

# Candidates protest Upper Madi results

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**ARUA.** The parliamentary candidates for Upper Madi Constituency have protested the inclusion of “a stranger” on the ballot paper.

Mr Isaac Etuka’s nomination had been annulled by the Electoral Commission (EC) but on polling day, voters and candidates were surprised to see the photo of the NRM contestant on the ballot paper.

Now, the candidates say they will petition court. One of the candidates, Mr Jimmy Madira, said: “We are protesting the poll and the results. We have written a letter of protest to EC in Arua expressing our displeasure and demanding that fresh polls for genuinely nominated candidates be conducted in accordance with the law. We consider the poll as not only as sham but also mockery of the electoral process.”

Mr Etuka, who had won the NRM primaries race, had his nomination cancelled soon after his nomination after the EC discovered that it had received a restraint court order to nominate him as an official NRM flag bearer.

High Court last week froze the Upper Madi Okollo parliamentary elections for 60 days from February 18 until NRM fronts its flag bearer in the race and also awarded him costs and damages.

On Friday night, Mr John Ar-

**“This is an illegality, you are not nominated and yet your votes are being declared; the law is very clear on whose results are being declared. It should be a person who is dully nominated for that post; his results should be regarded as invalid votes,”**

JOHN ARUMADRI, CONTESTANT

umadri (FDC), one of the contestants in the race, raised the matter to the district returning officer, Ms Ruth Ongom, as she read the results at the tallying centre but she replied that she had been instructed from Kampala.

On Saturday, the tallying centre turned chaotic when the FDC official, Hajj Hakim Moli, demanded that the EC speeds up the counting of votes.

Mr Moli said: “Some results for Ogurua Cell and Christ the King were tallied manually but the declaration form was not given to the party. Secondly, as a party agent, I am supposed to receive the provisional results because my party is demanding for it,”

But when DPC Jonathan Musinguzi intervened, there was exchange of bitter words, ending in a scuffle.

Reported by Felix Warom Okello,  
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