

Archer County News

Voter Fraud Threatens the Republic

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I've been retired from teaching political science since 2016, but one issue absolutely sticks in my craw, voter fraud.

One party loves to repeat that voter fraud is a myth conjured by capitalists to justify the defeat of their candidates at the polls. And the other party has an almost paranoid fear of it. But the evidence of voter fraud is overwhelming.

Former Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota owed his 312-vote victory against incumbent Sen. Norm Coleman in 2008 to 48,000 disputed votes.

In 1994, Republican gubernatorial candidate Ellen Sauerbrey of Maryland was winning by close to 30,000 votes until well after midnight, until the Baltimore graveyards and vacant lots voted and gave the election to her opponent by 5,993 votes.

Few in Texas are old enough to remember "Landslide Lyndon" Johnson's famous first election to the U.S. Senate. That election was secured by stuffed ballot boxes conveniently discovered by his campaign manager.

Journalist Kenneth Timmerman has a book out, "The Election Heist," and he cites more than two dozen examples of voter fraud over the past two years, fraud that in many cases changed election results and led to criminal indictments and convictions. The schemes "ranged from old fashion ballot-box stuffing to absentee and mail-in ballot fraud," as well as noncitizen voting and voter harvesting.

While very serious, these are what I would call run-of-the-mill voter fraud, essentially based on individual initiatives or at most a small group of co-conspirators with no access to sophisticated technology or logistics. Also, almost harmless are the many-thousands of double-votes cast by snowbirds in Florida, and others who have recently moved from one state to another. This issue has

always been with us; it's nothing new. But now there are machines that can mechanically complete a mail-in ballot every second.

Patriots are concerned over mail-in ballots because a national system of mail-in balloting would be an open invitation to fraud, especially in states and counties with "dirty" voter rolls. A January report by Judicial Watch found 378 counties across America that had more registered voters than citizens of voting age. Judicial Watch successfully sued Los Angeles County in 2019, because officials refused to remove 1.5 million people from the voter rolls because they had either moved out of the jurisdiction or were deceased. The court did require them to delete the missing voters from the roll. That's the scale of the fraud the patriots are worried about.

Under the mail-in ballot scheme Democrats want to impose, all registered voters would receive a ballot, whether they are dead or alive or still live in the jurisdiction. The question is, who will actually cast those ballots? Democrat legislators at the state and national level have made it exceptionally difficult for supervisors of elections to clean their voter rolls, citing the canard of "voter suppression."

Mail-in ballots are very different from absentee ballots, which have been in place for many years in the majority of states for military and elderly voters who can't show up at the polls. If anything, absentee ballots bear a greater risk of being rejected if the voter's signature on the outside envelope doesn't match the signature on record with the supervisor of election,

Many are afraid allowing as many main-in ballot as the states are planning will undermine the legitimacy of the election. If the Democrats loss the presidential election in November, they will have their socialist (and sometimes Leninists) in the streets. Self-identified Marxist, U.S. Rep. Ayanna Pressley, D-Mass., has already called for "unrest in the streets" ahead of anticipated voter suppression. And likewise, without a legitimate and trusted election result, if the Republicans lose the election, capitalists and Trump supporters will be in the streets.

Mail-in ballots are a recipe for disaster, regardless of the winner.

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--- NEED A LONGER PIECE? ---

It's not just mail-in ballots. State voter data bases are almost all online. At the DEFCON 2019 hackers convention in Los Vegas, two 11-year olds hacked into a replica of the Florida state voter data base in just 15 minutes. Once inside, it's literally child's play to erase voters from one party, generating chaos on election day when those voters show up to vote.

The old touch screen (DRE) machines. Yes, they still exist in many states. They are a serious vulnerability. It takes less than a minute to inject malicious software into these machines that will flip the results, then erase itself after the election so no one will ever detect it. Known as a SQL injection, it was first demonstrated almost two decades ago in experiments conducted by a national nuclear laboratory and replicated dozens of times since.

Internet-based transmission of election-night counts. While most election districts have erected firewalls to protect this data or claim to have "air-gapped" their systems from the internet, hackers can penetrate these defenses.

There is also a vulnerability is the software in the optical scanners used to "count" paper ballots. People tend to think that paper ballots are secure. They aren't. Machines count them and the machines can be manipulated.

The United States doesn't have a centralized voting system, but roughly 10,000 voting districts, each with their own system. That makes it virtually impossible for a state actor, such as Russia or China, to "hack" a national election. However, it increases the probability that national actors—say, a national candidate, or a party, or a criminal organization—can selectively hack vulnerable election districts in key states and change the vote tallies.

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PHOTO: Alan Nafzger (courtesy of Pecan Street Press, Austin Texas)