

## **FACTSHEET** City of Green Bay Is Violating State Law by Ignoring Election Day Voter Registration Safeguards

Wisconsin enacted safeguards to its Election Day voter registration process to "audit" voters' claimed addresses and identify which registrations should be inactivated and referred to prosecutors.

- Wisconsin allows voters to appear at the polls and register to vote on Election Day, a process locally known as Election Day Registration.
- The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) is required to mail postcards following the election to all voters who registered using Election Day Registration to "audit" the addresses given at the polls before voting.
- When postcards are "undeliverable" to the address given on Election Day, election clerks must investigate each card to determine why mail delivery failed. If they cannot identify a problem within the Postal Service or a typographical error in the address needing a correction, they must inactivate the registration record and refer the case to the District Attorney for further investigation.
- In 2023, WEC issued updated guidance reaffirming that this process to verify the addresses of voters who used Election Day registration and to refer cases to prosecutors is mandatory and must be performed by local clerks.

City of Green Bay Clerk Celestine Jeffreys is ignoring laws put into place to find and prosecute people who abuse the Election Day Registration process to cast fraudulent votes.

- When Jeffreys receives an undeliverable Election Day Registration postcard, she does not perform address verification.
- Additionally, Jeffreys does not inactivate registrants whose postcards return as "undeliverable" and does not refer individuals to the District Attorney.
  - According to <u>data</u> published by WEC, since the 2020 Primary, the City of Green Bay has received **270 undeliverable postcards** from Election Day Registrations.
  - Clerk Jeffreys has only inactivated two registrants and referred one individual to the District Attorney.
- The Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) filed a <u>complaint</u> with WEC to force the City of Green Bay to follow state law to ensure integrity in the Election Day voter registration process.

Election Day Registration safeguards are important because the system can be used to cast fraudulent votes.

- Election Day Registration allows individuals to **vote now** with **verification after** the election and certification of results.
- The post-election verification system of Election Day Registration makes the election process vulnerable to mistakes and even abuse.
- <u>According to the Milwaukee Election Commission</u>, since 2020, Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm has **refused** to review **354 referrals** for potential unlawful Election Day Registrations.
- When election officials like Green Bay Clerk Jeffreys and the Milwaukee District Attorney fail to enforce the law and investigate registrants who cast potentially invalid ballots using Election Day Registration, there is no deterrence to stop others from committing election crimes.