



## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fulton County Board of Commissioners  
Fulton County Board of Registration & Elections  
Dick Anderson, County Manager

**FROM:** Nadine Williams, Director, Registration & Elections<sup>uw</sup>  
Patrick Eskridge, Deputy Director, Registration & Elections

**RE:** Public Comment

**DATE:** April 6, 2023

To disseminate misinformation from public comment regarding Fulton County Election processes, the Department of Registration & Elections will provide responses to comments received at Board of Commissioner and Board of Registration & Elections meeting. Following please find responses to public comments received:

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – MARCH 15, 2023

Julie Allen:

"Good morning, I'm Julie Allen. Ten Georgia state senators went against the will of their constituents on SB14, the Buckhead vote. Each of these districts voted overwhelmingly in favor of giving Buckhead the right to vote on the May 24th Republican Georgia statewide primary. The average overall in these ten Senate Districts were 79 percent in each. This was a very clear message to each of these ten senators to authorize Buckhead to vote. Why am I here? I'm a City of Atlanta resident outside of Buckhead. It does not serve me to risk a tax increase bond rating downgrade, et cetera; but Buckhead deserves honorable representation they simply do not get from political operatives as representatives. While I now live in Atlanta, I moved to unincorporated North Fulton in 2005 in what became the City of Johns Creek in 2006. I'll never forget how the North Fulton Citizens represented by the Commissioners and the minority on this Board were abused by the Metro majority. The night and day difference was stunning when residents were given local control and incorporated as the City of Johns Creek. Notably, roads saw major improvements that were previously perpetuated in a state of construction, virtually unusable, damaging to local business, and a complete eye sore with workers never present. In the same way, week after week, I and others have appeared before this Board to speak on issues of importance to all, specifically election management concerns. You knew that and know now that Nadine Williams was a terrible choice for Elections Director. Loads of data, election worker observations, and voter experience were completely ignored when you held a backroom vote in Executive Session after having delayed the vote until a public appeal was made via the Democratic Party for public comment to support Nadine Williams. You played your hand that it's all political manipulation with this Board, and the public knows your games more than ever. Partisan majorities that abused constituents is why unincorporated areas incorporated to protect the --"

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The department conducted customer service surveys during the year of 2022, and received an overall positive rating, where 99% of customers rated their satisfaction with services as very or extremely satisfied. The department also received positive marks from the State Election Board - Performance Review Board and Carter Center. The loads of data, election worker observations, and voter experience reflecting a negative appraisal of the department have no basis according to key performance indicators.

### BOARD OF REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS - MARCH 16, 2023

Lucia Frazier 4:24

good morning everybody um there's a lot of people here for a challenge today that really didn't have to come here um this process was created by legislation to help clean voter rolls and is actually a good process because it gives the County Free Labor by law counties are required to maintain their voter rules obviously this was not happening based on the thousands of voter registrations that have been identified by citizens and substantiated by the board of registration staff obviously there's no person or system that is doing this maintenance obviously the Eric system isn't catching even a small fraction of what citizens have found what's not so obvious is why is there pushback and resentment towards cleaning the voter rolls this is a bipartisan benefit it sure feels and looks like the county is against clean voter rolls when the challenge letters are sent with language that makes the error the citizens fault instead of the county fault or the SOS fault whoever typed in the Regis registration info is at fault whoever didn't decide to utilize ready available tools such as the post office database the driver's license database to check the accuracy of the entry is at fault instead of thanking the citizens who volunteer to identify issues and save taxpayer money the county is needlessly upsetting people and wasting their time with negative language on the letters and telling them they have to take time out of their day to come here for a simple correction when

all you had to do was make the correction because you already have access to more voter data than any citizen does even worse you didn't even put on the letter that they can just cure the issue by going online and typing the correction thank you very much thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** All counties are required to maintain voter rolls daily per work duties outlined on the Secretary of State (SOS) voter registration dashboard, GARVIS (**Georgia Registered Voter Information System**). The figures claimed by this citizen does not mirror nor reflect the data received through the SOS. The ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center) and GARVIS systems are databases not controlled on the county level. Fulton County is actively working to conduct a full review of the voter rolls as well as maintaining the required SOS dashboard. The list of 4000+ voters was submitted as voter challenges, therefore challenged procedures are required to be followed. The department has revised the challenge hearing letter to better communicate remedies to avoid appearance at the proposed hearing. The revised letter will provide clarified instructions for voters to contact the office or visit online resources to update their voter registration record.

Jason Frazier 6:30

Jason Frazier Fulton County resident all right so today I need to address what's really going on I'd love to speak on some other things but clearly there are a lot of people in the room that that uh I believe are misguided uh first thing is I did not intend to challenge anyone here today I located errors in the voter rolls I submitted those errors I asked Fulton County elections can you please fix these errors I was given zero response and then I followed up if you will not fix these errors then yes please consider them a voter challenge unfortunately voter challenges are the only way I can get Fulton County to step up to the plate and clean up the voter rolls there are thousands of errors in the voter rolls tens of thousands of duplicate registrations we both know duplicate registrations lead to double voting as I have shown you in the past yes I showed you duplicate registrations that led to double voting don't give me that look okay I am very frustrated here I am appalled that you mailed all these people challenge letters this is embarrassing these are easy fixes in the system as my wife just described you could have gone in the system you could have looked at these errors and cleaned them up we know these duplicate these bad registrations lead to precincts guard not being mailed to the right place people if it is a long road and you've got Northwest on one side Southwest on the other people are voting in the wrong precincts they're not getting the voter cards they might have absentee ballots lost these cause real problems to real people not to mention whatever I have identified twenty thousand duplicate registrations these cost hundreds of thousands of dollars in wasted tax dollars to our citizens hundreds of thousands every year we have one ballot marking device for every 250 people on the rolls when you're talking numbers this large this is a tremendous amount of wasted tax dollars to our community we got to do something better guys this is this is embarrassing whenever somebody finds a simple address update please listen and fix these do not harass the public and do not harass me thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The department has received multiple emails/files of data from this citizen, in which he has identified as mass challenges. Contrary to the claim, that there was no response from the department, correspondences from this citizen have been responded to. In addition to responses of receipt, the department by mandate of GA code, also provides notification to the citizen that his challenges will be held on said date. Therefore, any list of errors, that were not intended to be challenged, could at that opportunity been rescinded.

Kevin Muldowney 8:53

Milton Georgia thank you our right to vote is uh a right to vote is basic and protection of that right is essential this body is the steward of that right clean vote roles will not only be a tremendous cost savings for the county but it will afford bipartisan voter protection as well thousands of inaccurate voter records inaccurate enough to cause an absentee ballot to never arrive as well as pointing out a simple fix have been brought to the attention of the Registration Department as is evident by uh what Jason just said and uh what was their response nothing and now you choose to file the letter of the law and send out letters naming the Challenger and those affected yes this would have been the correct procedure in a more involved challenge such as where a voter had moved but these were pointed out as clerical errors found through the actual Fulton County data these could have been easily and legally fixed said absentee ballot would have arrived safely in this case the decision was made to weaponize the law and harass assistant a citizen that was trying to help in direct contrast to a case where a large number of non-existent Voters uh addressed to an empty lot were deliberately and illegally left on the voter rolls by the GRE this was after the challenge letter procedure was followed by the way the post office sent all those letters back address and address a unknown we desperately need to clean up our voter rolls harassing a citizen is legal as trying to help as a waste of County resources The Cry of voter suppression is actually born out of a desperate need for voter protection let's actually protect the vote this is a bipartisan obligation thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The data submitted by the challenging parties does not mirror nor reflect the department's data received through the SOS, therefore errors perceived by challengers are not fully substantiated by the department's dashboard on the state voter registration system. The errors referred to by this citizen were submitted and classified as challenges by the submitter, which requires the department to proceed accordingly under the guidelines of the voter challenge election code.

Christine Propst 11:10

good morning Christine Probst Atlanta her ocga 21-2-228a Fulton elections has a legal responsibility to maintain our voter rolls yet month after month volunteer citizens as you've heard come here to provide evidence that this is not happening here are just some a summary of what I've reviewed over the last year thousands if not tens of thousands of Voters who have moved and are registered may have voted or owned property in another state are still able to vote in Georgia 20 000 duplicate registrations with more every month six thousand registrations with an invalid or fake address or business address two thousand registrations with no address 500 plus voters with a missing date of birth hundreds of dead voters who are still active on our rolls and dozens of registrations with missing names how does someone how is someone allowed to register without a name without a date of birth without a valid address you know I'd like to know how this happens and to me and as I mentioned thousands of new errors and duplicates every month so to me this points to some underlying issues the registration review process is clearly broken so validating those registrations is not happening effectively 30 seconds the dashboard is obviously not catching all these errors and the Eric system is not effective Fulton needs to improve the vetting training and performance tracking of Deputy registrars who may be submitting these invalid registrations and in an absolute minimum Fulton should be using a data entry system that validates key fields right it should flag it if there's a field that is empty or it should validate the registration it should validate that information on Entry so you don't have these issues that flow through the system keeping our voting voter rolls clean is a legal requirement this is not a partisan issue this is not meant to penalize valid legal voters there's easy issues that or errors that can be resolved here thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** All counties are required to maintain voter rolls daily per work duties outlined on the SOS voter registration dashboard, GARVIS. The figures claimed by this citizen does not mirror nor reflect the data received through the SOS. The ERIC and GARVIS system are databases not controlled on the county level. Fulton County is actively working to conduct a full review of the voter rolls as well as maintaining the required SOS dashboard.

Julie Allen 13:41

good morning Miss Willard and others on the board I appreciate your listening to the concerns of the community we're truly grateful could you just identify yourself and where you live please my name is Julie Allen and I live on 15th Street in the city of Atlanta thank you thank you Fulton election law ocga 21-2-228a states the board of registrars of each County or municipality shall have the right and shall be charged with a duty of examining from time to time the qualifications of each elector of the county or municipality whose name is entered upon the list of electors and shall not be limited or is stopped by any action previously taken it is the law that Fulton maintained their roles Eric is to help with this but the responsibility Falls squarely on Fulton County elections director Nadine Williams to maintain Fulton County rules and handle all Corrections that arrive on their dashboard or are submitted from the public if the public as many of those who have preceded me have stated if they can find thousands of challenges it is clear that Fulton is not maintaining their roles we must have a registrations process that will check and validate all registrations when added Eric is not doing the job they were supposed to do so Fulton County needs to step up and clean their roles for all of us we do seek to I think we all seek to protect the right to vote of all this is a bipartisan issue that we need to have accurate voting role so everyone's right is protected duplicate registrations waste taxpayer dollars nothing is more bipartisan than saving money and protecting the right to vote clean roles enable everyone that should be on the rolls to vote without issue right sizing the roles reduces stress on the already overworked election staff again I thank you for the privilege of speaking for you and I ask that you hear the concerns of the public that have taken their time time off work to come to protect the right of our democracy here and that's the valued right to vote thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The Department is compliant with our efforts to maintain voter rolls according to SOS requirements. The data presented via challenges, does not accurately reflect the department's dashboard on the state voter registration system. Therefore, the figures given by the citizen in regards to "thousands" of challenges are a result of citizens implementing the SB202 allowance of unlimited number of voter challenges, rather than the department failing to maintain the County's voter rolls.

Lakendra Graham 15:53

good morning I'm lakendra Graham Fulton County residents microphone right in front of your face thank you so we want to hear you can you yeah look Andrew Graham for the County resident I'm here on behalf of myself my rights was challenged um I've been saying that the same address for either since 2011. um the only thing that has changed is the street name it can't change from Confederate to United which made my apartment concentrates change into a treasury Village um whenever Miller comes through either you can say United or you can say Confederate I still receive the mail I just feel like this is a waste of my time and also my kids time my kids are doing homeschool so I feel like it's a waste of my time because I'm here when I have other things to do I have a job I have other like I have other plans besides coming here stay stating my

opinion and my right to vote because somebody wanted to challenge it um I just feel like everybody should put more into trying to figure out and if something like this should happen then someone should put their mind to it or do their job and find out things like that it's just the minor things that could be changed or could be looked into besides wasting money here um and that'll be all thank you very much thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The department has reached out to the City of Atlanta and the County's GIS Department to address the issue raised with this citizen's street name change from Confederate to United. Municipalities are now required to complete street maintenance prior to the upcoming November 2023 Election, therefore this issue will be addressed.

Maria Giadio 17:45

good morning Maria Giadio Fulton County resident it has been recently pointed out to me that Fulton County is larger than the four smallest states in the union combined and if you look at the size of their voters registration boards it would be more than four times your size two so I understand that you have a very large job to do but for the last two years citizens have been helping you to do your job to show you that voter rolls are not being maintained they are not correct tens of thousands of illegal votes have been placed and then you publicly reprimand them and spank them I don't understand why that would be you should welcome the help um I've witnessed the cheating I I witnessed the ballot stuffing of the boxes I witnessed the ballot stuffing of the trucks the Dodge vans I saw that happening and that just goes away that it doesn't matter to you I don't understand that so unless you're going to listen to these people who are bringing you facts and figures and have the documentation to prove their statements I I don't you need to explain to the rest of us why you're not paying attention to them and why it's taken more than two years 30 seconds thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The claim of tens of thousands of illegal votes, or any other claim of ballot stuffing, has not been substantiated by the department, the SOS, or State Election Board. The department continues to follow the guidelines outlined by the SOS related to voter registration list maintenance.

Sarah Ketchum 19:27

good morning Sarah Ketchum a nice Atlanta Georgia do you mind just putting that microphone up to your mouth so we can hear you thank you um I'm here because my residency was challenged I moved out of state and then I moved back in time for to vote I have documentation to prove that I live here um I just I moved out of state and I moved right back um so I'm I don't know if that's where I'm supposed to say this at but I've heard um you know the mission from some previous folks to clean up the voter rolls but I don't appreciate being collateral damage um and my voter um my voter registration being being challenged and the right of my the my right to vote being taken as collateral damage in this mission that is going on to clean up the voter rolls I will say though um in my letter where it is stating that I'm challenged there were no um you know directions about how I can what I need to bring to this meeting I called this morning and no one answered the phone to to help me out with that process so I do um want to state that um for the record but um just I don't appreciate being collateral damage in this Mission um to clean up the voter to clean up the voter rolls but also um if you could provide voters in a challenge with what they need to do to resolve this that will also be helpful as well that's all thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The department has revised the challenge hearing letter to better communicate remedies to avoid appearance at the proposed hearing. The revised letter will provide clarified instructions for voters to contact the office or visit online resources to update their voter registration record.

Laura Dom 21:04

good morning Laura Dom rest I live in Fulton County um I volunteer on a voter protection hotline and it's usually pretty quiet this time of year but in the last week I've taken two calls from people who received these challenge letters and um the the first person who called um it stated in the letter that she was improperly registered at a business address we looked her up in my voter page her address was correct um she it's a residential address I looked her up on the tax rolls and the tax rolls show that it zoned as a as a single family residence um and so I told her to send that in to the uh to the address on the letter and that was taken care of if I could look it up that easily and confirm that in fact she did not was not registered in business address and the person who was filing these challenges could have taken the time to do that as well and keep this person from having to go through something that was an illegitimate challenge the other person who called was a 74 year old woman calling for her 97 year old mother who had been challenged who had always voted at that address um we called the number given on the letter and I want to commend the staff here who made it very easy for her and told her just to find a utility bill and send it in I can't imagine the amount of work that the staff here is having to go through with 5000 plus challenges at a single meeting so I do want to commend the staff and I understand that a lot of these problems stem from legislation that this body has no control over legislation by the state thank you thank you

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The department has revised the challenge hearing letter to better communicate remedies to avoid appearance at the proposed hearing. The revised letter will provide clarified instructions for voters to contact the office or visit online resources to update their voter registration record

Lauren Waits 23:03

*Lauren Waits good morning Lauren Waits Atlanta Georgia I'm here today because I knew that the conversation would be so heated and I want to thank each of the Board of Elections members I want to thank the staff and I want to thank our citizens for participating in the process I'm here to speak up for the process many many many of the issues we're discussing are more appropriately resolved through the Secretary of State's office and the Georgia General Assembly each of us has the right to run for those offices each of us has the right to serve in those offices there are many vacant positions in the Department of Elections I have not decided to take the time to apply for those jobs but I know that I could and unless I were willing to I don't really feel that I'm in a position to believe that I know all the detail uh I'm a I'm a fan of big data I understand with a master's in public health the importance of managing 800000 voter databases and I do know that there will be errors and I know that each of you as well as the staff are working their darndest to resolve those errors so mostly I just want to say thank you I also do want to appreciate some of the colleagues who have gotten up and spoken from an opposite point of view I have served with one very in a very friendly way down at the elections Warehouse on paper ballot process another gentleman has protected me in a 5K race which I was grateful and I hope that we will continue to be able to work together collegially and constructively thank you*

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:** The department continues to follow the guidelines outlined by the SOS related to voter registration list maintenance. We are committed to ensuring all voter registration records are maintained accordingly.

Please contact our office if you have any questions regarding these matters.  
Thank you for your support.