observer has grounds to believe that a voter is voting unlawfully or has voted in another polling station, they may challenge the voter's ballot; however, this shall not prevent the voter from casting his/her vote. A voter may also challenge another voter.

The grounds for challenging votes are:

1. The person is not who says he or she is.
2. The person has voted in another polling station.
3. The person is registered in more than one polling station.
4. An Exclusion Order has been issued against the person.
5. That the voter's right to vote is pending adjudication in said congressional district.
6. The person is not a citizen of the United States of America or Puerto Rico.
7. The person is not of legal age to vote.

Section 4.28 ARREST OF A VOTER DUE TO UNLAWFUL VOTING

On the day of the Presidential Primary election, any polling station board president who challenges the vote of a person in a polling station or any voter of a congressional district or municipality inside or outside of a polling station and who is aware that this person has voted unlawfully in the Presidential Primary held in such electoral district or municipality may request any law enforcement officer to arrest the person and bring him/her before a court of law to answer a sworn complaint as prescribed by law.

The presidents of the polling station boards are hereby empowered to administer oaths in connection with any complaints made by a person challenging another person who is

attempting to vote unlawfully.

No polling station board president shall leave the polling station under any circumstances except in case of an illness or an emergency. Any complaint that cannot be filed with the Puerto Rico Police or Municipal Police within the boundaries of the polling station shall be postponed to be made at the end of the voting process.

Section 4.29 SPECIAL VOTING PROCEDURES

At the Presidential Primary, special voting methods shall be used for absentee voting, advance voting, and inmate voting in accordance with the applicable provisions of federal laws UOCAVA, MOVE, and HAVA, the Election Code, and these Rules.

TITLE V

PROCEDURES FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Section 5.1 GENERAL CANVASS

Within fifteen (15) days after the holding of the Presidential Primary, that is to say, on or before May 13, 2024, the President and the Electoral Commissioner shall conduct the general canvass in accordance with the provisions of the Election Code. The President shall certify the results of the Presidential Primary to the Secretary of State, the Chair of the Democratic National Committee, the Chair of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico, and all of the presidential candidates who appeared on the ballot, including the persons who have been elected as district-level delegates according to the Plan or rules and regulations of the Democratic Party.

Section 5.2 RECOUNT

The vote recount shall be conducted in accordance with Article 10.8 of the Election Code and these Rules.

TITLE XIV

FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 6.1 VIOLATIONS OF THESE RULES AND THE ELECTION CODE

These rules incorporate the offenses and prohibitions provided for in the Election Code that are applicable, necessary, and pertinent to the Presidential Primary process.

Section 6.2 BYLAWS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF PUERTO RICO

The DPPR shall file its Bylaws and Delegate Selection Plan with the Office of the Secretary of the Commission by January 31, 2024.

Section 6.3 AMENDMENTS TO THESE RULES

These Rules may be amended in consultation with the President and the Electoral Commissioner at any time it is deemed convenient to ensure a more effective implementation of the Election Code, the Plan, and these Rules.

Section 6.4 SEVERABILITY

If a court with competent jurisdiction held any section, clause, paragraph, or part of these Rules to be unconstitutional, the holding to that effect shall not affect or impair the remaining provisions of these Rules.

Section 6.5 TERMS, VARIATIONS

The President and the Electoral Commissioner may vary the terms established in these Rules in meritorious cases and for just cause, except those provided for in the Election Code and the Plan.

Section 6.6 LANGUAGE

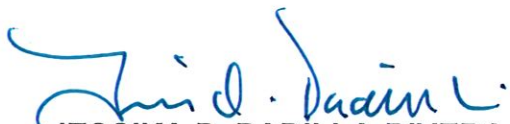
Any discrepancies between the English and Spanish versions of these Rules will be resolved in favor of the latter.

Section 6.7 EFFECTIVENESS

These Rules shall become effective upon notice and publication in both official languages of Puerto Rico on the Commission's website and the website Democratic Party of Puerto Rico. This publication shall be made in both official languages no later than January 24, 2024.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on January 23, 2024.

BE IT ENTERED AND NOTIFIED.



JESSIKA D. PADILLA-RIVERA
President
State Elections Commission
of Puerto Rico



HÉCTOR JOAQUÍN SÁNCHEZ
Electoral Commissioner
Democratic Party of
Puerto Rico

I HEREBY CERTIFY:

That these "Rules for the Puerto Rico Democratic Presidential Primary Process" were approved by the President of the State Elections Commission of Puerto Rico and the Electoral Commissioner of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico and, in witness whereof, I hereby sign and seal the present document.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on January 23, 2024.



ROLANDO CUEVAS-COLÓN
Secretary
State Election Commission of
Puerto Rico