

# *Electoral Fraud Discarded in Guatemala*

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Guatemala, September 10 (Prensa Latina)-- The magistrate from the Guatemalan Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE, in Spanish), Julio Solórzano discarded fraud in Sunday's general elections, while tentatively on Saturday the final results will be known after several days of violence.

It is not about a malicious delay in counting, Solórzano assured, while clarifying that Friday is the deadline for the polling stations receiving ballots to complete their review hearings. Also, the president of the TSE, Rudy Pineda, called the public to remain calm and to be looking out the transmission of the official data.

The Public Ministry (MP, in Spanish) recorded at least 532 arrests and 34 wounded policemen derived from the voting process.

Oscar Schaad, from the Prosecutor's Office for Electoral Crimes, indicated that prosecutors from the MP reported violent incidents in 16 polling stations, damaged five vehicles, three municipalities and one burned house, apart from the demonstrations in different parts of the country.

Guatemalan judges of the highest electoral entity met with prosecutors from political parties National Unity of Hope (UNE) and Renewed Democratic Freedom (Lider) for the results obtained.

The presidential candidate of the UNE, Sandra Torres, has the lead with 4667 votes more than her rival

Manuel Baldizón, according to preliminary figures with 98.92 percent of voting stations tallied.

Torres, with 19.74 of votes in her favor, remains second behind comedian Jimmy Morales from the Front National Convergence, who won 1,165,846 (23.85).

According to TSE statistics, for that selection 5,383,161 ballots were issued, out of which 270,657 were blank and 224,859 null.

Baldizón, from Lider, lost the presidential seat in 2011 against Otto Pérez Molina, who on Tuesday was sent to preventive detention and linked to a legal process for being the alleged leader of a network of customs fraud.

Several blockades and confrontations between residents and police occurred in recent days due to dissatisfaction with the elections, primarily municipal.

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