

Report

The November 6, 2001 Election
in
Boulder County, Colorado

Fraud, Incompetence, or Corruption?

February 14, 2002

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Preface

This is a report about the votes that were counted in the November 6, 2001 election held in Boulder County.

This report addresses only one aspect of mail ballot elections -- the votes that were counted. Many additional problems have been previously documented and provided to election officials.

All of the data used to produce this report is official data provided by the Boulder County Elections Division. The data was obtained legally from the Clerk. Computation was performed by a local mail processing company and by the author.

Each number presented in the report is backed up by the specific voter-identification numbers that were used to compute the number.

The report is dense and requires the reader to read carefully and reflect upon what is written.

Over and over again the Secretary of State and the County Clerks have told the People and the Legislators that there is no evidence of fraud with mail ballot elections. This report proves that they are wrong. There was fraud – ineligible votes were counted, and eligible voters were disenfranchised.

It is evident from the results of this analysis that election officials have either not looked for, or did not report fraud. They have been misleading the Legislature with unfounded assurances. Based entirely on public records this report details ineligible ballots that were counted.

When referring to election fraud, the voter is usually the target. This may be the wrong assumption. Until the government audits election results and processes, and holds accountable those election officials who have failed to provide a fair, accurate, and auditable election and a secret ballot, it would be unfair to prosecute individual voters that we have identified.

One needs only to look at this report to discover that mail ballot elections do not provide fair, accurate, and auditable elections that guarantee a secret ballot

Mail balloting must be stopped until it can be proven that it is safe. Our very system of government is at risk.

Al Kolwicz, Boulder Colorado Feb 2002

RECORDS

Auditing the Boulder County November 2001 election is difficult because of poor recordkeeping, and inaccessible records.

1. Computer files that we have in our possession are:
 - a. Master Sep 22 2001 - Voter Registration file
 - b. Master Oct 17 2001 - Voter Registration file
 - c. National Change of Address File - Oct 23 2001
 - d. Electors That Voted file –Jan 29 2002
 - e. Official Election Summary Report – November 7, 2001
 - f. Mail Ballot Statement of Ballots – November 8, 2001

2. Computer files that we do not have in our possession are:
 - a. Nov 6 2001 Voter Registration file (Final Pollbook)
 - b. File of Confidential voters
 - c. File for translating elector attributes to ballot style
 - d. File of electors whose ballot packet was removed from the initial mailing and the reason for removal and the ballot style.
 - e. File of all ballots issued -- by elector, mailing addresses (or hand delivered), style, and reason
 - initial mailing
 - first supplement
 - second supplement
 - absentee ballot
 - replacement ballot
 - late registration change ballot
 - emergency ballot
 - f. File of the ballot style voted by each elector
 - g. File of electors whose ballot was rejected, the style, and the reason for rejection:
 - 120 – Birth date does not match voter’s record
 - 24 – No birth date
 - 21 – Signature does not match voter’s name
 - 129 – No signature
 - 292 – Ballot stub number does not match return envelope number or stub missing
 - 21 – Miscellaneous reasons. Two ballots received in one official envelope; Ballot not returned in official return envelope; Ballot returned after the election; Ballot cancelled – first replacement issued; Ballot cancelled – second replacement issued; Undeliverable by Post Office; Ballot missing (empty envelope); Ballot missing (Longmont Ballot only); Rejected, other; Failed to remove ballot from envelope
 - h. The actual (live) data files that were created and maintained during the election.
 - i. File of electors whose ballot packet was returned undeliverable

Also, it would be helpful to have the rules for assigning an elector to a ballot style

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF RECORDS

Master Sep 22 2001 - Voter Registration file

The official September 22 Voter Registration file was used by the Clerk to prepare the initial mailing. The table below is a profile of the electors on this file. (We did not find descriptions for the Party codes A, C, and F.)

Master Sep 22 Content			
AFFILIATION	TOTAL	ACTIVE	INACTIVE
A	3	2	1
C	1	1	
Democratic	71,488	59,244	12,244
F	28	23	5
Green	1,507	1,300	207
Libertarian	552	426	126
Natural Law	216	122	94
Republican	56,596	46,558	10,038
Unaffiliated	78,846	57,029	21,817
TOTAL	209,237	164,705	44,532

Ballot packets were prepared for all 164,705 active-electors. Before the ballot packets were deposited at the Post Office, some of the ballot packets were removed from the shipment. This was done to take into account the fact that some of the electors had cancelled their registration, some had moved, some had requested an absentee ballot, etc. Of the ballots removed:

1. some were set aside and replaced by a newly printed ballot packet
2. some were set aside permanently
3. some were modified and returned to be mailed.

There was a failure to control this process. As a result, the Clerk is unable to prove that the number of ballots actually mailed (1) matches the number of eligible electors or (2) matches the number of physical ballots removed from the printed inventory.

Besides the manipulation of ballot packets described above, an additional group of ballot packets was prepared to supply ballots to electors whose record had been added to the registration file after September 22, legally changed their registration address, requested an absentee or replacement ballot, or requested that they be made Active.

There were 34 unique ballot styles used in this election. For purposes of the mailing, each active-electors was assigned a *ballot style* based on the elector's jurisdiction information on the file as of September 22.

To our knowledge, there is no original record of which electors were actually issued which ballot style. More disturbingly, there is no record of whether or not an elector ever had physical possession of the ballot that was supposedly issued to them.

On the registration file is the following profile of elector birth dates. In addition to nine (9) electors that have no birth date recorded on the file, there are twenty-eight (28) electors that are 100 years old or older – 15 of which are ACTIVE voters.

Notice the number of people who voted by age group. Do we actually have people in Boulder County that are 120 years old? If not, how did their ballot get accepted by the election judges? Three Active voters with no birth date on file were permitted to vote. How was their birth date validated?

Birth Year	Registered Sep 22			Voted Nov 6		
	TOTAL	ACTIVE	INACTIVE	TOTAL	ACTIVE	INACTIVE
1882	7	6	1	2	2	
1883	1	1		1	1	
1897	1	1				
1898	2		2			
1899	3	1	2	1	1	
1900	4	2	2	1	1	
1901	10	4	6	2	1	1
1902	13	10	3	7	6	1
1903	15	10	5	3	3	
1904	32	17	15	11	11	
1905	32	21	11	11	11	
1906	63	42	21	24	24	
1907	82	52	30	27	27	
1908	108	71	37	40	40	
1909	107	77	30	45	45	
1910	185	137	48	82	82	
1911	179	135	44	70	70	
1912	236	191	45	122	122	
No Date	9	5	4	3	3	

At least three persons are registered on the Voter Registration file as Active electors more than once. Since both voter-ids are marked as Active, the elector would have received two ballot packets. Also, since each of these voter-ids is marked as Active, does this mean that each voted both voter-ids last election? At least one of these persons voted in the November 2001 election.

Master Oct 17 2001 - Voter Registration file

Ballot packets were released to the Post Office on October 12. The official October 17 Voter Registration file was captured at our request. Since there was no pollbook, we had hoped that this data would be close to the “final pollbook” for this election.

A computer file maintained by the VoteRemote computer system has been identified by the Clerk as the “official pollbook”. The Clerk has forbidden us from getting a copy of this file claiming that the software vendor will not give the Clerk a copy of the file because it is proprietary data belonging to the vendor, Global Election Systems. This is a position that should be challenged in a court of law.

In addition to vital voting information, this file contains private information that should not be available to any vendors – voter signatures. To our knowledge, no individual gave permission for the State to record his or her signature on computer files – or to release these signatures to a commercial vendor. These signatures can be used to perform commercial transactions as well as to perpetuate identity theft. Would the State be liable for damages if these signatures were misused?

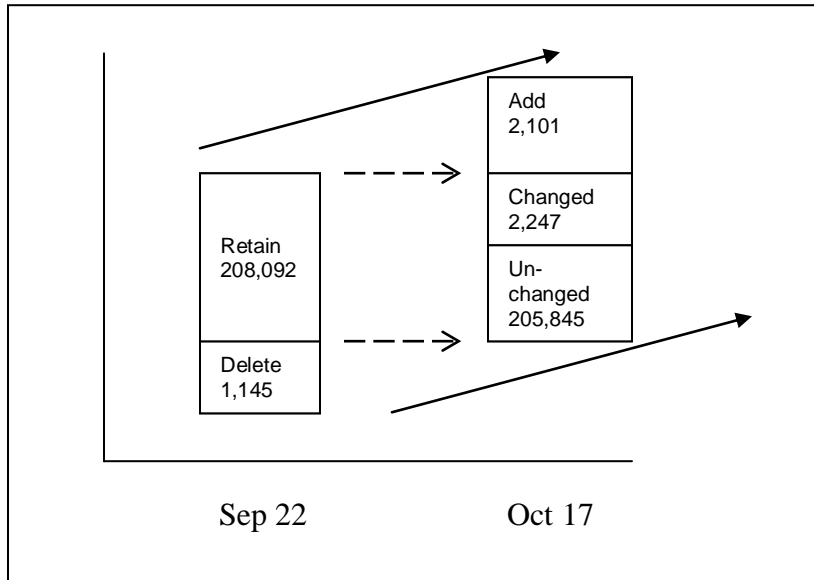
The October 17 Voter Registration file reflects changes that had occurred to voter registration data after the initial ballot packets were created. The table below is a profile of the electors on the file and a report of which groups of electors cast ballots that were counted.

AFFILIATION	Master Oct 17 Content			Electors that Voted		
	TOTAL	ACTIVE	INACTIVE	TOTAL	ACTIVE	INACTIVE
A	3	2	1	1	1	
C	1	1				
Democratic	71,868	59,772	12,096	29,170	29,153	17
F	26	21	5	9	9	
Green	1,539	1,333	206	481	481	
Libertarian	562	436	126	206	206	
Natural Law	213	121	92	49	49	
Republican	56,828	46,906	9,922	24,154	24,143	11
Unaffiliated	79,153	57,605	21,548	21,636	21,601	35
TOTAL	210,193	166,197	43,996	75,706	75,643	63
Not Registered				190	190	0
TOTAL				75,896	75,833	63

The missing 75,897th elector that voted, above, is the second ballot counted for the same elector. How did this elector get to vote twice?

The registration file was changed between September 22 and October 17, and continued to be changed up through the close of, and in fact after, the November 6 election. As of today, the Clerk continues to withhold from us a copy of voter registration file reflecting the final pollbook data. It has been more than ninety days since the election.

Since we have been unable to get a copy of the November 6 Voter Registration file, we performed an analysis of the differences between the Sep 22 and Oct 17 registration files. The following chart shows a summary of the differences.



Deleted from the September 22 file were 1,145 electors, and added to the file were 2,101 electors. Deleted electors become ineligible.

Of 208,092 electors that were retained on the file, 2,247 of them had registered a change to their residence address. Of these 2,247 changes to the September 22 registration file, 1,595 were changes to an address within the same city, and 652 were to an address to a different Boulder County city. Changes that move electors across jurisdictions make voters ineligible to vote in the original jurisdiction.

205,845 of the retained registration records were unchanged between the September 22 and the October 17 files. However, as will be shown below, many of these supposedly unchanged electors had actually moved – they simply did not report this fact on their voter registration record. To repeat, changes that move electors across jurisdictions make voters ineligible to vote in the original jurisdiction.

National Change of Address File - Oct 23 2001

For the purpose of performing a United States Postal Service National Change of Address (NCOA) check on the potential electors, a file of 164,705 Active voter names and addresses from the official Master September 22 Voter Registration file was provided to a local mail services company. This was done on October 23rd.

All of these potential voters had already been selected by Boulder County election officials to receive a mail ballot. As required by law, every ballot packet mailed was marked so as to prohibit the Post Office from forwarding the packet to any but the original address printed on the packet delivery envelope.

On October 26th, we received the mail services report. A summary of the results in the table below shows that 18,263 of the 164,705 Active voters had current change of address information on file with the Post Office. All 18,263 should have been returned by the post office as undeliverable. As can be seen below, 16,739 of these had a forwarding address on file with the post office and the remaining 1,524 did not.

Delivery description	TOTAL	Individual	Family	Business	Residential
Forwardable	16,355	9,938	6,410	7	
Forwardable, no SEC	383	275	108		
LACS Conversion	1				1
Moved to Foreign	50	19	31		
Moved, no PRI or no FWD or old address returned	209	111	98		
Not Forwardable	1,141	666	475		
PO Box Closed	124	57	66	1	
TOTAL	18,263	11,066	7,188	8	1

As can be seen in the following table, 1,189 ballots mailed to the electors at these addresses were accepted by the Clerk and counted. These are counted ballots that came from electors whose name was on the NCOA file. Since 61% of the new addresses given to the Post Office are outside of Boulder County one can assume that all but a few of these 1,189 ballots would be ineligible.

Votes from Sep 22 Electors who Moved		
Moved to Destination	Ballots Mailed	Votes Counted
Unknown	1,474	134
Outside USA	50	5
Outside Colorado	4,204	92
Outside Boulder County	2,813	49
Outside Originating City	3,184	246
Within Originating City	6,538	663
TOTAL	18,263	1,189

The Post Office should not have forwarded a ballot packet to any of the addresses included on the NCOA list. Furthermore, unless the elector was provided a proper replacement ballot, it is very likely that a vote from any elector on this Post Office list is an ineligible vote.

- 1,474 of the addresses were marked as not forwardable – we have no idea where these ballots went.
- 50 of the addresses were marked as being forwarded to a country outside of the United States. In some cases this made the elector ineligible.
- 4,204 of the destination addresses are to a state outside of Colorado. This probably made the elector ineligible.
- 2,813 of the destination addresses are to a county outside of Boulder County. These moves may have made the elector ineligible to vote in Boulder County.
- 3,183 of the destination addresses are to a city inside of Boulder County that is different than the city where the elector is registered. These moves may have required a different ballot style to permit the elector to be eligible to vote.
- 6,538 of the destination addresses are to the same city in Boulder County. We have recently been provided with ballot style assignment information that will enable us to determine if any ballots from same-city addresses would have required a different ballot style.

There are two types of problems here: (1) an elector can become disqualified from voting in Boulder County races by moving out of Boulder County, (2) an elector can become disqualified from voting in a particular contest by changing their jurisdiction within Boulder County.

If the Post Office had performed its duty, all of the 18,263 ballot packets mailed to these addresses would have been returned as UNDELIVERABLE. They were not. The Clerk reported that about 13,000 ballot packets with a forwarding address were returned as undeliverable rather than the 16,739 forwardable addresses on the Post Office records. Where did the missing 3,000 ballots go? By analyzing the voter-id of the *returned as undeliverable* ballots, we could identify the missing 3,000 and use this knowledge to better understand what happened. The Clerk did not keep a record of returned mail and has tampered with the returned items so that the facts probably cannot be reconstructed.

If the County Election Division had performed as required, any of the ballots cast from any of these 18,263 electors would have been caught as suspicious, and many rejected as ineligible. They were not.

Electors That Voted file

On January 29, almost three months after the election, the Clerk published a CD containing a list of voter-ids. The Clerk asserts that this is the list of electors that had been counted as voting in the November 6, 2001 election. This file shows that one elector was permitted to vote twice.

By retrieving each voter's City and Precinct information from the October 17 Registration file it was possible to determine the registered city and registered precinct of the voter for each vote that was counted.

City from which Ballots were Cast	Number of Active Registrants Oct 17	Number of Ballots Counted	Number of Precincts from which Ballots Cast
Voter not found on 10-17 file		190	?
Allenspark	283	157	1
Berthouod	10	6	1
Boulder	71,754	30,323	124
Broomfield	11,985	5,749	21
Eldorado Springs	147	57	1
Erie	3,092	1,388	4
Golden	630	249	1
Jamestown	349	149	3
Lafayette	13,032	5,248	27
Longmont	42,794	21,786	68
Louisville	11,145	5,879	15
Lyons	1,746	863	3
Nederland	2,205	920	6
Niwot	1,534	735	5
Superior	5,129	2,036	7
Ward	362	162	3
TOTAL	166,197	75,897	290

One hundred ninety ballots came from unidentified voters – voter-id's that are not registered on the October 17th Master file. Five of these are ineligible votes cast for electors that had been deleted from the registration file. Some of these may be CONFIDENTIAL voters. It is necessary to examine the registration records of confidential voters and late registrants to assign these unregistered ballots to a City and Precinct.

One ballot was counted from a person who is registered to vote only in Federal Elections.

On February 11, we obtained information that will enable us to decode the assignment of ballot styles to electors. Once we do, we shall be able to analyze the vote by ballot style versus the official results by ballot style. Available data suggest that many people voted in the wrong contests.

We will be able to understand why more ballots are counted in cities in the table above than there are counted in the Official Election Summary Report for the same city below.

Exploring the differences in where the votes came from

The following table shows that 1,189 votes were counted from electors that had moved, according to Post Office records. These electors may have become ineligible to vote.

By inspecting the address changes on the registration files and the address changes on the post office files we produced the following table.

		Source of Votes by NCOA Forwarding Address							
Registration Change Status Sep 22 to Oct 17	Total Votes by Registration Group	Not on NCOA File	Total on NCOA File	Unknown Destination	Outside USA	Outside Colorado	Outside Boulder County	Outside Originating City	Within Originating City
Registration Not on File	185	185	0						
Added	602	602	0						
Change to Outside City	257	74	183	4		1	1	171	6
Change to Within City	644	226	418	18		6	7	4	383
Unchanged	74,204	73,617	587	111	5	85	41	71	274
Deleted	5	4	1	1					
TOTAL	75,897	74,708	1,189	134	5	92	49	246	663

Votes were counted that are likely to be ineligible:

- 257 votes were counted for electors who had changed cities.
- 644 votes were counted for electors who had moved within a city and may have changed wards.
- 587 votes were counted for electors that had registered an address change with the post office but who had not updated their voter registration. 90 of these votes came for electors that have left Colorado.
- 5 votes were counted for electors who were deleted from the registration file.

Some of these potentially ineligible electors may have requested and been issued a replacement ballot. Some of them may have been issued a replacement ballot during the initial mailing process. When we are provided with the actual file of all ballots issued we will be able to probe this issue.

Official Election Summary Report – November 7, 2001

At the end of the election, the Clerk posted the official election results which were endorsed by the election judges. The Official Election Summary Report indicates that there were 246 eligible precincts and 166,480 Registered Electors. Both of these numbers are incorrect.

- The 246th precinct is 8888 – a number reserved for persons who are exclusively registered to vote in Federal Elections. There was no Federal Contest during the November 6, 2001 election. Did an ineligible elector vote?
- The 75,944 ballots shown as counted in the Official Summary Report include 70,248 from Boulder County, 5,682 from Broomfield County, and 14 from Special District electors. This is 47 more ballots than the 75,897 voters which are recorded on the Electors that Voted file. Where did these 47 ballots go/come from?

The title “Registered Electors” given to the 166,480 electors is misleading. It does not include 43,996 registered electors who are Inactive. It may or may not include the Confidential Voters, but we have been denied knowledge about how many of these voters exist and what their voter-id, city-precinct, residence address, and ballot style data are. We do not need the names of these electors.

Official Election Summary Report - November 7, 2001				
City	Precincts	Ballots Cast	Registered Electors	Percent
SUMMARY	246	75,944	166,480	45.6%
BOULDER CITY COUNCIL	91	21,907	55,031	39.8%
LONGMONT MAYOR	54	17,859	36,026	49.6%
LONGMONT COUNCIL AT LARGE	54	17,859	36,026	49.6%
LONGMONT COUNCIL WARD II	21	6,928	13,267	52.2%
LAFAYETTE CITY COUNCIL	20	4,646	11,849	39.2%
BROOMFIELD MAYOR	21	5,682	11,863	47.9%
BROOMFIELD COUNCIL W1	3	773	1,753	44.1%
BROOMFIELD COUNCIL W2	8	950	2,588	36.7%
BROOMFIELD COUNCIL W3	6	2,181	4,158	52.5%
BROOMFIELD COUNCIL W4	5	1,778	3,364	52.9%
LOUISVILLE WI	5	2,291	4,237	54.1%
LOUISVILLE WII	5	1,937	3,512	55.2%
LOUISVILLE WIII	4	1,613	3,320	48.6%
BOULDER VALLEY DIRECTOR B	179	50,916	117,334	43.4%
BOULDER VALLEY DIRECTOR E	179	50,916	117,334	43.4%

BOULDER VALLEY DIRECTOR F	179	50,916	117,334	43.4%
ST. VRAIN DIST B	75	24,715	48,634	50.8%
ST. VRAIN DIST D	75	24,715	48,634	50.8%
ST. VRAIN DIST F	75	24,715	48,634	50.8%
PARK DIRECTOR AT LARGE	3	219	392	55.9%
THOMPSON DIRECTOR B	2	80	120	66.7%
THOMPSON DIRECTOR E	2	80	120	66.7%
THOMPSON DIRECTOR F	2	80	120	66.7%
AMENDMENT 26	245	75,930	166,480	45.6%
REFERENDUM A	245	75,930	166,480	45.6%
COUNTY ISSUE 1A	229	70,248	154,617	45.4%
COUNTY ISSUE 1B	229	70,248	154,617	45.4%
COUNTY ISSUE 1C	229	70,248	154,617	45.4%
BOULDER QUESTION 2A	91	21,907	55,031	39.8%
LAFAYETTE QUESTION 2A	20	4,646	11,849	39.2%
LAFAYETTE QUESTION 2B	20	4,646	11,849	39.2%
LAFAYETTE QUESTION 2C	20	4,646	11,849	39.2%
BROOMFIELD 2A	21	5,682	11,863	47.9%
BROOMFIELD 2B	21	5,682	11,863	47.9%
BROOMFIELD 2C	21	5,682	11,863	47.9%
BROOMFIELD 2D	21	5,682	11,863	47.9%
LOUISVILLE QUESTION 2A	14	5,841	11,069	52.8%
LOUISVILLE QUESTION 2B	14	5,841	11,069	52.8%
LOUISVILLE QUESTION 2C	14	5,841	11,069	52.8%
SUPERIOR 2A	7	2,047	5,140	39.8%
SUPERIOR 2B	7	2,047	5,140	39.8%
SUPERIOR 2C	7	2,047	5,140	39.8%
ST. VRAIN 3A	75	24,715	48,634	50.8%
THOMPSON 3A	2	80	120	66.7%
BERTHOUD FIRE 4C	5	101	165	61.2%
BOULDER RURAL FIRE 5A	33	4,480	9,021	49.7%
EV REC PARK 4A	2	55	82	67.1%
LEFTHAND 5A	9	638	1,143	55.8%
LEFTHAND 5B	9	638	1,143	55.8%
LEFTHAND 5C	9	638	1,143	55.8%
LYONS FIRE 4A	4	782	1,565	50.0%
NEDERLAND FIRE 5A	5	681	1,705	39.9%

Mail Ballot Statement of Ballots – November 8, 2001

Despite a challenge by poll watchers, the official Statement of Ballots was reviewed and signed by the district officials. Despite a separate challenge by poll watchers, the Statement of Ballots was reviewed and approved by the Secretary of State in an informal hearing held on December 14, 2001.

The number of ballots counted, 75,944, appears on both the Official Election Summary report above and the Mail Ballot Statement of Ballots below.

Mail Ballot Statement of Ballots November 8, 2001	
Ballots Issued	
Initial Mailing	160,644
Supplemental Mailings	5,591
Replacement, Absentee, and Inactive Mailings	1,000
Land Owner Ballots	14
TOTAL Issued	167,249
Ballot Accounting	
Returned by Voter	
Scanned	75,569
Manual Enter	2,795
Total Returned by Voter ➔	78,364
Rejected ➔	577
Ballots Counted ➔	75,944
Returned as Undeliverable	20,409
Not Returned	68,476
TOTAL Accounted	167,249

However, look at the math in the Mail Ballot Statement of Ballots. The Total ballots Returned by Voter, 78,364, minus the ballots Rejected, 577, yields 77,787 Ballots Counted – not 75,944 as shown on the Official Election Summary Report.

Where did these 1,843 ballots go?

Disenfranchisement

In the standard precinct-place election the voter marks his ballot and personally deposits the secret ballot into a locked ballot box. It is secure, and it is safe.

There is no doubt as to whether the ballot made it to the ballot box.

In the case of mail ballot election, voters were disenfranchised. Although an elector may have been eligible to vote, and they made the effort to mark a ballot and to vote it, their ballot was not counted.

The Boulder County Clerk admits to the following ballots that were cast and not counted:

- 120 ballots -- Birth date does not match voter's record
- 24 ballots – No birth date
- 21 ballots – Signature does not match voter's name
- 129 ballots – No signature
- 292 ballots – Ballot stub number does not match return envelope number or stub missing
- 21 ballots – Miscellaneous reasons. Two ballots received in one official envelope; Ballot not returned in official return envelope; Ballot returned after the election; Ballot cancelled – first replacement issued; Ballot cancelled – second replacement issued; Undeliverable by Post Office; Ballot missing (empty envelope); Ballot missing (Longmont Ballot only); Rejected, other; Failed to remove ballot from envelope

In addition we are aware of many specific cases where ballot packets were not delivered to the eligible elector. Masses of student voters were involved.

We know of voted ballots that were rejected because they did not have sufficient postage.

We believe that voted ballots mailed by eligible electors were not delivered to the Election Office. We base this on the fact that voted ballots for Adams County were delivered to Boulder, and that junk mail was included in some of the mail ballot deliveries from the Post Office.

Some ballots were delivered too late to be counted.

The Clerk acknowledged that the equipment used to insert ballots into the ballot pack was defective and it placed the wrong ballot into the electors' packet. Does this explain why 292 electors were disenfranchised?

Early on, voters who forgot to sign their ballot were called by the Clerk to come in and sign their ballot. Not all voters were called. This is unfair.

Are all of these rejected ballots not examples of voter fraud that the Secretary of State claims is not happening? How can the Secretary of State disenfranchise these 607 electors and not pursue charges of fraud? How can the Secretary of State assure the Legislature and the People, over and over again, that there are no problems with mail ballot elections? Are they unaware of these problems? They should be. Are they covering up these problems? They should not be.

Voted ballots that are not counted are a problem for two reasons. First, an eligible elector is disenfranchised. Second, all voters were not treated equally – this is unfair.

These problems would not have happened at a precinct-place election. Mail ballot elections cannot match a high quality precinct-place election. Until it is proven that all problems are fixed, mail ballot elections should be prohibited in Colorado.

Summary

The mail ballot election is a travesty of good governance. It should be outlawed in Colorado until it can be proven that all of the problems associated with mail ballot elections have been solved.

- Voters were disenfranchised
- Ballots were counted for people who were not registered
- Ballots were counted for people who left the state of Colorado
- Ballots were counted for people who are 120 years old.
- Ballots were counted for people who voted twice.
- The election did not provide a secret ballot. It is possible to determine how some of the electors voted.

Until it can be proven that a mail ballot election will be fair, accurate and auditable, mail ballot elections should be prohibited in the State of Colorado. The burden of proof is on those who want mail balloting.

Until it can be proven that voter registration by mail guarantees that the person performing the transaction is the qualified elector, registration by mail should be prohibited in the State of Colorado. The assertion that Colorado may not tighten up its voter registration rules is a false assertion. Federal laws apply only to federal elections. Colorado is fully entitled to establish its own registration requirements for Colorado elections.

The County Clerks and the Secretary of State should be asked to explain their inability to analyze elections and provide quality guidance to the Colorado Legislature. This report should have originated with the Secretary of State.

The County Clerks and the Secretary of State have demonstrated a willingness to sacrifice quality elections and the secret ballot in exchange for quantity of ballots counted. Our first priority must be a fair, accurate, and secret ballot -- without sacrificing quality and without sacrificing the secret ballot. Mail ballot elections cannot do this.

Because records are being withheld by the Boulder County Elections Division, our work is hampered. We are concerned that the Clerk is withholding these files in order to prevent a more comprehensive analysis of the election results. We are concerned that the vendor of the election equipment (Global Election Systems) is withholding files to cover up system flaws. We are concerned that the Clerk is creating and changing files and representing them to the public as official election files.

Public pressure is mounting for election officials to turn over the data, and to perform their official duties. As the public learns of the enormity of the problem there will be a growing cry for fair, accurate, and auditable elections that guarantee a secret ballot.

Voter registration must be made secure. A two tier system of registration procedures is easily designed. Anybody registered to vote in Colorado would be automatically eligible to vote in Federal elections. Some people would be registered to vote only in Federal elections. We already have such a system in place for federal-only electors. We simply need the will to protect Colorado's legally registered voters from having their votes diluted by non-existent and ineligible people.

Governor Owens should immediately appoint an election commission. The composition of the commission should have limited participation by County Clerks, the Secretary of State, and full-time election officials. These people are the proponents of mail ballot elections. We have a classic fox in the henhouse scenario. These officials have demonstrated their unwillingness or inability to design systems that work, to address problems that have been brought to their attention, and to measure their own quality. In spite of hundreds, perhaps thousands of problems brought to their attention, these officials continue to mislead the public. They have failed the people of Colorado. They have not delivered fair, accurate, and auditable elections that guarantee a secret ballot.

The Legislature should never again accept at face value the misleading assurances that there is no reported election fraud. This report proves otherwise.

After all, when a candidate or issue is wrongly defeated, what does it matter if the reason was due to fraud, incompetence, or corruption?