

A Case Study

LA UNION: MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS

The conduct of the automated election system in La Union clearly had its strong and weak points. However, there are still many questions that up to now are still unanswered with regard to the credibility of the results. While others may dismiss the weak points as merely “birth pains,” those who were involved directly last May 10 (BEIs, Smartmatic field personnel, local Comelec, poll watchers) consider these as lessons learned the hard way. And they urge most especially the Comelec national office to take these lessons seriously.

LA UNION - The province of La Union sits at the northernmost tip of the Ilocos Sur Region. It serves as gateway to the Ilocos Norte and the Cordillera region on the east side. It is classified as a first class municipality; no wonder its capital, San Fernando city, is considered as the business and financial center for the whole of the Ilocos region.



La Union is made up of 19 municipalities and one city, which is San Fernando. According to the 2007 census¹, La Union has a population of nearly 800,000. San Fernando City makes up 114,813 or 16% of the province's total population. Far second is Bauang with 69,837 and Agoo with 57,952. In terms of voting population, Comelec data shows that the province has a total of 431,019 registered voters and 2,946 established precincts. The clustering of precincts for the May 2010 elections resulted to a total of 722 clustered precincts.

As a coastal area, La Union takes pride in its long stretch of beaches which rank among the best surfing sites in the country. Only five hours away from Metro Manila, its accessibility makes La Union every local or foreign surfer's favorite destination. Specifically, the town of San Juan is considered as the surfing capital of the north. The tourism industry in La Union thrives from the crowd who hits the beach during the surfing season, or from July to February, and the regular beach-lovers who visit La Union all year round.

Aside from fishing and farming, cottage industries also provide livelihood to the people of La Union. Among their most popular products are the traditional Ilokano blankets in the town of Bangar, which use age-old practices of weaving. Naguilian, on the other hand, is known to produce the best “basi,” a local wine from fermented sugarcane. In Bauang, a unique fruit called, “guapple” grows in the town's 50-hectare plantation. Together with the local unit of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the local government of Bauang continues to develop this industry by improving production and by coming up with different products made with guapple like pies, candies, etc.

Politics of La Union

When talking about the politics of La Union, one cannot miss to mention the name Ortega as the province's leading political family for four generations now - and still counting.

According to a report by the Inquirer², the Ortegas have ruled La Union for already 109 years. It started with the appointment of Joaquin Ortega, the family patriarch, as La Union's first Filipino civil governor by the American government in 1901.

Since then, sons, brother, in-laws, cousins, and grandchildren, etc. have vied for various positions in the provincial and municipal governments. In fact, at least 15 Ortegas joined the political race last May 2010 elections, including five brothers who are sons of Francisco Ortega, whose father is Joaquin Ortega. Francisco himself also served as congressman of the first district for 23 years.

To illustrate briefly the extent of the dynastic presence of the Ortegas in La Union politics, here are the five brothers who belong to the third generation of the clan, including their sons' and wives' involvement in politics, gathered from the reports of Inquirer and www.northernwatchonline.com³.

Name	Current position/ positions held & other familial relations
Victor Ortega	- Ran unopposed and won in the first congressional district
Manuel "Manoling" Ortega	- Won as governor of La Union - His son, Francisco or Pacoy, was the second nominee of the Abono Party-list group - Manuel is the president of Liga ng mga Barangay of San Fernando and La Union and therefore sits in the provincial board
Pablo Ortega	- Ran as re-electionist and won as mayor of San Fernando City - Served previously as barangay captain for 10 years, councilor for 12 years and board member for three years before becoming mayor in 2007 - Challenged by his cousin, Carlos Ortega who also vied for the same post - His wife, Mary Jane Ortega, served as mayor of San Fernando city for three terms
Francisco "Kit" Ortega Jr.	- Won as councilor of San Fernando City
Jose "Pepe" Ortega	- Ran unopposed and won as board member in the first district.
Francisco "Paulo" Ortega	- Won as city councilor - Son of re-elected Mayor Pablo Ortega
Alfredo Pablo Ortega	- Won as city councilor - Son of re-elected Governor Manuel Ortega

Aside from the Ortegas, other political families have made their presence influential as well in La Union politics. They are, for instance, the Ong family in Aringay, and the Dumpit family who is considered to be the closest political rivals of the Ortegas.

Political rivalry in La Union can get intense to the point of causing election-related violence. Worst, in 2007, the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Comelec declared several barangays as "Areas of Concern" (AOC). Based on a report published in the Philippine Star in 2007, 19 of 48 barangays declared as AOC include six barangays in the town of Bacnotan, followed by the towns of Tubao, Agoon, and Bagulin with three barangays each, while Sto. Tomas and Luna towns have two barangays each⁴.

In the same report, the PNP and Comelec and the police consider a barangay "an area of concern" when election-related violence is expected to erupt between candidates and their supporters.

In 2010, 12 towns in La Union were placed under the “watch list” of the Comelec and PNP. These are Agoo, Aringay, Balawan, Bauang, Banggar, Bagulin, Naguilian, Rosario, San Fernando City, Sto. Tomas, Sudipen and Tubao.

An incident in Balawan town was reported to the PPCRV regarding an explosion that took place in San Nicolas Academy. The PPCRV volunteer interviewed who was part of the roving team went to see the condition in the said voting center. It was not clear exactly what explosive device went off though reports of people who witnessed the explosion said that somebody clearly attempted to sow fear and intimidation. The incident caused injuries to three people. But the PPCRV volunteer said that despite this, the voters did not feel discouraged. In fact, he said, many still went to vote in that voting center.

About the Case Study

Because of the active participation of Project 30-30 coordinators and poll watchers in the northern Luzon region, reports received from La Union turned out to be among the highest. These reports ranged from events during the final testing and sealing (FTS), election hours, up to transmission and canvassing.

Resounding in these reports were cases of problematic transmission which subsequently led to massive hand-carrying of CF cards. Moreover, reports from the media and that of other election monitoring groups served as significant instruments in reconstructing the events that transpired last May 10.

For instance, a report reached the Project 3030 monitoring center regarding 200 voters in Gusing Norte Elementary School, Naguilian, who failed to affix their signature and thumb mark on the official voters' record.

Transmission problems were also widespread as experienced in several municipalities such as Aringay, Bauan, Naguilian, Agoo and Sto. Tomas.

In Bauang, for example, only 3 out of 57 clustered precincts were able to transmit as of 10 p.m. on May 10. The report read *“mountainous areas and barangays were left with pathetic to no signal, making transmission too difficult to conduct.”* Afterwards, “failure of transmission” was declared in several schools and hand-carrying of CF cards to the municipal hall was administered.

It remains to be explained why despite the difficulties in transmission and the volume of CF cards that were reported to have been hand carried on election day, La Union was reported as the first province, outside Metro Manila, to transmit the provincial results to the Comelec server. As early as May 11, winners in the local posts have already been declared. This unique incident makes La Union an interesting case to look into. However, since it is impossible to cover the whole province, only selected municipalities were covered: Aringay and Naguilian. Data gathering was conducted from June 28 to June 31, 2010.

This case study brings together accounts gathered from various groups and individuals involved in the elections. Interviewed were voters, poll watchers, Smartmatic personnel, Comelec employees, PPCRV volunteers, BEIs and BOCs, who shared their experiences during the last elections.

Moreover, there were also various documents gathered from the PPCRV and the Comelec. The PPCRV-La Union graciously provided their provincial assessment report while the Comelec in Aringay and Naguilian made available their municipal transmission report and other documents such as voters' turn out, list of BEIs, and Smartmatic personnel.

PRE-ELECTION PREPARATION

A. Training

A.1 Board of Election Inspectors and Municipal Board of Canvassers

The training for the Municipal Board of Canvassers (MBOC) covered the operation of both the CCS machine and the PCOS machine. According to a member of the MBOC in Aringay, those who've had previous experience using a computer did not have a hard time operating the CCS machine. But for the MBOCs who were about to retire, the training wasn't at all easy.

Compared with the BEIs, the MBOCs were less computer-literate. According to the MBOC member interviewed, the BEIs were notably younger and were fortunate to have gone through computer classes in their curriculum in high school compared with them during their time. However, the election guideline specified that the Department of Education District Supervisors will have to sit as members of the MBOC. District supervisors are senior teachers who are usually in their late 40s to the retirement age. Knowing that this is an automated election, they thought their lack of computer background will make them inefficient as MBOC. Many of them allegedly backed out for this reason. However, another member of the MBOC in Naguilian, though almost in her retirement year, was excited and interested to be part of the canvassing team. Despite her minimal experience with computers, she believed that the training will equip her with skills necessary to perform her duties effectively.

Just the same, the MBOC member in Aringay recalled being disappointed that they did not have any actual transmission test during their training. An actual transmission, he explained, should have been a real transmission coming from a PCOS machine to the CCS machine. However, the farthest they went in terms of transmission testing was via role play or situationer. The process is described below:

"Meron kaming mga case noong training. Binibigay nila yung mga situation. Halimbawa, una tungkol sa mga piyesa, pagkatapos nun yung mga guidelines naman. Tapos doon din mismo sa conference hall, by group kami. Bawat group merong members na five to six ang pinaka-konti, pinaka-marami ang more than 10 sa isang laptop." (We worked on cases during the training. They gave us different situations. For example, first was about the parts, then about the guidelines. Then in the same conference hall, we were divided into groups. Each group with five to six members at the least and ten at the most, worked on one laptop.)

The laptops, however, were used only to show the "color coding" that was flashed on the screen: green means successful transmission, orange means transmission in progress, and red means no transmission activity.

The absence of a real training on transmission concerned the MBOCs during the training. They raised this concern to the Comelec and the latter explained that the facilities needed to facilitate transmission were still being constructed.

"Ang paliwanag ng Comelec, kasi yung mga facilities, pinapatayo palang, halimbawa dun sa mga malalayo...yung power, yung transmission na mahihina." (The Comelec explained that the facilities are still being constructed, for example, in far-flung areas where power and transmission is poor.)

Even the BEIs shared the same experience since their training also excluded actual transmission test. In Naguilian, the BEIs said that the first time they performed actual transmission was on election day itself, causing them to feel anxious and nervous. Both the BEIs and MBOCs were only relieved upon being informed that there will be a Smartmatic technician to assist them. True enough, on election day, the MBOC member said that the technician had more hand in operating the CCS machine than they did.

A.2 Smartmatic Regional Coordinators and Field Personnel

A Smartmatic supervisor in Aringay said he did not expect that the PCOS was that easy to operate during his first encounter with the machine. Aside from being excited to be part of the automated elections, he felt that in addition to the training provided by Smartmatic, his background as an information technology student was already adequate to prepare him for election day. However, he said that not all supervisors have enough IT backgrounds, specifically with regard to software and hardware components.

Even a high-ranking Smartmatic official in the region, though computer-literate, came from a different industry. The official said that the job announcement in a local newspaper did not require higher computer proficiency as long one is a college graduate, can communicate in English and in the local dialect.

The Smartmatic supervisor recalled that the first day of their training sometime in February 2010 included discussion of the parts and functions of the machine. They also took written and practical exams. Moreover, another training or a refresher course was held on the third week of April.

The third-party manpower agency, Manred, was commissioned to hire Smartmatic field personnel in La Union.

B. Site Survey

On January 14, 2010 Smartmatic announced 93% completion of its site survey where it was found that 64% of country has connectivity and none for 32%.

The site survey was among the most vital election preparation activities that will allow Comelec and Smartmatic an inventory of resources at the voting centers such as adequacy of telecommunication infrastructure, strength of telecommunication and internet signal, satellite connectivity and availability of power, among others.

However, with the absence of an official public document containing results of site survey and how exactly it was done, the public was left in the dark as to the real conditions in their respective voting centers.

A high-ranking Smartmatic official in Region 1 narrated how they conducted the site survey. The site survey training was held last September 2009. A team of surveyors were then created per municipality. The manpower agency, Manred, was also commissioned to provide additional personnel for this task. The surveyors' main task was to go around the different voting centers and clustered precincts and fill out the forms containing data gathered. The training of surveyors was facilitated by the Smartmatic provincial coordinator.

Each team of surveyors was provided a *Smartphone* and a *Now Phone*. The *Smartphone* was used to get the area's coordinates or longitude and latitude. The surveyor will then proceed to the classroom or the clustered precinct to test the telecommunication signal strength and satellite connectivity using a *Now Phone*. The Smartmatic official describes the process as this:

"Merong 3 SIM cards: Smart, Globe, Sun. Pagpunta sa classroom, nakakabit ang Smart SIM muna, then gagamitin lahat para malaman kung anong malakas ang signal." (There were 3 SIM cards: Smart, Globe, Sun. When going to a classroom, attached first is the Smart SIM, then all SIM cards will be used to determine which signal is strong.)

Below are examples of information that were gathered as part of the site survey. Surveyors used a standard data gathering form which they brought with them during the exercise:

Power source	Stable	
	Unstable	Specify duration
Classroom	Estimated Capacity	
	Lighting	Specify if good, fair, poor, does not exist
	Socket type	Specify if Class ABC, multi-standard, working, not working
	Number of sockets	
Via PLDT/ Smart Communication	PLDT	Yes, No
	Internet Service	DSL, Wifi, none
	Smart GSM Coverage	SMS, GPRS, None
Via Globe/ Innove Communication	PLDT	Yes, No
	Internet Service	DSL, Wifi, none
	Globe GSM Coverage	SMS, GPRS, None
Via Sun/ Digitel Communication	PLDT	Yes, No
	Internet Service	DSL, Wifi, none
	Sun GSM Coverage	SMS, GPRS, None

The data was submitted to the Provincial coordinator only “through text,” said the Smartmatic official. The provincial coordinator then reported to the regional coordinator until it reached the Smartmatic national office.

C. Platform Exercise

Aside from the site survey, the Smartmatic official also recounted the events that happened during the platform testing of CCS laptops which was conducted in different parts of the country.

The platform test includes transmission from the CCS laptops at the municipal level, then to the provincial canvassing center, then to the three servers at the national level - the Comelec, PPCRV and KBP servers.

In the case of La Union, the lone city and 19 municipalities were divided into five to be able to finish in 4 days as there were only 5 laptops to conduct the test with. These five areas were centered in Bauang, Bacnotan, Aringay, Tubao and Sto. Tomas. The test was scheduled on April 25 to 28, 2010.

The Smartmatic official said that the result of the platform testing was short of successful, contrary to what had been claimed at the national level. Transmission from the provincial to the national canvassing center already took at least two hours considering that there is no network traffic at that time.

The result of the platform testing was then relayed to the National Support Center (NSC). Meanwhile, the technicians and supervisors prepared the report in hard copy. The municipal canvassers then checked these reports to ensure its correctness before it was turned over to the provincial coordinator who will then turn it over to the Smartmatic national office.

D. Delivery of election materials

Aside from the transmission delay during the platform testing, another problem the local Comelec and Smartmatic faced was the delay in the delivery of the CCS laptops to be used for the platform testing, which caused wastage of one day.

Ximex is the local forwarding firm assigned for La Union. The main forwarding firm, however, is Ace Logistics, commissioned by Smartmatic to handle deliveries in the whole of Luzon. But according to the

Smartmatic official, Ace Logistics also partnered with local forwarding firms for its provincial deliveries as in the case of Ximex. Aside from La Union, Ximex also delivered in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

The CCS laptops were expected to arrive at the San Fernando City municipal hall at 7 a.m. on Sunday, April 25. However, the laptops, together with the generator sets, main PCOS machines and standby/extra PCOS and ballot boxes, did not arrive until the afternoon of that day. The Smartmatic official blamed this delay on Ximex, saying that *“maybe they did not have enough funds.”*

The complete set of election paraphernalia arrived on April 26. These were kept in a warehouse in San Fernando City, which served as the Region I hub. The said warehouse is a property of the Cojuangcos and is just right across the city's biggest mall, the CSI mall. The warehouse was secured by a composite security force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police, Philippine Navy and the Philippine Coast Guard.

Smaller warehouses were also arranged per town and were managed by the warehouse owner.

While the Smartmatic official claimed complete delivery of election machines and paraphernalia on April 26, accounts of poll watchers say otherwise. According to poll watchers in Bancagan Elementary School in Naguilian, 1 PCOS machine did not arrive on May 10.

CF Card reconfiguration: Role of DOST

The memo instructing the regional DOST offices to take part in the reconfiguration of the CF cards following the May 3 CF card fiasco came *“at the last minute already,”* said a DOST official. The memo from ASTI Director Dennis Villorente was sent via e-mail in the evening of May 8 - only a day left before elections. However, the memo was only officially received on May 11 because the DOST official was not able to check her e-mail at home, and did not report to work until May 11 (May 10 was spent in monitoring the elections).

In the said memo, the provincial SND officer/ director must assist Comelec in the reconfiguration of the CF cards. The regional DOST will also have to instruct the provincial DOST that they will also be involved. Finally, there was also an instruction to call Director Villorente for additional instructions. However, there were feelings of apprehension since the instruction on their involvement came very sudden, and they were caught off guard: The DOST official said:

“So ang mga provincial director apprehensive din sila kasi they were not instructed, they were not trained how to do it. Kaya maganda rin yung ginawa ni Mr. Villorente na talagang tatawag ka sa kanya.”

Aside from the memo, they also received text messages from the undersecretary and assistant secretary for regional operations of the DOST also informing them of their involvement in CF card reconfiguration.

But since the memo did not reach the regional DOST office, they were not able to perform the said task. *“Dahil hindi nabasa ang e-mail, hindi nakapag-configure sa DOST before election. Sa Manila na ginawa,”* she said. However, she also said that had they received the memo earlier, they would gladly take on the job even at the last minute as it is a call to duty. She said that though they were caught unaware, they have no choice but to comply and contribute what they know for the success of the election.

On election day, they were still able to assist in the reconfiguration of CF cards which unfortunately malfunctioned that day.

ELECTION DAY

Queuing

An observation shared by poll watchers, BEIs and voters were the long lines and the huge volume of people in the different clustered precincts on election day. Nonetheless, there were still some who said their experience in lining up was *“okay,”* while majority of voters interviewed said they lined up at for at least 3

hours to 7 hours. Among those who said their lining up was “okay” were those who went to the polling centers in the afternoon. Consistent with the statements of poll watchers and BEIs, the bottle neck really took place in the morning until noon, or sometime between 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

Poll watchers said they have friends and neighbors who just decided to go home for not being able to bear the long lines, and for having to attend to personal matters such as work, taking care of their business (animal raising, sari-sari store), taking care of their children, and other household chores.

One poll watcher stationed at Sta. Cecilia Elementary School in Aringay said that the voting process was just too long which caused the long and disorderly line. Worst, he said, was that no one took charge of managing the crowd.

On the other hand, it is also important to note the different coping strategies used by the local poll workers and government units in order to manage the crowd traffic and to improve efficiency. For instance, in Mamat-ing Elementary School⁵ in Bgy. Mamat-ing Sur, Naguilian, the barangay captain decided to assign certain voting hours by purok⁶. Purok #1 was assigned to vote from 7-9 a.m., Purok #2 from 9-11 a.m., and so on. Residents actually found this strategy to be effective. Consistent with the claims of the interviewed poll watchers, voters' turnout for the said voting center figured at 88% (665 total number of voters who actually voted out of 757 registered voters)⁷.

In another clustered precinct, senior citizens were given priority. According to a poll watcher:

“Pinauna sa amin yung mga senior [citizen] kasi mabagal sila. Tapos nung natapos na yung mga senior citizen, nung magtatanghali na, ok na. Bumilis na [ang pila].” (In our precinct, senior citizens were allowed to vote first since their voting takes longer. Then, after all the senior citizens finished, the line went faster.)

While this strategy worked in Mamat-ing Sur, the number system did not work in Dulao Elementary School. Voters who lined up in this school were given number-stubs which served as their ticket. The problem was that voters who got their number left their lines because of the hours it took to wait for one's turn. So when that number was called, the BEIs still had to look for that voter. According to a poll watcher:

“Hahanapin pa yung may hawak ng number kaya natagalan. Hapon na, hindi pa nangangalahati dahil sa ganung proseso.” (The owner of the number still had to be located which caused delay. It's already afternoon and half of the voters were still not able to vote because of that process.)

Upon checking the voters' turnout for Dulao Elementary School at the Comelec website, it turned out that less than half or only 44% of the total registered voters were able to actually vote⁸, thus giving credence to the observations of poll watchers.

Voting Process

There were incidences reported where the voting secrecy was violated. In Aringay, a member of the BEI in San Benito Norte Elementary School recalled 3 cases where they had to reprimand an assistor for a senior citizen who went as far as shading the ballot for the voter.

Even Smartmatic technicians themselves were seen feeding the ballots of voters in Mamat-ing Elementary School and Gusing Elementary School. Moreover, a mayoralty candidate in Aringay who filed an election protest included in his complaint the intervention of Smartmatic employees in the voting process.

UV lamps were also not fully utilized in La Union. Due to the lack of instruction on the use of this instrument, some BEIs did not even have an idea what a UV lamp is. At first, BEIs in Cabaritan Elementary School BEIs mistook it for a flashlight but later on used it to scan only the rejected ballots. Likewise, poll watchers who were interviewed in Naguilian also thought that the UV lamps were flashlights while poll watchers in Sta. Cecilia and San Simon Elementary School said they did not at all see UV lamps being used.

On the other hand, a member of the BEI in San Benito Sur Elementary School said that they did use the UV lamp. As part of the revised general instructions for BEIs, ballots should be scanned to ensure its authenticity. Missing this important step raises the vulnerability of the election process.

Aside from this, there were other several lapses committed by the BEIs as in the case of Gusing Norte Elementary School where, according to a poll watcher, one of two precincts skipped the application of indelible ink on voters. Upon checking the Project 30-30 election monitoring database, a similar report found that not only the use of indelible ink was skipped: “200 voters in Gusing Norte, Naguilian, La Union, failed to sign and place their thumb mark on official voters record.”

Other irregularities observed inside the polling center was the presence of a candidate. Poll watchers said that the candidate stayed in the area where people were lined up and did not leave until a poll watcher of another candidate complained about it. In a separate incident, the wife of a re-electionist candidate was seen looking through the window of a precinct in Aringay while voting was ongoing. Poll watchers politely asked her to leave the school premises.

PCOS Problems

Cases of the PCOS misreading the ballots and paper jam emerged as the most common PCOS problems. According to a Smartmatic supervisor, paper jam happened when the ballot box had already been filled up to the brim, while cases of misread ballots could have been caused by wet or moist ballots, which then caused the PCOS to spew out the ballot. In resolving a case of a misread ballot, he recalled:

“Pinaulit-ulit kasi ng mga BEI ipasok yung isang ballot hanggang pangatlo, eh diba hanggang pang-apat lang⁹. So bilang supervisor gumawa ako sariling technique... So chineck ko yung ballot pero di ko naman tinignan kasi sa totoo lang, bawal kami makialam sa ballot. Paghawak ko sa ballot, basa. Sabi ko patuyuin natin saglit. After 3 minutes, pumasok dahil dun sa ginawa namin. Kaya tinawagan ko yung mga technician. Sabi ko pag may na-encounter na misread, patuyuin lang.”

(The BEI keeps on inserting this ballot until the third time but you can only try four times. Being a supervisor, I made my own technique...I checked the ballot but in reality, I cannot do that because we're not allowed to meddle with the ballot. I got hold of the ballot and it was wet. I said we have to let it dry first. After 3 minutes, it was accepted because of what we did. So I called my technicians and advised them to let the ballot dry in case they encounter a misread ballot.)

Aside from this, another common problem encountered were episodes of auto-shutdown or the PCOS suddenly turning off on its own. In San Simon Elementary School, Aringay, the same Smartmatic supervisor encountered this problem. He tried to fix the PCOS but after failing to do so, he decided to seek assistance from the National Support Center (NSC). Over the phone, he was advised to take out the CF card, and then put it back again in order to “refresh” the machine. He followed this instruction and the PCOS worked again. The supervisor said it only took them less than 10 minutes to resolve this problem.

Cases of the PCOS hanging or auto-shutdown occurred not only during the voting hours. In fact, many poll watchers said it also happened during transmission. For instance, poll watchers in San Simon Elementary School said that in the many attempts to transmit, the machine ceased operating twice.

Not only the PCOS machines malfunction on election day. There were 3 reported cases of CF cards which also malfunctioned and needed to be reconfigured based on the accounts of an employee of the provincial Comelec office. One clustered precinct each in the municipalities of Luna, Bagulin and Naguilian were affected.

The Comelec employee described that the CF cards were “corrupted” because the data went missing thus were no longer compatible with the PCOS machine. The PCOS machine therefore failed to operate. These cases of CF card malfunctions were reported immediately to the NSC. He recalled:

“Tinatawagan namin sila. Binigay ang information kung what municipality and what precinct ang affected. Ang gagawin naman nila, may software na ipapadala sa amin. I-dodownload ng CVL technical namin saka niya ireconfigure ang CF card. Without that software, that program, di kami makakapag-reconfigure.” (We have been calling them. We gave information on what municipality and what precinct was affected. What they'll do is to send the software which will be downloaded by our CVL technician. Only then can he reconfigure the CF card. Without that software, that program, we cannot reconfigure.)

The NSC, however, did not respond with haste. In fact, the Computerized Voters' List (CVL) Technician of the Comelec who took charge of the reconfiguration already reached a point where he personally had to call the Information Technology Department (ITD) of Comelec-National. The ITD director himself spoke to Smartmatic in order to take immediate action. Nonetheless, it still took 12 hours before the program or software needed to reconfigure the CF card was e-mailed. The reconfiguration was done inside the provincial Comelec office.

Meanwhile, voting in the affected precincts pushed through even without the PCOS machine. As a contingency measure, ballots were kept in the ballot box and were only inserted after the CF card was reconfigured 12 hours later.

Transmission

Transmission problems also hounded the election in La Union, as reported for instance in the municipalities of Bauang and Naguilian. Based on the Project 30-30 election monitoring on May 10, as of 10 p.m. May 10 only 3 out of 57 precincts in Bauang had transmitted to the municipal server. Observers in the area blamed the mountainous surroundings for the poor signal in the area.

The first clustered precincts where failure of transmission had been declared were located in Bagbag Elementary School, Casilagan Elementary School, and Sta. Monica Elementary School. Later, the election officer also declared failure of transmission in at least 30 more precincts due to poor signal. The BGAN also failed to work. The CF cards were hand carried to the canvassing center escorted by the PNP.

Aringay, on the other hand, had 8 clustered precincts which failed to electronically transmit hand-carried their CF cards to the municipal canvassing center. This was confirmed by a member of the board of canvassers and reflected in the municipal Comelec's transmission report. These 8 precincts belong to San Benito Sur (3 clustered precincts), Poblacion, San Simon West, Sta. Lucia (2 clustered precincts) and Sto. Rosario.

For the other precincts in Aringay which were able to transmit, it didn't go easy based on the accounts of the Smartmatic field personnel. Sta. Cecilia Elementary School, for instance, was only able to transmit at 12 midnight while other schools were able to transmit between 12 midnight to 4 a.m. of May 11. Pangao-aoan East Elementary School, however, took much longer and was able to transmit at 10 a.m. on May 11.

Likewise, poll watchers and BEIs interviewed claimed that nearly all clustered precincts in Naguilian found it very difficult, if not failed to complete transmission. In Cabaritan Elementary School¹⁰, four out of five precincts failed to transmit to the Comelec Central Server and the KBP Server and only got through to the municipal server. Only one was able to transmit successfully to the three destination servers. It was past 9 p.m. when the BEIs of concerned precincts decided to just hand-carry the CF cards to the municipal hall.

Poll watchers in Gusing Sur Elementary School, on the other hand, recalled that the signal was very poor. The BEIs' and technicians' recourse was to use the BGAN but it still took them until 2 in the morning to finally transmit. A nearby voting center, Mamat-ing Elementary School, completed transmission at 12 midnight.

The other precincts which failed to transmit based on the municipal Comelec's transmission report were San Benito Sur (2 clustered precincts), Poblacion, San Simon West, Sta. Lucia (2 clustered precincts), and Sto. Rosario West.

The municipal transmission report, however, may not accurately reflect the extent of transmission problems as it happened. The document only specified the precincts which were able or not able to transmit to the MBOC, and not whether the precinct was also able to also transmit to the other destination servers: the Comelec and the KBP Server. In San Benito Norte Elementary School, for instance, the BEI confirmed that they were only able to electronically transmit to the municipal server, but failed to transmit to the Comelec main server and KBP server in Manila. This prompted them to hand-carry the CF card to the municipal hall. The municipal transmission report in Aringay thus did not exclude San Benito Norte among those which failed to transmit.

If the Comelec National were to base their conclusions on the number of failed transmissions or the number of CF cards that were hand-carried based on the municipal transmission reports, they will probably be looking at an already sanitized report. The actual number of precincts that failed to transmit completely (meaning, successful electronic transmission to the municipal, Comelec and KBP servers) could actually be more than what was documented. As experienced during the field testing and mock elections, the part where transmission is most difficult is during transmission to the Comelec central and KBP server.

CONCLUSIONS

There is a general approval especially on the part of the poll workers such as the BEIs and Smartmatic personnel. For one, the BEIs greatly benefited from the AES because they were unloaded of the tasks they used to perform in the past manual elections. This time, they said the election was faster and less stressful. Second, they were pleased with the outcome of the final testing and sealing (FTS). Not one of the BEIs interviewed in Naguilian and Aringay said that they've had problems during the FTS. In fact, it helped ease the doubts they've had from the May 3 CF card fiasco that had affected Metro Manila.

On the other hand, the poll watchers were more wary and uncertain of the AES. Many of them actually still prefer manual over automated elections primarily because it allows them to personally witness how votes are being tallied.

However, even the MBOCs and BEIs agree that their training was inadequate because it lacked hands-on transmission test. Additionally, there were various aspects in the AES which they felt were not in favor of the voter. This, despite describing the voting process as "hassle-free" because of just shading the ballot instead of writing the names of candidates one by one. For example, the font size in the ballot was too small and the listing of the candidates appeared complicated to the typical voter. The tendency of the machine to invalidate a ballot for whatever reason, they felt was also unfair to the voter. A member of the BEI in San Benito Sur Elementary School recalled how one voter who came to the polling precinct the earliest and who also was the first to enter the clustered precinct ended up having a rejected ballot for an unknown reason.

The clustering of precincts, which resulted in almost a thousand of voters in one precinct, figured as a common concern. During the peak hours, one had to wait for at least 3 hours to as long as 7 hours just to be able to vote. Although some clustered precincts were able to arrest this problem by improvising their own techniques, many still believe this is the reason why many voters got discouraged from voting.

Many were also particularly disappointed with how the transmission went. "*Sa tagal ng transmission, para ka na ring nag-manual,*" (With the lengthy transmission, it's like having manual elections.) said one of the BEIs. Poll watchers in Gusing Sur said that the AES is even worse than manual elections. He said:

"According sa mga tao dito, inabot ng wala pag twelve [midnight] noong manual [election]. Pero ngayon inabot sila ng madaling araw." According to the people here, it took them before twelve midnight during the manual elections. But now, it took them until dawn.

On the part of the local Comelec, they consider the election preparation stage as the most difficult phase in the automated elections. This included delivery of the PCOS and CCS machines, CF cards and ballot box and other election paraphernalia, including the reconfiguration of CF cards. Aggravating the already tense

situation at the local level caused by all the delays and other problems was the poor coordination between Smartmatic and Comelec-national, and then between Comelec-national to the local Comelec offices. An example of this was with regard to the memo sent to the local DOST informing them of their participation in reconfiguration of the CF cards only 1 day before election. The regional DOST officials were caught unaware and surprised at this last-minute notice. Another example was the performance of NSC when it failed to quickly address critical problems reported to them.

RECOMMENDATION

The conduct of the automated election system in La Union clearly had its strong and weak points. However, there are still many questions that up to now are still unanswered with regard to the credibility of the results. While others may dismiss the weak points as merely “birth pains,” those who were involved directly last May 10 (BEIs, Smartmatic field personnel, local Comelec, poll watchers) consider these as lessons learned the hard way. And they urge most especially the Comelec national office to take these lessons seriously.

The following were the suggestions and recommendations given:

1. Improvement of training for BEIs and BOCs
 - a. Should include hands-on, especially on transmission
 - b. Third members should also be given adequate training
2. Decrease in the number clustered precinct or increase the number of PCOS machines in order to avoid overcrowding
3. Improvement of ballot design, particularly the font size for the benefit of the senior citizens and those with poor eyesight
4. Improvement in transmission
5. Better coordination and synergy among Comelec main office, local Comelec and third-party technology vendor
6. Better third-party technology provider who can provide quality service and reliable technology

LIST OF ANNEXES

- ANNEX A: PHOTOS
- ANNEX B: NAGUILIAN TRANSMISSION REPORT
- ANNEX C: ARINGAY TRANSMISSION REPORT

End Notes

- 1 www.nscb.gov.ph
- 2 109 years of Ortigas in La Union; Gordons, Magsaysays in Zambales (2010, April 27). Retrieved September 10, 2010 from <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/inquirerheadlines/nation/view/20100427-266655/109-years-of-Ortigas-in-La-Union-Gordons-Magsaysays-in-Zambales>
- 3 Ortigas rule La Union for more than 100 years (2010, May 8). Retrieved September 10, 2010 from <http://northernwatchonline.com/2010/05/08/ortigas-rule-la-union-for-more-than-100-years/>
- 4 Crisostomo, S and Felipe, C. Abra, Mt. Province, La Union among poll hot spots being monitored (2007, October 10). Retrieved September 12, 2010 from <http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleId=19842&publicationSubCategoryId=63>
- 5 There is only 1 clustered precinct in Mamat-ing Elementary School: Cluster # 35 composed of precincts 0095A, 0095B, 0096A, 0096B, 0097A)
- 6 Purok is a smaller unit within a barangay
- 7 Source: election results found in www.comelec.gov.ph
- 8 Voters' turnout in Clustered Precinct #7 (0023A, 0024A, 0025A, 0026A, 0027A) is 380 out of 964; Clustered Precinct # 8 (0027B, 0028A, 0029A, 0030A, 0031A) is 398 out of 783.
- 9 Based on the revised General Instructions for BEI (Comelec Resolution No.8786 promulgated on March 4, 2010), Section 28 provides that voters with "misread ballots" be allowed to re-feed the ballot in 4 different orientations before declaring the it as "rejected."
- 10 Cabaritan Elementary School in Naguilian housed five clustered precincts of 3 barangays: 1 clustered precinct for Bgy. Cabaritan Norte, 2 clustered precinct for Bgy. Cabaritan Sur and 2 clustered precinct for Bgy. Dal-lipaoen.

ANNEX A: PHOTOS



Voters and poll watchers gathered one afternoon in Naguilian took turns in sharing their experiences on election day to a CenPEG researcher.
(Photo by EU-CenPEG Project 3030)



Cabaritan Elementary School housed five PCOS machines; only one successfully transmitted to the MBOC, Comelec Central server and PPCRV server.
(Photo by EU-CenPEG Project 3030)



A CenPEG researcher listens intently as a group of teachers who served as Board Of Election Inspectors (BEI) in La Union retell the events that happened last May 10.
(Photo by EU-CenPEG Project 3030)

ANNEX B: NAGUILIAN TRANSMISSION REPORT

June 18, 2010
 REPORT ON THE PROVISIONING OF SMARTMATIC-TIM TECHNICIANS AND SUPERVISORS AND
 TRANSMISSION OF RESULTS OF THE MAY 10, 2010 AUTOMATED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS
 BY: CAPY

REGION: I
 PROVINCE: LA UNION
 CITY/ MUNICIPALITY: NAGUILIAN

TABLE 1

Name of Barangays	Name and Location of Voting Centers	Was the PCOS Supervisor present during the Testing and Sealing? (Check only one)		Was the PCOS Technician present during the Testing and Sealing? (Check only one)		Was the PCOS Supervisor present during the May 10, 2010 Elections? (Check only one)		Was the PCOS Technician present during the May 10, 2010 Elections? (Check only one)	
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Ortiz	Naguilian Central School, Cayetano St. Brgy. Ortiz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Aguioas	Don Tomas Mendoza Elem. School, Sitio Lower, Brgy. Ribuan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Al-Alinao Norte	Al-Alinao Elementary School, Sitio Battakeng 1 Brgy. Al-Alinao Norte	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Al-Alinao Sur	Angcaoay Elementary School, Sitio Angcaoay Brgy. Al-Alinao Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ambaracao Norte	Nagsidorisan Elementary School, Sitio Timmog-o Brgy. Nagsidorisan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ambaracao Sur	Ambaracao Elementary School, Sitio Central Brgy. Ambaracao Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Angin	Bato Elementary School, Sitio Coccog Brgy. Bato	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Balebec	Balebec Elementary School, Sitio Lunot Brgy. Balebec	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bancagan	Bancagan Elementary School, Purok Amianan Brgy. Bancagan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Baraoas Norte	Baraoas Elementary School, Sitio San Jose Brgy. Baraoas Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Baraoas Sur	Baraoas Elementary School, Sitio San Jose Brgy. Baraoas Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bariquir	Bariquir Elementary School, Purok 6 Brgy. Bariquir	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bato	Bato Elementary School, Sitio Coccog Brgy. Bato	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bimmotobot	Upper Bimmotobot Elementary School, Upper Brgy. Bimmotobot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Cabaritan Norte	Cabaritan Elementary School, Purok 3 Brgy. Cabaritan Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Cabaritan Sur	Cabaritan Elementary School, Purok 3 Brgy. Cabaritan Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Casilagan	Casilagan Elementary School, Sitio Centro West Brgy. Casilagan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DaLipaoen	Cabaritan Elementary School, Purok 3 Brgy. Cabaritan Sur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Daramuangan	Daramuangan Elementary School, Purok 6 Brgy. Daramuangan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Guesset	Guesset Elementary School, Camp 3 Brgy. Guesset	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Gusing Norte	Gusing Elementary School, Bernardo Rd. Brgy. Gusing Norte	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Gusing Sur	Gusing Elementary School, Bernardo Rd. Brgy. Gusing Norte	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Imelda	Naguilian National High School, National Highway Brgy. Imelda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Lioac Norte	Lioac Elementary School, Bagulin Rd. Brgy. Lioac Sur	✓		✓		✓		✓
Lioac Sur	Lioac Elementary School, Bagulin Rd. Brgy. Lioac Sur	✓		✓		✓		✓
Magungunay	Ambaracao Elementary School, Sitio Central Brgy. Ambaracao Sur	✓		✓		✓		✓
Mamat-ing Norte	Calaugan Primary School, Sitio Calaugan Brgy. Mamat-ing Norte	✓		✓		✓		✓
Mamat-ing Sur	Mamat-ing Elementary School, Gomez Rd. Brgy. Mamat-ing Sur	✓		✓		✓		✓
Nagsidorisan	Nagsidorisan Elementary School, Sitio Timmog-o Brgy. Nagsidorisan	✓		✓		✓		✓
Natividad	Naguilian Central School, Cayetano St. Brgy. Ortiz	✓		✓		✓		✓
Ribsuan	Don Tomas Mendoza Elem. School, Sitio Lower, Brgy. Ribsuán	✓		✓		✓		✓
San Antonio	San Antonio Elementary School, Sitio Palali, Brgy. San Antonio	✓		✓		✓		✓
San Isidro	San Isidro Elementary School, Sitio Iguel, Brgy. San Isidro	✓		✓		✓		✓
Siti	Don Tomas Mendoza Elem. School, Sitio Lower, Brgy. Ribsuán	✓		✓		✓		✓
Suguidan Norte	Brgy. Multi-Purpose Hall, Sitio Cambali, Brgy. Suguidan Norte	✓		✓		✓		✓
Suguidan Sur	Suguidan Primary School, Sitio School Site Brgy. Suguidan Sur	✓		✓		✓		✓
Tuddingan	Tuddingan Elementary School, Bagulin Rd. Brgy. Tuddingan	✓		✓		✓		✓

TABLE 11

Name and Location Of Canvassing Center	Was the CCS Technician present during the May 10, 2010 Consolidation and Canvassing of Votes? (Check only one)	
	YES	NO
Sangguniang Bayan Hall, Brgy. Ortiz, Naguilian, La Union	✓	

TABLE 111

Were all the results from the precinct level electronically transmitted to the MBOC? (Check only one). If not all, indicate precinct numbers where there were no transmission.	YES	NO
		✓
0009A; 0009B; 0010A; 0011A; 0011B; 0012A		
0021A; 0021B; 0022A		
0025A; 0026A; 0026B		
0033A; 0034A; 0034B; 0035A; 0035B; 0035C		
0036A; 0036B; 0037A; 0037B; 0038A; 0038B		
0049A; 0050A		
0059A; 0060A; 0060B; 0061A; 0061B		
0066A; 0066B; 0067A; 0068A; 0068B		
0062A; 0063A; 0063B; 0063C		
0064A; 0064B; 0065A; 0065B		
0069A; 0090A; 0090B; 0091A		
0106A; 0106B; 0107A; 0107B		
0110A; 0110B; 0111A; 0111B		
0122A; 0122B; 0123A; 0123B		

Remarks on the deployment of PCOS machines and its components.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT: Cherry Ann M. Lacamento
Signature above Printed Name of the Election Officer

Date Prepared: June 18, 2010

ANNEX C: ARINGAY TRANSMISSION REPORT

REPORT ON THE PROVISIONING OF SMARTMATIC- TIM TECHNICIANS AND SUPERVISORS AND TRANSMISSION OF RESULTS OF THE MAY 10, 2010 AUTOMATED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS

REGION: I
 PROVINCE: LA UNION
 CITY/ MUNICIPALITY: ARINGAY

TABLE I

Name of barangay	Name and Location of Voting Centers	Was the PCOS Supervisor present during the Testing and Sealing? (check only one)		Was the PCOS Technician present during the Testing and Sealing? (check only one)		Was the PCOS Supervisor present during the May 10,2010 Elections? (check only one)		Was the PCOS Technician present during the May 10,2010 Elections? (check only one)	
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Poblacion	Aringay Central Elem. School (West)	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Alaska	Dulao Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Basca	Basca Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Basca Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Immalog Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Basca, Aringay, La Union								
Dulao	Dulao, Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Gallano	Gallano Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Day Care Bldg. Sitio Pingwe Gallano, Aringay La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Macabato	Daeng Day Care Bldg., Macabato Aringay, La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Macabato, Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Manga	Manga Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Bitag, Elem. School, Manga Aringay, La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Pangao-aosan East	Pangao-aosan Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Pangao-aosan West	ORT Bldg. Pangao-aosan West, Aringay, la Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Sarana	Sarana Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Antonio	San Antonio Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Benito Norte	San Benito Norte Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Benito Sur	Aringay East Central Elem. School , Poblacion , Aringay La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Eugenio	San Eugenio Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Juan East	San Juan Elem. School, San Juan West Aringay, La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Juan West	San Juan West Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Simon East	San Simon Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Simon West	San Simon Brgy. Hall, San Simon West, Aringay, La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Santa Cecilia	Sta. Cecilia Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Santa Lucia	Sta. Lucia Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Santa Rita East	ORT Day Care, Sta. Rita East, Aringay, La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Santa Rita West	Sta. Rita West Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Santo Rosario East	Sto. Rosario Elem. School	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Santo Rosario West	Sto. Rosario Elem. School, Sto Rosario East, Aringay, La Union	✓		✓		✓		✓	

TABLE II

Name and Location of Canvassing Center	Was the CCS Technician present during the May 10, 2010 Consolidation and Canvassing of Votes? (check only one)	
	YES	NO
Conference Hall, Municipal Hall Building Aringay, La Union	✓	

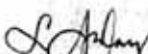
TABLE III

Were all the results from the preciner level electronicall transmitted to the MBOC? (check only one). If not all, indicate precinct numbers where there were no transmission.	YES	NO
PREC. NOS. 0069A, 0070A, 0071A, 0072A - <i>San Benito Sur</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0009A, 0010A, 0011A, 0012A - <i>Poblacion</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0103A, 0104A, 0105A, 0106A - <i>San Simon West</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0073A, 0074A, 0075A, 0076A - <i>San Benito Sur</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0077A, 0078A, 0079A, 0080A - <i>San Benito Sur</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0112A, 0113A, 0114A, 0115A, 0116A - <i>Sta. Lucia</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0117A, 0118A, 0119A, 0120A, 0120B - <i>Sta. Lucia</i>		
PREC. NOS. 0143A, 0143B, 0144A, 0144B - <i>Sta. Rosario West</i>		

Remarks on the deployment of PCOS machines and its components.

All the Precinct Count Optical Scanners and its components were all deployed in good condition to all voting centers in this Municipality.

Certified True and Correct:


LEONORA A. DULAY
 Election Officer II

Date Prepared: June 15, 2010