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WILL FLORIDA REPLAY 2000 RECOUNT?

BROWARD, PALM BEACH COUNTIES CAST ELECTION CLOUD OVER SUNSHINE STATE

(Alexandria, VA) -The <u>American Civil Rights Union</u> (<u>ACRU</u>), which played a pivotal role in the outcome of <u>Bush vs. Palm Beach Canvassing Board</u> in 2000, is warning that once again, Broward County, Florida is actively working to steal elections.

The races for Governor, U.S. Senator and Agriculture Commissioner have yet to be resolved and the candidate vote totals in each race are separated by less than one percent. In Broward County 24,000 people voted for Governor, but did not vote for U.S. Senator. On top of that, a total of 46,000 Democrat votes have just been "found" in these counties.

"These counties are once again casting a pall over Florida's elections, just in 2000," said Ken Blackwell former Ohio Secretary of State and Senior Fellow with The American Civil Rights Union. "Elections are about decisions and certainty. The government cannot function in a rudderless way. The state of Florida must get to the root of these egregious irregularities to restore confidence in the electoral system."

The American Civil Rights Union was one of a handful of organizations to file an amicus brief in the Supreme Court case over the disputed 2000 presidential election. The Court agreed with ACRU's argument. More recently ACRU has sued Broward County's election supervisor for not adhering to federal law to keep accurate voter rolls - thereby jeopardizing the dilution of Broward citizens' votes. That landmark case, ACRU v. Dr. Brenda Snipes, is now before the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Kevin McVicker at Shirley & Banister Public Affairs at (703) 739-5920 or kmcvicker@sbpublicaffairs.com.