

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR GARLIN GILCHRIST IS RUNNING FOR SECRETARY OF STATE TO PROTECT MICHIGANDERS FROM THREATS TO THEIR VOTE AND PRIVACY.

PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Vote Beat Michigan: “If elected, Gilchrist has promised to fight Trump’s executive orders on voting, including protecting Michigan voters’ right to vote by mail.” “If elected, Gilchrist has promised to fight Trump’s executive orders on voting, including protecting Michigan voters’ right to vote by mail.” [Vote Beat Michigan, [8/19/26](#)]

HEADLINE: “Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist pitches Michigan secretary of state run, vows to protect voting rights” [Midland Daily News, [2/19/26](#)]

Gilchrist Pledged To Protect Democracy, The Right To Vote, And Michigan’s Elections. “As your Secretary of State, Garlin will stand tall for our democracy, defend your sacred right to vote, and make government services better, faster, and more convenient.” [Garlin Gilchrist for Michigan, accessed [8/30/26](#)]

PRIVACY

Gilchrist Pledged To Fight Trump’s And Big Tech’s Effort To Obtain Michigan Voter Data. “Stand tall against big tech companies and the Trump administration who want to abuse your personal voter registration information or license-plate data.” [Garlin Gilchrist for Michigan, accessed [8/30/26](#)]

HEADLINE: “Gilchrist lays out SoS campaign priorities: privacy, campaign finance reform, consumer protection” [Gongwer, [8/12/26](#)]

Michigan Advance: “Gilchrist said he would make it a priority to protect the privacy of that personal data “from big tech companies” “Gilchrist said he would make it a priority to protect the privacy of that personal data “from big tech companies that are hungry to mine it and the Trump administration that is thirsty to surveil it.”” [Michigan Advance, [1/19/26](#)]

Click On Detroit: “Gilchrist also highlighted data privacy” “Gilchrist also highlighted data privacy and cybersecurity as central issues in the race.” [Click On Detroit, [1/13/26](#)]

Gilchrist Emphasized Voter Privacy. “It’s part of a larger emphasis that Gilchrist has placed on voter privacy since joining the race in January after dropping his gubernatorial bid.” [Vote Beat Michigan, [4/20/26](#)]

AS A FORMER SOFTWARE ENGINEER, HE UNDERSTANDS HOW COMPANIES ABUSE OUR PERSONAL DATA ...

Gilchrist Was A Software Engineer At Microsoft. “While earning a degree in engineering from the University of Michigan, Gilchrist had been offered to intern with Microsoft three times. Eventually he accepted a position within the tech company for four years. During his time at Microsoft, he was part of the software engineering team that developed the popular Microsoft service SharePoint.” [CBS Detroit, [2/10/21](#)]

Detroit News: Gilchrist Is “A Software Engineer By Trade.” “A software engineer by trade and a former candidate for Detroit clerk, Gilchrist said he wants to modernize licensing and registration, protect voter registration information and license plate data from being mined by big tech companies or surveilled by Republican President Donald Trump's administration and to shine a light on dark money in politics.” [Detroit News, [1/12/26](#)]

... AND WILL STAND UP TO BIG TECH AND THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO STOP THEM FROM GETTING THEIR HANDS ON YOUR PRIVATE INFORMATION

Gilchrist Pledged To Fight Trump's And Big Tech's Effort To Obtain Michigan Voter Data. “Stand tall against big tech companies and the Trump administration who want to abuse your personal voter registration information or license-plate data.” [Garlin Gilchrist for Michigan, accessed [8/30/26](#)]

Gilchrist Pledged To Fight The Trump Executive Order To Establish A Federal List Of Eligible Voters. “As the midterm elections approach, President Donald Trump has moved to change how Americans vote, and Michigan state leaders are crying foul. The president signed an executive order Tuesday to establish a federal list of eligible voters, directing the U.S. Postal Service to only send ballots to the eligible group using a voter-specific barcode. [...] Benson said she will take swift action to fight the order in court. Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, also a Democrat, echoed that, with assurances she will challenge the order, adding the constitution is clear. [...] Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist II said the list the Trump administration plans to use is riddled with errors, adding non-citizen voting is rare. “I would never trust him to do this right, and neither should you,” Gilchrist said in a video message. “Michigan has been ground zero in Trump's efforts to attack their voting systems before, and we will not be intimidated, so here's my message to Donald Trump: ‘Bring it.’” Gilchrist said the order will be fought in court, in the streets, and everywhere in between.” [UpNorthLive, [4/1/26](#)]

Gilchrist Was Part Of The Effort For Michigan Sue To Challenge The Trump Administration's Mail Voting Policy. “The State of Michigan today joined a coalition of 25 states in filing a lawsuit (PDF) against the United States Postal Service (USPS) challenging its new rule that purports to grant USPS the authority to regulate mail voting in federal elections. Tens of millions of voters across the country rely on mail ballots, and the coalition argues that USPS's rule will prevent states—who are granted primary authority over elections under the U.S. Constitution—from effectively administering their mail voting programs, putting voters at risk of being disenfranchised. [...] “Voting rights are the bedrock of our democracy,” said Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II. “The purpose of the federal attack on vote-by-mail is clear: interfere with and intimidate Michiganders who participate in our independent, democratic process. Together, we must fight back and ensure that every Michigander can make their voice heard. We all have a role to play in protecting voting rights and defending the hard-fought freedoms we hold dear.” [Michigan Department of Attorney General, Press Release, [8/26/26](#)]

Gilchrist Criticized The Supreme Court Decision Allowing The Trump Administration To Compile A National Citizenship List. “The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 6-3 to allow President Trump to implement part of his mail-in voting executive order. It gives the Department of Homeland Security the go-ahead to compile a federal citizenship list and share it with states, and allows the U.S. Postal Service to play a greater role in overseeing ballot deliveries. [...] Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist said the decision opens the door to potential voter suppression. ‘What the Supreme Court did was open the door and leave open the door for potential voter suppression and making it more difficult for Michiganders to vote by mail,’ Garlin said.” [WXYZ, [8/25/26](#)]

Forlini Shared Voter Data With The Trump Administration Upon Request. “The Department of Homeland Security is conducting “an active investigation” of potential noncitizen voters in a swingy suburban Detroit county, according to a subpoena obtained by Votebeat. Homeland Security Investigations sent the subpoena to Macomb County in January, days after County Clerk Anthony Forlini said his team had discovered 15 potential noncitizens registered to vote. The subpoena requested “all available information” on noncitizen voters from Macomb County in Michigan’s Qualified Voter File, the state’s official voter roll. The request includes applications to vote, “types of voting conducted,” and “any signed documents.” Forlini told Votebeat on Wednesday that he hadn’t heard the results of any investigations related to what his office shared. When requests come in from other government entities, he said, they are routed through the county’s attorneys. “We always cooperate,” Forlini said, calling the request “pretty standard.” He said that anytime the federal government asks the county for something, “we provide it.”” [Vote Beat Michigan, [6/5/26](#)]

Working With The Federal Government, Forlini Used Macomb County Jury Data To Try To Identify Non-Citizen Voters. “Republican secretary of state candidate and Macomb County Clerk Anthony Forlini said he has used his county’s jury pool to find more potential noncitizens registered to vote — and this time, he said the federal government is helping him to verify people’s citizenship. It’s not the first time Forlini has used the jury pool to try to find potential noncitizen voters. But Forlini told Votebeat on Monday that Macomb County now has “other methods” of checking citizenship “that we didn’t have before.” Forlini is working with federal officials who have access to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements, or SAVE, database, a tool maintained by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to verify a person’s citizenship. He does not have access himself — local officials rarely do — but by collaborating with federal officials, his team is still able to verify information, he said. It was not clear which specific federal department he was working with, though. “I can’t tell you offhand,” Forlini said in a phone interview Monday morning. “I honestly don’t know.” But, he said, the additional support from the federal government has made him more confident than ever that the people he found are registered to vote but are not citizens.” [Michigan Advance, [5/19/26](#)]

Forlini Praised The Supreme Court Decision That Would Allow The Trump Administration To Compile A National Voter Database. “The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 6-3 to allow President Trump to implement part of his mail-in voting executive order. It gives the Department of Homeland Security the go-ahead to compile a federal citizenship list and share it with states, and allows the U.S. Postal Service to play a greater role in overseeing ballot deliveries. [...] Republican candidate Anthony Forlini said the ruling provides a needed check on controversy surrounding mail-in voting. “They really had no basis to go after the Trump administration. It’s just giving one more thing to help track and take away some of the controversy with this mail in voting,” Anthony said.” [WXYZ, [8/25/26](#)]

Forlini Said He Would Work With The Trump Administration To Administer Michigan’s Elections. “Grand Rapids-based WZZM 13, or “13 On Your Side,” interviewed Forlini in early July about his candidacy for Secretary of State. When asked if the state should coordinate with the Trump administration in conducting the midterm elections, Forlini said it should. “I think there’s always a partnership,” he told reporters. But what would that partnership look like? [...] The administration is seeking to obtain state voter rolls, including in Michigan, going so far as to sue states that don’t cooperate. It has lost 21 consecutive lawsuits to that effect. [...] Critics say Forlini’s false claims of

widespread voter fraud, hiring of a January 6 rioter and election denier to help shape ballot counts, and welcoming of federal involvement in Michigan's elections paint a clear picture of how he might behave as Secretary of State." [The Gander, [8/12/26](#)]

The Gander: "Forlini ... Welcomes Federal Involvement In Michigan Elections." "Anthony Forlini is the Republican nominee for Michigan Secretary of State. He has promoted debunked conspiracy theories, hired a January 6 rioter to recruit poll workers, and welcomes federal involvement in Michigan elections." [The Gander, [8/12/26](#)]

... AND AFTER HIRING AN ELECTION DENIER, FORLINI CAN'T BE TRUSTED TO OVERSEE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS.

Forlini Employed Genevieve Peters, "A January 6 Insurrectionist." "However, Forlini has a history of promoting debunked conspiracy theories, refusing to accept the results of the 2020 US presidential election, and inflating numbers of alleged voter fraud in Michigan. The company Forlini keeps has raised alarm bells for his critics. Since 2022, he has employed at least two far-right activists associated with criminal organizations, including a January 6 insurrectionist, to recruit poll workers for Michigan elections. [...] In October 2022, Forlini hired social media influencer Genevieve Peters—a January 6 rioter who urged insurrectionists to "storm the gates" of the Capitol Building—to recruit and train poll workers for future elections. Peters also attended a 2020 Lansing rally alongside the neo-fascist Proud Boys organization. The Proud Boys have a long history of political violence, including at the January 6 insurrection. Peters also livestreamed a "Stop the Steal" rally contesting the results of the 2020 US presidential election outside the home of Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. "We're letting her know that we're not taking this bullshit election," Peters said at the time." [The Gander, [8/12/26](#)]

HEADLINE: "Michigan county hires 'Stop the Steal' ringleader to recruit poll workers" [Politico, [10/12/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "Protestors demand removal of insurrection attendee who works for Macomb County Clerk's Office" [Fox 2 Detroit, [10/20/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "Macomb Co. hiring 'Stop the Steal' activist to recruit and train poll workers prompts protest" [Michigan Advance, [10/21/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "Election Denier And Proud Boy Supporter Is Now An Election Worker In Michigan" [Forbes, [10/13/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "Protesters: Macomb County employee who urged crowd to "storm the capitol" on Jan. 6th should be fired" [Michigan Public, [10/21/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "'Proud Boys' Acolyte Tapped by Michigan County to Train Poll Workers" [Bloomberg, [10/13/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "Anthony Forlini's extremist tendencies could harm future Michigan elections" [The Gander, [8/12/26](#)]

Forlini Defended Hiring Insurrectionist Genevieve Peters. "Macomb County Clerk Anthony Forlini, a Republican, told POLITICO Peters was hired in May to help recruit poll workers. She applied for a position

that was newly created in response to concerns of city clerks about staffing shortages ahead of the November midterm elections that include races for governor, secretary of state and attorney general, he said. Forlini said he is aware Peters attended the Jan. 6 protests. What she may have done "in her personal life" predates her work in his office, he said, noting he did not interview her himself. On her LinkedIn page, Peters lists having served for six years as a contract election supervisor in Los Angeles County, including training election inspectors and supervising polling preparations and training over polling staff. "Genevieve is a part of looking at training procedures since most of her background is teaching and training, so just getting material together that's more easily understood," he said. "The clerks are thankful we're coming up with a better curriculum. We're helping them recruit and train poll workers," said Forlini, estimating he is hitting his target of an equal mix of Democrat and Republican poll workers throughout the county." [Politico, [10/12/22](#)]

Peters Called Insurrectionist Genevieve Peters, Said She Was A Fantastic Employee. "The hiring of Genevieve Peters in an office that helps administer local elections has some Democrats in the battleground county concerned ahead of the Nov. 8 midterm vote. But Macomb County Clerk Anthony Forlini, a Republican, defended Peters, who he said was brought on around May. We had a position for a trainer," Forlini said in an interview. "Several people applied. I wasn't part of the interview process or the hiring process. She came out on top, head and shoulders above anyone else." Forlini said Peters had past election experience, wouldn't be directly working on administering the upcoming election and has been a fantastic employee." [Detroit News, [10/12/22](#)]