



STATE OF ARKANSAS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
JUSTICE BUILDING, LITTLE ROCK 72201

STEVE CLARK
ATTORNEY GENERAL
OPINION NO. 85-58

(501) 371-2007

February 21, 1985

Honorable Virginia Coleman
Lafayette County Election Commission
Lewisville, AR 71845

Dear Chairman Coleman:

This is response to your letter of December 6, 1984, requesting an opinion on the following questions:

"How are poll workers compensated for the extra time involved in processing the ballots of a general election that include city ballots?

Who has the authority to determine the amount of extra compensation?"

Arkansas law (Ark. Stat. Ann. §3-609) provides that election expenses are paid by the counties in which they are held. However, the city must reimburse the County Election Commission for the expenses of any election in an amount equal to a figure derived by dividing the total cost of the election by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of races, questions and issues which the city placed on the ballot, and the denominator of which shall be the total number of races, questions, and issues placed on the ballot in the election.

Judges and clerks are the only personnel allowed to process the ballots (Ark. Stat. Ann. §3-717) and their compensation rate is established at a minimum of \$7.50 or a greater amount as set by the Quorum Court of the County, (Ark. Stat. Ann. §3-720).

The foregoing opinion, which I hereby approve, was prepared by Assistant Attorney General, Rick D. Hogan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steve Clark", written over the typed name.

STEVE CLARK
Attorney General

jsc:RH:dc