Submitted for publication

167 More Votes Than Voters in the Official Ballot Return Data—

Yet the Outcome Was Decided by Only 14 Votes.

News

By Laura Hobbs

The results of the contested District 2 Supervisor race in Shasta County contained many abnormalities. One of which was the fact that the ballot tracking data released (after the race was certified) contained voter information for only 11,546 ballots, 167 shy of the official record that stated 11,713 ballots were cast. This means that 167 ballots have no names associated to them. This could be a result of double scanning ballots or improper accounting of voters.

This discrepancy was brought up in the Hobbs v. Long election contest, however the judge did not allow the county's ballot tracking data into evidence. He instead insisted that the counsel of both parties come to an agreement independently of the judge as to what was to be admitted as evidence. The counsel representing defendant Long and the County of Shasta refused this information to be entered into evidence, despite the fact that the source of this information was the county itself. By law candidates, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), journalists, and scholars can purchase this information throughout the election.

This data is used to gauge voter turnout by party and is provided in near real time to NGOs. Computer system analysts such as Jeff O'Donnell suggest that this data is part of how the algorithms used to cheat in our elections make last minute adjustments in order to achieve the desired results. See, flow chart HERE.

The denial of evidence which could be used to prove a case in a court of law is a re-occurring theme in many election lawsuits, most recently in Tina Peter's sham trial, where exculpatory evidence was not allowed to be heard by the jury. Leading people to question if we have a two-tiered justice system where people are persecuted for their political beliefs, and standing up for fair and transparent elections.

In related news, the State of Georgia announced last week that the Georgia Election Code must be followed uniformly throughout the state. Ballot reconciliation must match at the precincts in the upcoming election. They now require that the number of voters must match the number of ballots, and also match the number of ballots according to the machine. Such a simple safeguard could prevent double-scanned ballots from being counted twice and other shenanigans.

The Georgia Election Commission has asserted that any discrepancy must be resolved before votes can be certified. The ballot counts must match the number of voters who voted in each precinct. As a result of this decision, Nick Corasaniti of the New York Times is now predicting that Democrats will not be able to win

Georgia. In other words, without cheating the will of the people will be heard and the State of Georgia will go to Donald Trump.

Here in Shasta County, the precinct balancing that reconciles the number of voters to ballots cast, occurs weeks after the election, behind closed doors, and observers have no meaningful observation of the process.

In the case of Hobbs v. Long, the judge ruled laws broken by election official Joanna Francescut did not affect the outcome of this election. This is despite the well documented primacy effect on which the said election laws were based, that confer a 3-5 percent advantage to the candidate listed first. Hobbs was supposed to be listed first however she was instead listed third. The case is currently under appeal in the California Third District Court of Appeals.

Shasta County Supervisors and Registrar of Voters, Thomas Toller currently have the ability to use the manual tally plan approved by the Secretary of State in September of 2023 to ensure the accuracy of the machine count. It is yet to be seen if they will utilize the authority granted to them by law and conduct a fair, accurate, and transparent election come November.

Citizens of Shasta County meet Sundays between 3-4:30 at the Redding Public Library in the community room to discuss important issues related to our right to have our vote counted fairly and accurately. We are currently gearing up for the General Election and volunteers are welcome to join.

Laura Hobbs, from California is a political candidate for Shasta County Supervisor, District 2, she is currently contesting her election that was decided by 14 votes. She can be reached at VoteLauraHobbs.com or Dr.LauraHobbs@protonmail.com