

Petition to nullify BN win filed

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KUCHING: Defeated Sarawak National Party candidate for Ba'Kelalan, Baru Bian, has filed a petition seeking to declare the election of Nelson Balang Rining of Barisan Nasional as null and void.

Baru's lawyer Si Chee How filed the petition at the Miri High Court registry yesterday.

Baru named Ba'Kelalan constituency returning officer Dennis Langub as the first respondent, Election Commission chairman Tan Sri Abdul Rashid Abdul Rahman as second respondent and Balang, the third respondent.

In his petition, Baru alleged that Balang and his agents had resorted to vote-buying by giv-

ing cash to voters.

He alleged that bribery or misconduct had prevailed so extensively that it might have affected the result. He wanted the election to be declared null and void.

Balang of the Sarawak Progressive Democratic Party (SPDP) secured 2,064 votes against 1,589 votes by Baru.

It is learnt that a few defeated Opposition candidates will file petitions against BN candidates. The DAP said it would contest the election of Dr Soon Choon Teck in Dudong and Vincent Goh in Pelawan, both in Sibiu. Stephen Lu Cheng Kuok (Dudong) and Dr Ting Chek Ming (Pelawan) lost narrowly to Dr Soon and Goh, both of the Sarawak United People's Party in the election.