Exhibit 8

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HEADLINE: TENSION IN MICHIGAN: TEMPS BOIL AMID PARTISAN CHALLENGES AT DETROIT POLLS

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BODY:

It got nasty on Election Day, and we're not talking about the weather.

Democratic and Republican activists traded accusations of voter intimidation, mostly in Detroit. And at some polling places, workers summoned police in response to complaints of overly aggressive vote-monitoring tactics.

Late Tuesday, Detroit police descended on Cobo Hall, where city absentee votes were being counted, after a confrontation between Republican lawyers monitoring the count and Kerry campaign lawyers around 10 p.m., said Jeff Schroder, a GOP volunteer lawyer.

Schroder said GOP lawyers were recording suspected irregularities in the count when a Kerry campaign lawyer arrived and began yelling at the 20 to 30 GOP lawyers.

"He confronted me in a screaming fit," Schroder said.

State election workers helped broker a deal that allowed five lawyers from each side to monitor votes, with the teams escorted by Detroit police.

Earlier Tuesday, the Michigan GOP filed a lawsuit in Wayne County, saying Republican poll watchers were illegally ejected from polling places in Detroit. Circuit Judge Cynthia Stephens ruled in favor of the suit, just before the polls closed at 8 p.m., and directed city election officials to allow challengers legal access at polling places.

The Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, meanwhile, complained that President George W. Bush's poll watchers had harassed and intimidated Detroit voters. But the NAACP backed off a threat to sue Tuesday evening in federal court.

Beyond the legal wrangling, Election Day had other sporadic glitches, but of the more typical kind. There were scattered reports of broken ballot machines that caused delays until they were repaired. Voters complained in some cases of not being notified of relocated polling places. But state officials said they had no reports of widespread voting problems.

Even so, the extraordinary deployment of poll watchers and challengers generated some heated pockets of dispute.

Responding to Republican complaints, the Secretary of State's Office issued a memo to election workers to be on alert for improper behavior by activists from MoveOn.org, which had mobilized in Michigan and other states to bring infrequent voters to the cause of Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic presidential nominee.
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The memo ordered poll workers to be sure MoveOn watchers stayed at least 100 feet from polling places, as required by law. The memo also required the observers to remove arm bands and turn T-shirts with slogans inside out at polling places.

Eli Pariser, executive director of MoveOnPAC, which is affiliated with MoveOn.org, said the group had 70,000 volunteers monitoring polls nationwide "on their best behavior." Pariser accused the GOP of concocting a campaign "to make us the boogeyman in this election."

The GOP also complained that voter protection groups, sponsored by the NAACP and others, were helping to make sure voters were able to cast ballots.

But MaryAnn Lee, deputy director of the Detroit branch NAACP, said some of the challengers appeared to go too far. She said the NAACP received 25 to 30 complaints of GOP challengers asking for identification when it wasn't required or leaning over poll workers as voters approached them.

The complaints were lodged at Republican poll watchers like Justin Hargrove, 22, who at point Tuesday leaned over a row of seven African-American women working as poll officials at the Chase Library in Detroit.

"I know you want me out of your way," he said and tried a smile. Nobody smiled back.

By 7:45 a.m., Hargrove said, he had been harassed, threatened and finally forced to leave. "They called this really big guy," Hargrove said, "and he said, 'If you don't move, I'll make you move, and you'll get hurt.'"

Joseph Johnson, an election worker, said Hargrove was in the way and was merely asked to move. "It was simple," Johnson said.

Voters said they felt intimidated by a stranger watching them and wanting to check identification.

"It's wrong what they're doing," said Willie Jones, 48, who went to Chase Library from work to vote.

At the Unity Temple of the Apostolic Faith on Detroit's northwest side, tempers flared when five Republicans from Grand Rapids -- all white -- showed up as challengers in the predominantly black and heavily Democratic site.

One voter said she was shoved by a challenger. In addition, Chaeda Elmore, 24, a volunteer poll worker, said a challenger kicked her in the shin.

Police were called, and Democratic observers in bright orange vests arrived to stand toe-to-toe with the Republican challengers.

Andrew O'Neill, a 20-year-old challenger from Grand Rapids, said one voter swore at him and demanded that he leave. Another observer with O'Neill stood behind poll workers, clutching a Bible. He had no comment.

On Detroit's west side at Mac Jemison Academy, it was a state Democratic Party poll watcher, attorney Jim Stegman, who had a complaint about polling activities: He told MoveOn volunteer Dan Secrest he was too close to the polling place.

Stegman also told a voter, agitated when approached by Secrest, that he didn't have to answer MoveOn's question. The voter yelled at Secrest, who loudly responded he wasn't doing anything wrong.

"I was upset more than I should have been," Secrest said.

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NOTES: ELECTION 2004: AT THE PRECINCTS; SEE ALSO STATE EDITION, PAGE 6A

GRAPHIC: Photo RASHAUN RUCKER, Detroit Free Press; James Slaughter, 50, of Detroit, right, files a grievance with NAACP election protection volunteers Debbie Dodd, 47, of Detroit and Terence Ng, 17, of Farmington. Slaughter, who had voted at Immanuel Lutheran Church before, was upset at having to show ID.
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