

PRESS STATEMENT

DOME KWABENYA CONSTITUENCY ON EC REGIONAL COLLATION

We arrived at the Greater Accra region electoral commission's office without any incident. We were ushered to the Dome-Kwabinya desk by the Dome-Kwabinya Constituency Electoral Commission District Director, the Parliamentary Returning Officer and His Deputy.

1. The EC stated that the exercise that was carried out on the 8th of December 2024 by its officials and agents of the NDC solely, were inconclusive and that there were discrepancies in the figures gathered. This led the EC to conduct its own collation in their office stating that they wanted 3 more pink sheets that were missing to conclude their process.

We raised our objection to this request and explained to the EC that, to the best of our knowledge no collation had been done in the Dome-Kwabinya Constituency. We also stated that the EC cannot on its own collate results. This is because we were not given any notice of the purported collations that went on and that these acts were in clear breach of regulation 43 (1a) of CI 127 which states as follows:

“Subject to regulation 42, immediately after the results of the poll for all the polling stations in the constituency of the returning officer have been given to the returning officer the returning officer shall, in the presence of the candidates or the representatives of the candidate or not more than two counting agents appointed by each candidate, (a) assemble the results from the polling stations...”

In fact, we had been told on 8th of December (When the mob beat everyone and ran-sacked the place), that the place was unsafe and so we will be called on the next morning to converge at the Regional EC headquarters.

The above message was relayed by the District EC Director to the NPP Constituency Party Chairman – Mr. Robert Osei Bonsu. Upon hearing these submissions as per our objections, the EC agreed with us and directed that we

look through all the pink sheets to verify both what they had collated and that which had been wrongfully done previously.

2. At this juncture, the EC provided their collation booklet ie. Form 1 C (Parliamentary Election Results Collation Form) and then subsequently duplicates of the EC Form 8 A (Statement of Poll for the Office of Member of Parliament “Pink Sheets”), the NPP rejected this outright. We explained to the EC that all the other six (6) tables around us doing collation for other constituencies were using original Sheets to verify or dispute collation.

We further reiterated that, “what is good for the goose is good for the gander” and that we will not tolerate any discriminatory behavior. After further consultations the EC commissioner at the premises over-ruled all the objections by his officers and sent for the original pink sheets.

3. The process started and all was going well. We had flagged a few pink sheets during the process that needed further attention because of some infractions. But overall, we had gotten to about seven (7) out of ten (10) electoral areas with no incident.

Whiles collation was ongoing, the lead EC official at the Regional Collation Centre informed us that three (3) sheet were not available. He asked if we had a copy as the EC had no copy. We did not also have a copy, as both the EC and our sheet had been:-

- a. Burnt to ashes by the NDC mob (who in our opinion had just been incited by the NDC candidate - Videos available and already sent to the EC),
- b. Or snatched right inside the collation center in front of the Police and EC officials who both witnessed same.

He then instructed the Returning Officer for the Dome Kwabenya Constituency to brief the press that, the Electoral Commission will take a decision on these three (3) polling stations later.

The process then continued amicably.

4. At exactly 4pm, just as we had started the 8th out of the 10 electoral areas (and could have finished in just over an hour), the EC team informed us that, they have been told to truncate the process. This left us all surprised and shocked to say the least. We asked why?

One of the answers we got was that it is an order from the Region. The second was that the Police were leaving. The Police led by the Regional Commander and two (2) senior Police officers said they were going nowhere and true their words they were present even after we left the premises.

These reasons were unfounded. At this juncture, we are left wondering why the sudden disruption of a smooth process to verify original sheets to finish the process. We were told that we will continue the process later.

We protested the EC's position and posture, but the EC officers just closed their laptops, picked up their sheets and left the collation room.

We await the EC to complete the process which was started.

Thank you.

Signed

Mr. Otu Addo

Assistant Secretary

Dome Kwabenya Constituency – NPP

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