



RACINE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

717 Wisconsin Avenue, Racine, WI 53403-1237

(262) 886-2300 FAX (262) 637-5279

Waterford (262) 534-5166 Burlington (262) 763-9558

Sheriff Christopher Schmaling

Chief Deputy James P. Weidner

***** **MEDIA RELEASE** *****

VOTER INTEGRITY: Sheriff Calls for Criminal Prosecution of WEC

Racine County District Attorney Patricia Hanson stated in a letter to Sheriff Christopher Schmaling that, in her expert legal opinion, multiple members of the Wisconsin Election Commission acted "contrary" to Wisconsin Elections laws. Unfortunately, DA Hanson lacks the jurisdiction to prosecute these crimes. The Sheriff's Office appreciates DA Hanson's thorough review of this case and her legal findings.

DA Hanson stated:

Despite knowing that what they were doing was contrary to law and despite being told by the Governor's Office that they were exceeding their authority, the WEC instructed municipal and county clerks to eliminate the SVD process for elections in 2020. Proof of this comes directly from the recordings of the WEC meetings that can be found on their website and their recorded meetings.

DA Hanson stated:

It is appalling to me that an appointed, unelected group of volunteers, has enough authority to change how some of our most vulnerable citizens access voting. Dispensing with the *mandatory* process created by the legislature of using sworn and trained SVDs to assist citizens in nursing homes, directly led to what occurred at

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Ridgewood Care Center in Racine County. Residents who did not request ballots voted because someone else made a request for a ballot on their behalf and then voted on their behalf. If even one person's right to freely choose to vote or not to vote was diminished, then a travesty of justice has occurred.

The Sheriff's Office is again requesting Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul to perform his Constitutional duties and launch a state-wide investigation into voter integrity issues that impacted the entire state. The Sheriff's Office is aware that there are multiple candidates running to be the next Attorney General, and we ask our friends in the media to ask the candidates if state-wide voter integrity issues deserve the attention of the AG's Office – especially since there is a six-year Statute of Limitations for the most serious crimes committed by the Commissioners.

Lastly, the Sheriff's Office has already reached out to the District Attorney's Offices where the Commissioners reside and will be forwarding a request for criminal prosecutions. These Commissioners include:

Ann Jacobs
Mark Thomsen
Dean Knudson
Margaret Bostelmann
Julie Glancey

Christopher Schmaling
Sheriff, Racine County

By: Lt. Michael J. Luell
Public Information Officer

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