



HOW EFFECTIVE IS YOUR ELECTION SYSTEM?

City, State

Election position/office [city/town council, county /board/commission, school board, state house of representatives, state senate]

What is the current system being used? [at-large with posts, pure at-large, districts, mixed system (at-large and districts), multi-seat districts (more than one individual elected within a district.)]

Please provide a yes or no response to each question.

Yes / No

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- _____ 1. Is the minority community adequately represented in this system.
 - _____ 2. Do minority candidates find it difficult to win elections?
 - _____ 3. Is race a predominate factor in election outcomes?
 - _____ 4. Do minorities in these elections tend not to vote?
 - _____ 5. Do minorities in your community basically live in the same areas?
 - _____ 6. Are most of your officials elected from districts where only one candidate can win?
 - _____ 7. Does this election require a run-off?
 - _____ 8. Is there effective voter education in your area?
 - _____ 9. If every eligible minority voted for the same candidate, would that candidate probably get elected?
 - _____ 10. Is there a history of bi-racial or multi-racial coalitions in your community?

Once you have completed this survey review your responses. Pay particular attention to "No" responses to Questions 1, 4, and 9. If you answered "No" to these questions, "Is there a chance for a voting rights lawsuit?"

Look at responses to questions 5, 8, and 10. If the minority population is dispersed throughout the community, **alternative election systems may be the answer to your current voting rights problem**. Or, if the minority population basically lives in the same areas and still cannot elect a representative of their own choosing, then an alternative election system can still provide a remedy. Alternative election systems have been found to promote coalition building among groups and are successful for minority candidates in areas where race is still a predominate factor in election outcomes. Additionally, we provide community workshops on a broad range of election systems as well as issues surrounding voting rights. **Please call or email for a thorough discussion of this survey and an analysis of the election system in your community.**