HOW MANY POTENTIAL ELECTION CRIMES Languish in Florida Prosecutors’ Offices?

November 2021
MOST COMMON POTENTIAL ELECTION CRIME REFERRED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIOLATION</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>PRISON</th>
<th>FINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Double Voting Mail/In Person</td>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>Up to 5 years</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
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<td>Double Voting Generally</td>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>Up to 5 years</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assuming Another Voter’s Name</td>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>Up to 5 years</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineligible Voter (Non-Citizen)</td>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>Up to 5 years</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False Swearing in Voter Registration</td>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>Up to 5 years</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition: Multiple orFake Names</td>
<td>Misdemeanor</td>
<td>Up to 1 year</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition: Signature Quotas For Pay</td>
<td>Misdemeanor</td>
<td>Up to 1 year</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition: Unregistered Circulator</td>
<td>Misdemeanor</td>
<td>Up to 60 days</td>
<td>$500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

REFERRALS TO PROSECUTORS BY COUNTY

| Hillsborough | ???   | Broward | 78   |
| Miami-Dade   | 42     | Palm Beach | 12   |
| Orange       | 11     | Pinellas | 5    |
| Duval        | 3      | Polk    | 3    |
| Alachua      | 1      | St. Lucie | 1    |

HIGHLIGHTS

- A petition circulator for Floridians for a Fair Democracy (supporting felon voting rights) was referred to Pinellas County prosecutors for allegedly impersonating a voter while trying to change their address.
- The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition was referred to law enforcement in one county for potential criminal voter registration activity.
- Keep Our Constitution Clean petition circulators were flagged for potential election law violations in Broward and Pinellas Counties.
- According to their legal counsel, it is policy in Hillsborough County to not submit potential election law violations to prosecutors.
- Miami-area public corruption detectives requested voter registration records belonging to the former acting mayor of Miami in 2019.
- Miami-area public corruption detectives requested voter registration records belonging to a sitting city councilman from Palmetto Bay.
- Some counties are detecting interstate double voting, and then nothing happens.
Can You Get Away with Voter Fraud in Florida?

The short answer: it depends on who catches you. The Sunshine State has a straightforward set of rules for its elections. Florida empowers county officials to investigate when they believe the rules are broken. Their findings are then transferred to law enforcement. Safe Harbor details where the system appears to stop.

In 2021, the Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) asked large Florida counties for information regarding referrals to prosecutors before and around the 2020 Election. PILF received documents detailing 156 referrals from nine county supervisors of elections (SOE) about potential criminal election law violations. A tenth county, Hillsborough, informed PILF of its policy to not alert prosecutors to potential violations.

The counties showing the most referrals to law enforcement are Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach. The most common types of potential or alleged crimes discovered by officials were noncitizen registration and/or voting, double voting, and vote-by-mail violations.

Why does this research matter? Critics of the election integrity movement argue that not enough voter fraud and related crimes occur to justify modern protections like voter ID at the polling place or with absentee ballots. But such critics do not acknowledge that election officials are regularly making discoveries they feel are worth their local prosecutors’ attention. PILF followed these referrals through Florida criminal databases and court records where available and found little follow-through from prosecuting authorities. It is unknown why law enforcement did not pursue these matters. Justice does not prevail when prosecutors never receive referrals, or receive them and allow them to gather dust. And there is no deterrence in a system where potential election criminals know there is no chance of being prosecuted, even after getting caught.

Can Florida election officials do more? By nearly all accounts, county officials are doing the work to detect and refer potential election crimes in real time. As this report explains, these discoveries took serious sleuthing and due diligence to develop the facts for prosecutors. Florida lawmakers should examine how they can help supplement the good work already being done – especially since the majority of referrals related to felony matters.

All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty. Any potential violations of the law are only alleged unless and until a court finds otherwise.

Does George Soros’ financing of prosecutor races play a role? It’s no secret that left-wing financier George Soros has put his money behind various prosecutor candidates in recent years who are willing to enforce laws in a way that align to his politics. Soros certainly supports groups critical of the election integrity movement. But, his track record of supporting winning candidates in Florida State Attorney (SAO) races is mixed. Of the counties studied here, only Hillsborough and Orange have Soros-backed SAOs. His picks in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties lost their contests.

In order to have safe, fair elections, election crimes have to be prosecuted. But prosecution is a two-step process: election officials report the crimes, and the Florida State Attorney prosecutes. Sporadic (and in some counties, nonexistent) reporting and prosecution does not fair well for election integrity. But a word of warning for any who wish to commit voter fraud: officials have many tools to catch you, and their investigative conclusions are public record under the Florida Sunshine Law.

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The supervisor of elections is authorized to investigate fraudulent registrations and illegal voting and to report his or her findings to the local state attorney and the Florida Elections Commission. The board of county commissioners in any county may appropriate funds to the supervisor of elections for the purpose of investigating fraudulent registrations and illegal voting.” – Florida Statutes Title IX Ch. 104.42

All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty. Any potential violations of the law are only alleged unless and until a court finds otherwise.
Hillsborough County

Hillsborough County is the only surveyed jurisdiction to deny access to records because they refuse to maintain a system where such records could be generated. This means election criminals in one of the largest cities of Florida have little to fear.

"Please be advised that the Supervisor's Office has no responsive records as we do not refer cases to the State's Attorney's office."

— Mary Helen Farris
Deputy County Attorney/General Counsel

This response requires more unpacking. While it is normal for a government entity to not have documents responsive to an open record request simply due to non-existence, it is a separate matter altogether to hold a policy which ensures no scenario could occur to allow the documents to be generated.

Hillsborough County demonstrates a perfect microcosm for how the left maintains their narrative that voter fraud is "nonexistent" or a "phantom" problem.

Hillsborough Supervisor of Elections Craig Latimer has held the elected job since 2013 and works to maintain a public persona of being low-drama in a region of the state that makes Florida a perennial political battleground. He is the immediate past president of the Florida Supervisors of Elections association and acts as a spokesman about election matters to regional and national news organizations. Before his time in the elections office, Latimer served more than three decades in the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, retiring at the rank of major.

Supervisor Latimer does not have potential election crimes in his county, he repeatedly says. Days before the 2016 General Election when the Obama Administration was warning states about foreign cyber intrusions into voting systems, Latimer reassured that "people do not need to be concerned." In a 2017 YouTube video published by his office, Latimer asserted, "we know that there’s not really a connection between voter rolls and voter fraud." During the same clip, he adds "We know that we have people that are registered in multiple states – they’re not voting in multiple states."

Days after the 2020 Election, Latimer bluffed, "all allegations of criminal misconduct warrant attention, (but) we have not been presented with any evidence of widespread fraud."

Latimer’s absolutist language is insured by his policy to not refer potential election law violations to prosecutors. Even if his office catches you voting twice, lying on an application, or seeking to manipulate a neighbor’s voter registration record (like reportedly seen elsewhere in Florida), you will likely find safe harbor in Hillsborough County.

QUICK TAKES
- Total Referrals to Prosecutors: N/A
- State’s Attorney: Andrew Warren
- Soros Involvement: Warren was backed by Soros dollars
- SOE: Craig Latimer
- Registered Voters: 908K

Your Request - Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections

Farris, Mary Helen
Deputy County Attorney/General Counsel

Warren, Andrew
State’s Attorney

Latimer, Craig
Supervisor of Elections

Please be advised that the Supervisor’s Office has no responsive records as we do not refer cases to the State Attorney’s office.

Mary Helen Farris
Deputy County Attorney/General Counsel
Florida Bar Board Certified
City, County and Local Government Law
Hillsborough County Attorney’s Office

Andrew Warren
State Attorney for Hillsborough County

Craig Latimer
SOE for Hillsborough County
The Broward County Supervisor of Elections was the first office in the Florida survey to disclose documents summarizing referrals to local prosecutors. The single document dated on or after January 25, 2021, lists the full voter names, reasons for their referrals, and dates of letters to law enforcement numbering 78 in total.

According to county records, the earliest referral occurred on April 3, 2019. The documents show that law enforcement personnel were alerted to 20 individuals who reportedly “voted twice” in an undisclosed election. One additional person was listed as a “non-citizen” voter. On June 20, 2019, five individuals were referred to prosecutors as non-citizens. On July 17, 2019, a person identified in county records as a “fellow” was handed over to prosecutors. The record does not state whether a vote or a stand-alone registration record triggered the matter. On August 6, August 14, September 6, September 17, October 10, and October 16, a total of six more alleged non-citizens were referred to prosecutors. On November 8, 2019, Broward County broke its pattern of referring individual registrants and casts two ballots, one for each registration record. PILF has previously detailed how easily someone can obtain multiple active voter registrations in Florida when they use variations in name spelling on subsequent registration forms. If John Public (date of birth: July 4, 1976) at 123 Main Street shows up to an early voting site, that will not necessarily preclude John Q. Public (date of birth: July 4, 1976) at 123 Main Street from voting on Election Day. After all, the inclusion of a middle initial has shown to trick Florida’s statewide voter registration database into issuing a second voter ID card which is unique from the first.

The Broward County summary document provides the broadest array of potential Florida election law violations involving individuals, as opposed to political entities or government employees. The largest subset—non-citizen referrals—can implicate one or two violations of Florida election law (as well as federal criminal laws), depending on whether and to what degree said individuals voted. On one hand, it is a third-degree felony to willfully swear false information on a voter registration application, such as when a foreign national indicates they are a U.S. citizen and are therefore eligible to vote.” The list of potential crimes grows long for the non-citizen voter registration application, such as when a foreign national indicates they are a U.S. citizen and are therefore eligible to vote.” Each violation risks a maximum five years in prison and a fine limited to $5,000.

“Voted twice” is the second category of election activity reflected in Broward’s official records. There is more than one way to vote twice and the disclosed documents do not elaborate on which methods are implicated. Florida statutes outline two distinct violations which can apply here. It is a separate election crime for a person to submit an absentee ballot and subsequently vote in person during a single election. In such a scenario, a voter faces a third-degree felony and five years in prison or $5,000 fine. The law also lays out a more generalized third-degree felony for a person voting twice by any other means.” Perhaps one of the most straightforward examples would be a person holding duplicate registrations and casting two ballots, one for each registration record. PILF.

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Finally, Broward County disclosed a complaint involving the group Keep Our Constitution Clean, Inc. for a “petition collectors’ violation.” The description does not help to pinpoint which statute could apply. There are, however, at least three possibilities. First, it is a first-degree misdemeanor to knowingly sign a registered petition more than once or with a fictitious name.” It is also unlawful to compensate a petition circulator “based on the number of petition forms gathered” unless there is an employment relationship in play.” Last, any person or entity caught operating in a circulator capacity who is not duly registered with the Florida Secretary of State can face a second-degree misdemeanor.”
## Cases Submitted

### ATTACHMENT C

Joe Scott, Supervisor of Elections
115 S. Andrews Ave, Rm. 102
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
(954) 557-7850 • www.browardcoe.org

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Voters Voted Twice in the 2020 General Election</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/17/2020</td>
<td>VBM Signature Mismatch - 2020 General Election</td>
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<td>11/4/2020</td>
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### Cases Submitted

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<td>Voted Twice</td>
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<td>4/03/19</td>
<td>Non-citizen</td>
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Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Miami-Dade also had dozens of potential election crimes. Rather than listing voter names and types of alleged election law violations, Miami-Dade typically listed the documents given to prosecutors for each referral. This obscured the specific Florida law and alleged violation at issue. For example, one incident file dated February 12, 2019, reportedly contained “Vote History, Registration, [vote-by-mail] request, [mail ballot materials], [early voting], [Election Day]” records. Based on the described document types given to prosecutors, the cases referred to prosecutors may involve potential violations for double voting, candidate financial disclosure issues, vote-by-mail-related problems, polling place complaints, and third-party voter registration illegality. Two referrals made in April and May of 2021 are less mysterious. One references a “double voter investigation” in cooperation with the North Carolina State Board of Elections. Another describes a person “voting twice from Division of Elections.”

The potential criminal referrals occurred throughout the 2020 Election cycle with 20 in 2019, 19 in 2020, and 3 in 2021. Miami-Dade County is the only county among the surveyed jurisdictions to volunteer additional records about its cooperation with local police agencies in their own investigations into potential election crimes. These points of contact and cooperation occurred between May 2019 and May 2021, according to the public records.

According to county records, on May 17, 2019, two detectives from the Miami-Dade Police Department (“MDPD” is used in the records to identify them) contacted the supervisor of elections office to obtain a variety of vote-by-mail records concerning the May 28 City of Sweetwater mayoral runoff. The MDPD requested a list of all voters who were designated to receive an absentee ballot and when such mailings would occur. The records do not reveal the particular number of registrants about which detectives may have been concerned. Incumbent Mayor Orlando Lopez “handily won,” earning 1,345 of the 2,499 total votes cast.

On June 3, 2019, two detectives from a City of Miami Beach special crimes task force contacted election officials to obtain the voter history records for “five voters,” according to the disclosure. Unlike the aforementioned Sweetwater mayoral contest, Miami Beach’s race would not occur until September of that year, when incumbent Mayor Dan Gelber would run unopposed. It is unclear from the disclosed records which election contests were under police scrutiny.

On July 30, 2019, at least one detective with the Miami Public Corruption Task Force contacted the elections office for voter registration documents, financial disclosures, and outside employment records dated between 2015 and 2019 for Wilfredo Gort. Gort held elected office on the City of Miami Commission from 1993 to 2001. He also served as acting mayor in 1996 after Stephen P. Clark died. He returned to the Commission from 2010 to January 2020. Almost immediately after leaving the city council, he was appointed to lead the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. No publicly available records show any further inquiries or actions taken as a result of the June 30 request.

On December 3, 2020, the same detectives who made the Gort request sought “voter registration” records from election officials for Stephen Michael Cody. One month before that request, Cody was elected to serve in the Village District 2 seat for Palmetto Bay in the southern Miami metro. Council Member Cody’s official bio credits himself as the “Godfather” of Palmetto Bay because his Voting Rights Act case “changed the method of electing members of the Miami-Dade County Commission and the Miami-Dade County School Board,” eventually “leading[ing] to the creation of Palmetto Bay.” Prior to public office, according to public records, Cody was suspended for one year by the Florida Bar pertaining to a dispute with a client. No publicly available records show any further inquiries or actions taken as a result of the December 3 request.

On April 16, 2021, Miami detectives sought information about absentee ballots mailed to an apartment complex in Sweetwater. A month later on May 11, 2020, the MDPD detectives served a search warrant for “official vote by mail balloting material” for 11 voters. The disclosed records do not offer further details for either case.
In the aftermath of the 2020 General Election, Palm Beach County officials appear to have collected enough evidence to refer 12 incidents to prosecutors in the Spring of 2021. Compared to Broward and Miami-Dade Counties, the disclosed summary of cases is far less detailed.***

Ten of the 12 referrals were made on April 1, 2021. One of those carried a checkbox indication that the case involved a "Non-Citizen" individual. Another within the subset is denoted as a "duplicate record" and involves two unique voter identification numbers attached to the same individual. As the disclosed record indicates, two more cases were passed on to prosecutors at an unlisted date.

It is not a crime to unwittingly be registered to vote in duplicate at the same address in Florida. Duplications can happen when officials simply err in the data entry process. They can also happen when a registrant updates a record with additional or conflicting name information than what was already on file. The user manual*** for the system even describes protocols for a county election staffer to merge duplicate records into a unified file. For a still unknown reason, Palm Beach County officials felt at least one allegedly duplicate registrant required review for a possible election law violation.
Orange County

During the period of study, Orange County has documented referrals from 2019 to 2021. The document disclosed to PILF closely resembles what Palm Beach County offered, yet with more detail and a workflow for each case. Orange is one of the few counties to include the most recent status updates for each referral.

The referrals began on November 1, 2019, where one individual is identified for a potential vote by mail violation during the Orlando mayoral election in 2019. Days later, Mayor Buddy Dyer won re-election with 72 percent of the vote.

On September 24, 2020, the only referral related to the 2020 primaries involved an individual with a potential vote by mail violation. The 2020 general election-related referrals began on October 2, when six individuals were also listed for potential vote by mail violations. Five of those have the same surname. At this point in the study period, the county document notes that all referrals are listed under "unknown" status with regard to state's attorney actions.

On May 12, 2021, Orange County lists its latest referrals. Three individuals are shown under "ongoing" review from the state's attorney for allegedly "voting twice" during the 2020 General Election.

Duval County

Duval County’s referrals to law enforcement contain few details. Supervisor of Elections Mike Hogan told PILF in an email that his office did not have a uniform report (like seen in some other counties), but in his time as supervisor he referred three cases for “potential elections violations” since 2015. Two of those referrals concerned the 2016 Election and one more was sent in 2021.
Alachua County election officials had one criminal referral. Officials summarized in an email to PILF that one case of potential double voting was referred to law enforcement. The suspect voter allegedly “voted in Florida and in New York in the 2020 General Election,” according to the county.

The elections office did not elaborate on how it detected or was alerted to the suspected interstate votes. Although the Sunshine State was a member of a 30-state collaborative that shares voting records, New York is not party to the system. No publicly available records show any further inquiries or actions taken as a result of Alachua County’s referral to authorities.

PILF’s own Integrity Database, a national collection of voter registration and voting records, currently shows the individual still registered to vote in Florida and New York in 2021.
Pinellas County

Despite the handful of referrals, Pinellas County provided the most detailed disclosures—exceeding 100 pages in evidence. The County also provided copies of referrals pre-dating PILF’s requested period. The documents give the clearest picture of the level of detail and insights given to prosecutors. In these instances, it could be said, the county essentially gift-wrapped the evidence for action by prosecutors.

The timeline begins on March 21, 2017, when the Pinellas County Canvassing Board alerted law enforcement to a local registrant credited for voting with an “over-the-counter” absentee ballot in the 2016 federal election in Stonington, Connecticut, on October 14, 2016, who also allegedly voted early in-person in Florida on October 28. When charged, voting twice is a third-degree felony in Florida. Federal law also prohibits voting twice for the same office.

On March 30, 2018, the Florida Department of State alerted prosecutors in Pinellas County to the results of its investigation into a petition circulator working for Floridians for a Fair Democracy, Inc. (FFD). The committee backed a ballot measure to grant voting rights to felons, which would eventually become Amendment 4 in the 2018 General Election. State investigators summarized the sister complaints against the organization and an employee by explaining that a registered voter in Largo appeared to sign a petition and change their voter registration address on the same form to a neighborhood in Saint Petersburg, roughly 20 miles away. State investigators confirmed with the presumed victim that he never signed the petition or requested that the address be updated out of Largo. The Tallahassee officials closed their referral by suggesting charges ranging from first-degree misdemeanor for signing someone else’s name to a petition to third-degree felony for submitting false voter registration information.

On September 11, 2019, the county alerted prosecutors to a registered petition circulator working on behalf of Florida Citizen Voters, a now closed Jacksonville entity that advocated for a constitutional referendum included on the 2020 ballot regarding citizenship requirements for voter registration. Local officials were specifically alerted to at least 12 signatures belonging to persons they knew to be dead before the signing dates. The referral letter explains that a petition circulator verifies and declares under penalty of perjury that the signatures were legitimately gathered. The letter closes by explaining how the organization’s principal was alerted to the referral.

On January 8, 2020, a separate petition circulator active in the 2020 cycle drew the attention of county officials. A registered circulator for Keep Our Constitution Clean (previously referenced in this report in Broward County) was suspected of submitting a false signature. During official review of signatures gathered, one entry drew a “signature differs” flag and then triggered a letter to the signer, asking him to formally update the mark of record. The person in question replied to the County, stating he never signed the petition in question. Before local officials alerted law enforcement, they informed Keep Our Constitution Clean principals about their plans to refer the matter to law enforcement.

Finally, on November 2, 2020, the Clearwater branch office for the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections documented an incident where a duly registered individual requested a provisional ballot. His registration was deemed valid. The issue, however, was the fact that on October 10, 2020, the person had already cast a ballot for the same election, according to the county. The county employee handling the matter recalled, “he said he just changed his mind and would like to vote again. I asked him if he was aware that it is a felony to vote twice, he answered that he knew about it and still insisted to vote again.” The disclosed provisional ballot paperwork shows the second vote was stamped “rejected as illegal.”

QUICK TAKES
- Total Referrals to Prosecutors: 5
- Organized Petition Violations
- Voting Twice in Two States
- Voting Twice Locally
- Duplicate Voter Registrations
- State’s Attorney: Bruce Bartlett
- Soros Involvement: Bartlett Mocks “Soros types”
- SOE: Julie Marcus
- Registered Voters: 688K

Julie Marcus
S.O.E. Pinellas County

Bruce Bartlett
State Attorney fo Pinellas County

20
March 21, 2017

The Honorable Benjie McCabe,
State Attorney, Sixth Judicial Circuit
4229 4th Street N
Clearwater, FL 33759

Dear Mr. McCabe,

On behalf of the Pinellas County Canvassing Board, I am respectfully requesting an investigation into the following matter that took place during the November 6, 2018 General Election. Based upon information received, we have reason to believe this voter may have voted twice in the General Election, causing ballots in both Connecticut and Florida to be incorrectly counted.

- Voter Registration Number: [Redacted]
- Date of birth: [Redacted]
- Registered voter in Pinellas County.
- [Redacted] registered to vote in Florida on [Redacted].
- On January 21, 2017, Peggi Cavalleri, Registrar of Voters in St. Petersburg, Florida, spoke with Pinellas County Registration Administrator Martin McFadden and provided him with the following information:
  - According to Ms. Cavalleri, on October 14, 2016, she received an absentee ballot from the Connecticut Registrar of Voters, indicating the voter was an absentee voter in Connecticut.
  - Mr. McFadden confirmed to Ms. Cavalleri on October 24, 2016, that the voter was an absentee voter in Pinellas County in the 2016 General Election.

Additional information provided by Ms. Cavalleri:

- The voter was not a registered voter in Connecticut since 7/24/96.
- The St. Petersburg Clerk of Courts informed the voter was not on their address list.
- The voter was a registered voter in Connecticut until 2016.

Please review the above information. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Deborah Clark
Supervisor of Elections
Pinellas County
The Honorable Bernie McCabe
Page 2
January 8, 2020

Enclosed for your reference are the following documents:
1. A copy of the petition submitted as allegedly completed by...
2. The voter’s mailing list, as maintained by the Pinellas SOE.
3. Contact information for...

Staff with the Pinellas SOE contacted Jason Huber, Chair of the Conventional Security Council; FC, and Jason Blanc, Planner, to notify them of the potential fraud.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

MFW 11
Accompaniment
Deborah Clark, Supervisor of Elections
PDC-1176

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Hon. Bernie McCabe
Page 2
March 10, 2018

Section 106.185(2), Florida Statutes, provides that “[i]f any person who signs another person’s name on any petition to secure ballot position for...to list as a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in § 775.081 or § 775.082.” It should be noted that any petition which is submitted by the State Constitution, by law, or resolution of the Legislature, to be submitted to the electorate for their approval or rejection at an election, or any petition for which a petition is completed in order to have such petition placed on the ballot at any election: “§ 196.041(3), Fla. Stat. Abs. [...] all persons who willingly submit any false vote registration information commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in § 775.081 or § 775.082.”

Assuming that the complaint’s allegations are true for purposes of our review for legal sufficiency, it is possible that FPD and/or the additional section 106.185(2) by intentionally submitting a false address on the first petition. Also, it is possible FPD also submitted 106.185(2) by signing the name on a petition to secure ballot position for a constitutional amendment.

Please find enclosed the elections fraud complaint and a copy of the petition. I can be reached at (813) 345-6551.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Assistant General Counsel

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Mr. Richardson, [redacted]
Came to our Clearwater Office and asked for provisional ballot.
He already cast his ballot on October 10, 2020.
He said he just changed his mind and would like to vote again.
I asked him if he was aware that he is a felony to vote twice, he answered that he knew about it and he still wanted to vote again.
He also included a note in Provisional ballot envelope.

11/02/2020 - Clearwater Office

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March 30, 2018

Honorabe Bernie McCabe
State Attorney, 6th Judicial Circuit
Pinellas County Justice Center
14250 49th St. N.
Clearwater, FL 33763

Re: Elections Fraud Complaint No. 17-50, 51

Dear Ms. McCabe:

I am referring the attached elections fraud complaint to you pursuant to section 97.012(15), Florida Statutes, which charges the Department of State with conducting preliminary investigations of elections fraud and reporting the findings to the appropriate state attorney’s office.

Both complaints were filed by [redacted]. One complaint is against Floridian for a Fair Democracy, Inc. (“FDF”), and one complaint is against [redacted], a petition circulator employed by FDF. The underlying facts of each complaint are the same. Essentially, the complaints allege that FDF and/or [redacted] fraudulently signed [redacted]’s name to a petition for an amendment to the Florida Constitution. [redacted] is a voter at 3931 14th Place, Largo, FL 33774. The complaint alleges that FDF and/or [redacted]’s name on that petition, requested that the supervisor of elections change his address to the address of 3931 14th Place, Largo, FL 33774. The complaint alleges that this is not true. Address, attached to one of the complaints is a copy of the forged petition, which bears a stamp of FDF and FDF’s information. The Department searched the Florida Voter Registration System and determined that consistent with the allegations, [redacted]’s address was changed and that address is currently registered as 3931 14th Place, Largo, FL 33774. I spoke with [redacted] by telephone, and he confirmed with the story. [redacted] stated that he never signed or otherwise filled out petition that is attached to this letter.

1 The complaint alleges that [redacted] has no [redacted] and our voter registration records in the Florida Voter Registration system reflect that [redacted] is registered at [redacted]. There was likely a mistake made in the allegations of the complaint.

Office of the General Counsel
R.A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0226
850.488.6500 • 850.488.6217 (Fax) DOA.MyFlorida.com
QUICK TAKES
- Total Referrals to Prosecutors: 3
- State’s Attorney: Brian Haas
- Soros Involvement: Haas is a Republican
- SOE: Lori Edwards
- Registered Voters: 464K
Polk County election officials shared three referral case files from the 2020 election cycle, all of which involved questions of potential double voting violations under Florida law. This county is the only surveyed jurisdiction to provide copies of the actual documents given to prosecutors and the findings of the investigating authorities.

Two cases originated in the 2020 general election. The cases followed similar patterns. The separate individuals each visited their respective assigned polling places on Election Day and were properly checked in to vote in person, according to poll book and related documentation generated at the polling sites. The voters then went to second voting locations, updated their addresses, and appeared to be issued ballots again, according to county records. Criminal investigators hit matching roadblocks after reviewing the poll book files from the four polling places involved. Available documents can capture when a voter is checked in to cast a regular ballot, but, according to investigators, there is no way to definitively know if each person cast two ballots. Because the prosecutors had "no way to prove or disprove" second votes were cast, the cases were closed.

The third and final case referral provides the deepest insight into the local investigative process. Shortly after the 2020 primary elections, prosecutors were alerted to an alleged double voter involving mail and in-person ballots. The county believed the person in question opted to complete an absentee ballot and mail it prior to the return deadline. Days later, the person allegedly appeared at their designated polling place, wishing to vote. In a letter disclosed to PILF, prosecutors concluded that "due to a mistake by the poll worker, he was allowed to vote even though the voter sign in sheet clearly indicated he had already voted by mail."

Polk election officials disclosed copies of the poll book check-in paperwork that the person had signed. As a standard practice, these books are updated shortly before in-person voting begins with decals over signature blocks, clearly indicating which entries have mail ballots already accounted for. The disclosed records show this was, by all appearances, working in this case—yet the poll worker still issued a second ballot, according to the county.

When the prosecuting office interviewed the voter, he told investigators that despite knowing that voting twice was "wrong," seeing election signs throughout the community confused him on election day and he thought it was simply time to vote "for the President." Officials felt the person "seemed confused about who and what he was voting for."

"Based on the totality of circumstances," prosecutors declined to file charges.
St. Lucie County

QUICK TAKES

- Total Referrals to Prosecutors: 1
- State’s Attorney: Tom Bakkedahl
- Soros Involvement: Bakkedahl is a Republican
- SOE: Gertrude Walker
- Registered Voters: 224K

St. Lucie County election officials referred one case of an activist group potentially violating Florida voter registration laws before the 2020 general election. Although the office did not disclose the identity of any particular employee or agent, the email summary does state that the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition was referred to law enforcement on October 20, 2020.

The subject matter for the official referral was summarized as “1 potential fraudulent application submitted by third party voter registration organization.” As discussed earlier in this report, such a charge is a third-degree felony under local law.

The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition is a California-based organization with a registered agent address in Orlando. The organization also holds a chapter registration in Jacksonville.

No publicly available records show any further inquiries or actions taken as a result of St. Lucie County’s alert. It is unclear if the organization’s principals were notified of the referral, as seen in other counties.

Sarasota County confirmed to PILF that it had zero referrals to law enforcement during the 2020 Election cycle.

Tom Bakkedahl
State Attorney for St. Lucie County

Gertrude Walker
S.O.E. for St. Lucie County

RE: FL Sunshine Request – State’s Attorney Submissions

Judith Durogene

Mr. Churchill,

In response to your public records request, after a thorough search of our records we were able to find the following information. Thank you and have a good day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject Matter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida Rights Restoration Coalition</td>
<td>Letter sent via email on 10/20/2020 to local State Attorney’s Office</td>
<td>1 Potential Fraudulent Application submitted by Third Party Voter Registration Organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Judith Durogene

Administrative Assistant for Gertrude Walker, Supervisor of Elections
4122 Okeechobee Rd.
Port Pierce, FL 34953

Telephone: 772-982-1699
Fax: 772-982-1699

Sarasota County

Sarasota County confirmed to PILF that it had zero referrals to law enforcement during the 2020 Election cycle.
Prosecutors fail to prosecute election crimes for a number of reasons. Among them are ideological opposition to enforcing the law. Prosecutors who adopt this approach should not be prosecutors.

Other reasons why prosecutors fail to prosecute election crimes include unfamiliarity with trying an election crimes case and a general lack of experience. This can be remedied if state officials conduct systematic training and provide county prosecutors the benefits of continuing education from experienced lawyers who have successfully conducted election crimes prosecutions, before there are no more to train them.

Another reason election crimes are not prosecuted is that the media’s steady drumbeat that voter fraud does not exist makes prosecutors skittish about enforcing the law. They are afraid of becoming the story.

Florida would benefit from a standardized reporting system that accounts for the number of referrals generated by supervisors of elections, the particular elections in question, and whether cases are open or closed by prosecutors. Such a system would greatly sustain overall voter confidence and hedge against post-election misinformation.

The Florida Legislature could amend existing election law to require that supervisors of elections refer potential violations of election law to prosecuting authorities. Wisconsin offers a similar framework, particularly as it relates to reporting.

Election workers must be carefully trained to read and understand all entries in poll books to prevent double voting, whether intentional or unintentional.

Florida officials would be wise to regularly remind the public about laws governing petition collection and identity protection.

Florida officials must remind the general public that foreign nationals are not eligible to register and vote under any circumstance.

Florida officials should remind the general public that they have the tools to detect voters casting ballots from their primary and vacation homes. To do otherwise risks real prison time.
The Public Interest Legal Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, relies on contributions to conduct the research and develop findings like those contained in this report. PILF is the only organization performing this level of work with respect to voter registration system integrity in America. Time, travel, and technology help deliver new insights into our election systems to better educate citizens and policymakers alike. We also bring litigation to pry this public information from government officials when necessary. None of this would be possible without your support. Please help us expand our efforts by visiting publicinterestlegal.org/donate to offer your fully tax-deductible gift today.