Exhibit D

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

United States District Court District of New Jersey

Democratic National Committee, et al., Plaintiffs,

Civil Action No. 81-3876

γ,

Judge Dickinson R. Debevoise

Republican National Committee, et al., Defendants.

DECLARATION OF CAROLINE HUNTER

- 1. My name is Caroline Hunter. I am Deputy Counsel at the Republican National Committee ("RNC"), 310 First Street, SE, Washington, DC. 20003. I have held this position since February 2002. I had previously served since March 2001 as Associate Counsel. This Declaration is based upon facts within my personal knowledge and ascertained as part of the RNC's ongoing investigation into the issues raised by this legal action.
- 2. As part of my job duties at the RNC, I work with Chief Counsel Jill Holtzman Vogel to educate RNC officials about the Consent Decree entered by this Court in the above-captioned matter. Ms. Vogel and I also are charged with insuring that the RNC complies fully with both the letter and the spirit of the Consent Decree. Ms. Vogel and I discharge these important duties through the following exemplary activities:
- a. we hold regular briefings and educational sessions for all RNC divisions about the Consent Decree, and we held at least one such session per division earlier in 2004, and in March and April 2004 we held a session with Administration, Communications, Political, and the Co-Chair's Office, and also held a smaller, more in-depth session with Communications and Political;

- b. we advise state Republican Party committees about the Consent Decree,
 and we also advise them about the state and federal election laws governing election day
 activities;
- c. we regularly participate in meetings and telephone calls in which the participants discuss voter registration, "get-out-the-vote," poll-watching, and other election day activities, and we provide legal advice, including advice on compliance with the Consent Decree in connection with these activities; and
- d. we collectively have advised the leadership of the RNC, including
 Chairman Ed Gillespie, Deputy Chairman Maria Cino, National Political Director Blaise
 Hazelwood, and others, that under the Consent Decree the RNC cannot initiate, control, direct, or fund a program of "voter challenges" of the sort being contemplated and undertaken by the Ohio
 Republican Party.
- 3. To the best of my knowledge, after due investigation, the RNC is not initiating, controlling, directing, or funding any programs of "voter challenges" as described above, including the effort by the Ohio Republican Party to challenge voter registrations in Ohio as alleged by Intervenors in this matter.
- 4. Among other documents, the RNC has produced to Intervenors a chain of electronic mail communications (or "email") among representatives of the RNC, the Ohio State Republican Party, and the Bush-Cheney '04 Campaign Committee, designated as RNC 000147-RNC 000171. I have read these emails, which are attached as Exhibit 1 hereto.

- 5. The emails discuss a list that cross-correlates the universes of newly-registered voters sharing the following characteristics: (a) their post-registration mailings from the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County, Ohio <u>not</u> mailings by either the RNC or the Ohio Republican Party were returned as "undeliverable"; and (b) their voter registrations were submitted by the organizations Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now ("ACORN") and America Coming Together ("ACT"). In total, there were 502 returned mailings for ACT and 1068 for ACORN in Cuyahoga County alone. Numerous media reports connect ACORN and ACT to voter registration improprieties.
- 6. The emails also note the fact that the Board of Elections of Summit County, Ohio, as of October 5, 2004, had received 200 requests for absentee ballots from persons whose post-registration mailings from the county Board of Elections had been returned as undeliverable. One email author concludes that this is "proof that people with questionable registrations are trying to vote absentee" in at least Summit County, Ohio. Another author notes that "A bad registration card can be an accident or fraud. A bad card AND an Absentee Ballot request is a clear case of fraud." In addition, the emails discuss the desirability of compiling data of this sort in Ohio and in other states, for purposes of ascertaining the questionable and possibly fraudulent voter registration activities of the Democratic Party and its affiliated organizations such as ACORN and ACT. In addition, an email from one representative of the Bush-Cheney '04 Campaign Committee suggests the prospect of initiating "voter challenges" to apparently fraudulent absentee ballots cast by persons whose post-registration mailings from a County Board of Elections have been returned as "undeliverable."

- 7. Although representatives of the RNC were involved in the emails discussing the possibility of the challenges described above, the RNC has <u>not</u> initiated any challenges to absence ballots in Ohio or in any other state.
- 8. Contrary to the Intervenors' claims in this matter, it is the Democratic Party and its allies that are engaging in polling place intimidation in Ohio, not the RNC. For example, the Democratic National Committee has sent letters to Ohio Republican Party poll-watchers threatening them with criminal prosecution under a "strict enforcement of the law." One such letter is attached as Exhibit 2 hereto. The Cuyahoga County prosecutor, Democrat William D. Mason, has also sent a similar threatening letter to Republican poll-watchers, warning of prosecutions "to the fullest extent of the law." This form letter is attached as Exhibit 3 hereto. Even though these letters purport merely to remind poll-watchers that their activities are subject to legal restrictions, letters of this sort plainly are intended to dissuade poll-watchers from performing valuable services intended to deter voter fraud.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated: October 30, 2004

Caroline Hunter

Case 2:81-cv-03876-DRD-SDW Document 21-5 Filed 10/29/2004 Page 6 of 36

1

Participants Chairman Gillespie Maria Cino Mike Duncan Jim Dyke Tim Griffin Jill Holtzman Vogel Caroline Hunter

Blaise Hazelwood - Political

From:

cguith@georgewbush.com

Sent:

Tuesday, October 05, 2004 6:33 PM

To:

Tim Griffin - Research/Communications; Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry

Cc:

Shawn Reinschmledt - Research/Communications; Christopher P. McInerney -

Subject:

Research/Communications

RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

So how best do we proceed?

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Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 6:29 PM

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Cc: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications; Christopher F.

McInerney - Research/Communications Subject: Re: Cuyahoga Returned List

Yes agree Tim Griffin Research Director and Deputy Communications Director Republican National Committee 310 First Street, S.E. Washington, D.C. w: (202) 863-8815 £; (202) 863-8744 tgriffin@rnchq.org

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CC: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications <SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org>; Christopher P, McInerney -Research/Communications < CMcInerney@rnchq.org> Sent: Tue Oct 05 18:26:07 2004 Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:45 PM

To: Tim Griffin - Research/Communications; Coddy Johnson; Blaise

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Cc: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

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Caroline Hunter - Legal

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RNC 000148

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To: Robert Paduchik, 'Mike Magan'; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith

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We need to be doing this in other states as well -

Guith - advise -

Sign up to be a Bush Volunteer: www.georgewbush.com/volunteer BARBERT STREET Coddy Johnson National Field Director,

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We are doing a larger check on this tonight running the Franklin Co return list against the AB requests. We will have to start doing this in our target counties. I am coordinating with Amanda Walker to see how ORP is coming along with uploading AB requests in the system.

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Michael Magan Ohio Republican Party 211 South Fifth Street Columbus, OH 43215 Office: (614)228-2481 ext. 148 (614) 425-6519 Cell: (614)228-1093 Fax:

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Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:16 PM To: Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith; Mike Magan

Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

Importance: High

magan@ohlogop.org

I have just learned that Summit County has recyd 200 AB requests from

RNC 000149

Filed 10/29/2004

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Co: 'CMcInerney@rnchq.org'; Tim Griffin; Sean Cairneross

Subject: Re: Cuyahoga Returned List

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CC: Christopher P. McInerney - Research/Communications <CMcInerney@rnchq.org>; Tim Griffin <Tgriffin@rnchq.org>; Sean

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From:

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Sent: To:

Tuesday, October 05, 2004 6:35 PM cgulth@georgewbush.com; Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry Nelson

Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications; Christopher P. McInerney -

Cc: Research/Communications

Subject:

RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

i guess we have to make sure we have bodies. It seems like it always comes down to bodice.

why dont you ask your peeps in each state at issue if they have the resources to do this. then, I might can put some resources in the states that are lacking.

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Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:16 PM

211

RNC 000153

To: Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith; Mike Magan Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List Importance: High

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Research/Communications
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Research Director and
Deputy Communications Director
Republican National Committee
310 First Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003
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work: 703-647-2733 cell: 202-441-4733

fax: 703-647-2995

email: cjohnson@georgewbush.com

RNC 000156

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CC: Christopher P. McInerney - Research/Communications

RNC 000157

<CMcInerney@rnchq.org>; Tim Griffin <Tgriffin@rnchq.org>; Sean Cairneross <scairneross@rnchq.org> Sent: Tue Oct 05 14:51:50 2004 Subject: Cuyahoga Returned List

Received Cuyahoga county returned mailing/inactive CD from McInerney. I extracted from the total returned list (of kick backs from the county's own mailing), the ACT and ACORN #s .

> NOTE: This is just a partial list, as the BOE was unable to put onto a CD the entire returned mailings to date. It does, however give a great snapshot.

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>> <<Inactive Returned List-ACT.xls>>>> <<Inactive Returned List-ACORN.xls>>

Blaise Hazelwood - Political

From:

cguith@georgewbush.com

Sent:

Tuesday, October 05, 2004 6:26 PM

To:

Tim Griffin - Research/Communications; Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry

Neison

Cc:

Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications; Christopher P. McInerney -

Research/Communications

Subject:

RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

I would think we are less worried about "fingerprints" if we have decent evidence that fraudulent ballots are being cast. I think the intent is to take the list and challenge ABs? At that point, isn't it more important to stop ABs that we have a hi certainty of fraud than avoid the hit?

----Original Message----

From: Tim Griffin

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 6:01 PM

To: Christopher Guith, Coddy Johnson, Blaise Hazelwood; Terry Nelson

Cc: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications; Christopher P.

McInerney - Research/Communications Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

chris mc says this:

Jack Christopher and I have already tasked our IT person with creating a match list between the Bok's return mail list and the AB request list. Jack thought this would be a good idea to have - to reference as part of the larger DenHerder press strategy. We should have the result of this match later tonight.

I can't speak to other states, but if they don't have flagged voter rolls, we run the risk of having GOP fingerprints...

----Original Message-----From: cguith@georgewbush.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:45 PM

RNC 000158

To: Tim Griffin - Research/Communications; Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry Nelson Cc: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List Does Chris M know how it worked in OH? Can he reach out to Jack Christopher to get a sense? ----Original Message-----From: Tim Griffin Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:34 PM To: Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood; Terry Nelson Cc: Christopher Guith; Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List if you want to compare our mailings to the absentee ballot requested, that might work. not sure how labor intensive it would be. ----Original Message----From: Coddy Johnson Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:01 PM To: Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry Nelson; Tim Griffin -Research/Communications Cc: cguith@georgewbush.com Subject: FW: Cuyahoga Returned List We should do this in all these states - flag the rag returns vs. the AB ballots requested, no? ----Original Message----From: Christopher Guith Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 4:59 PM To: Coddy Johnson; Robert Paduchik; 'Mike Magan'; Dave DenHerder; Caroline Hunter - Legal Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List We can do this in NV, FL, PA, and NM because we have a list to run against the AB requests, and should. But to my knowledge, OH is the only state that requires the counties to keep a list of "flagged" registrations from bounce backed mailings. ----Original Message----From: Coddy Johnson Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:31 PM To: Robert Paduchik; 'Mike Magan'; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List We need to be doing this in other states as well -Guith - advise -C

Sign up to be a Bush Volunteer! www.georgewbush.com/volunteer see-weensers Coddy Johnson National Field Director, Bush-Cheney '04 work: 703-647-2733

cell: 202-441-4733 fax: 703-647-2995

email: cjohnson@georgewbush.com

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Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:21 PM

To: 'Mike Magan'; Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith

Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Raturned List

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From: Mike Magan [mailto:Magan@ohiogop.org] Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:19 FM

To: Robert Paduchik; Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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Ohio Republican Party
211 South Fifth Street
Columbus, OH 43215
Office: (614)228-2481 ext. 148
Cell: (614)425-6519
Fax: (614)228-1093
magan@ohiogop.org

From: Robert Faduchik [mailto:bpaduchik@georgewbush.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:16 PM

To: Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith; Mike Magan

Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

Importance: High

I have just learned that Summit County has recvd 200 AB requests from "ID-U voters" (these are people the BOE mails address confirmation forms to and they're returned as undeliverable). If this is true it is proof that people with questionable registrations are trying to vote absentee.

-----Original Message-----

From: Coddy Johnson

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:05 PM

To: 'SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org'; Dave DenHerder; Robert Paduchik;

Christopher Guith; 'Magan@ohiogop.org'; Kevin Madden, 'Mauk@ohiogop.org'

Cc: 'CMcInerney@rnchq.org'; Tim Griffin; Sean Cairneross

Subject: Re: Cuyahoga Returned List

This is goldmine

----Original Message---From: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications
<SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org>
To: Dave DenHerder <ddenherder@georgewbush.com>; Coddy Johnson
<cjohnson@georgewbush.com>; Robert Paduchik <bpaduchik@georgewbush.com>;
Christopher Guith <cguith@georgewbush.com>; Mike Magan (E-mail)

RNC 000160

```
<Magan@ohiogop.org>; Kevin Madden <kmadden@georgewbush.com>;
Mauk@ohiogop.org <Mauk@ohiogop.org>
CC: Christopher P. McInerney - Research/Communications
<CMcInerney@rnchq.org>; Tim Griffin <Tgriffin@rnchq.org>; Sean
Cairncross <scairncross@rnchq.org>
Sent: Tue Oct 05 14:51:50 2004
Subject: Cuyahoga Returned List
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From: Tim Griffin - Research/Communications Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 6:01 PM

To: cguith@georgewbush.com; Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry Nelson

Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications; Christopher P. McInerney -

Research/Communications RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

Subject:

Cc:

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Cc: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

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From: Tim Griffin

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Cc: Christopher Guith; Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

RNC 000161

```
subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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From: Coddy Johnson Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:01 PM

To: Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry Nelson; Tim Griffin -

Research/Communications Cc: cguith@georgewbush.com

----Original Message----

Subject: FW: Cuyahoga Returned List

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----Original Message---From: Christopher Guith
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 4:59 PM
To: Coddy Johnson; Robert Paduchik; 'Mike Magan'; Dave DenHerder;
Caroline Hunter - Legal
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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RNC 000162

----Original Message---From: Mike Magan [mailto:Magan@ohiogop.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:19 PM
To: Robert Paduchik; Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder, Christopher Guith
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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Columbus, OH 43215
Office: (614)228-2481 ext. 148
Cell: (514)425-6519
Fax: (614)228-1093
magan@ohiogop.org

From: Robert Paduchik [mailto:bpaduchik@georgewbush.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:16 PM
To: Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith; Mike Magan Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List
Importance: High

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Cc: 'CMcInerney@rnchq.org'; Tim Griffin; Sean Cairncross
Subject: Re: Cuyahoga Returned List

This is goldmine

From: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

<SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org>
To: Dave DenHerder <ddenherder@georgewbush.com>; Coddy Johnson

<cjohnson@georgewbush.com>; Robert Paduchik <bpaduchik@georgewbush.com>;
Christopher Guith <cguith@georgewbush.com>; Mike Magan (E-mail)

<Magan@ohlogop.org>; Kevin Madden <kmadden@georgewbush.com>;
Mauk@ohlogop.org <Mauk@ohlogop.org>
CC: Christopher P. McInerney - Research/Communications

<CMcInerney@rnchq.org>; Tim Griffin <Tgriffin@rnchq.org>; Sean

Cairncross <soairncross@rnchq.org>
Sent: Tue Oct 05 14:51:50 2004

Subject: Cuyahoga Returned List

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```

Blaise Hazelwood - Political

From:

Tim Griffin - Research/Communications Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:45 PM

Sent: To:

cguith@georgewbush.com; Coddy Johnson; Blaise Hazelwood - Political; Terry Nelson

Cc:

Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

Subject:

RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

sure

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Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 5:45 PM

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Cc: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

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----Original Message----

From: Christopher Guith

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To: Coddy Johnson; Robert Faduchik; 'Mike Magan'; Dave DenHerder;

Caroline Hunter - Legal

RNC 000164

Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List

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Cell: (614)425-6519
Fax: (614)228-1093
magan@ohiogop.org

RNC 000165

```
----Original Message----
From: Robert Paduchik [mailto:bpaduchik@georgewbush.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:16 PM
To: Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith; Mike Magan
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List
Importance: High
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To: Dave DenHerder <ddenherder@georgewbush.com>; Coddy Johnson
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Christopher Guith <cguith@georgewbush.com>; Mike Magan (E-mail)
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Mauk@ohlogop.org <Mauk@ohlogop.org>
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RNC 000167

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Michael Magan Ohio Republican Party 211 South Fifth Street Columbus, OH 43215 Office: (614)228-2481 ext. 148 (614)425-6519 Cell: (614)228~1093 Fax: magan@ohlogop.org

----Original Message-----From: Robert Paduchik (mailto:bpaduchik@georgewbush.com)

RNC 000170

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:16 PM To: Coddy Johnson; Dave DenHerder; Christopher Guith, Mike Magan Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Returned List Importance: High

I have just learned that Summit County has record 200 AB requests from "10-U voters" (these are people the BOE mails address confirmation forms to and they're returned as undeliverable). If this is true it is proof that people with questionable registrations are trying to vote absentee.

----Original Message---From: Coddy Johnson
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:05 PM
To: 'SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org'; Dave DenHerder; Robert Paduchik;
To: 'SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org'; Dave DenHerder; Robert Paduchik;
Christopher Guith; 'Magan@ohiogop.org'; Kevin Madden; 'Mauk@ohiogop.org'
Co: 'CMcInerney@rnchq.org'; Tim Griffin; Sean Cairncross
Subject: Re: Cuyahoga Returned List

This is goldmine

----Original Messags---From: Shawn Reinschmiedt - Research/Communications

<SReinschmiedt@rnchq.org>
To: Dave DenHerder <ddenherder@georgewbush.com>; Coddy Johnson

<cjohnson@georgewbush.com>; Robert Paduchik <bpaduchik@georgewbush.com>;

<hr/>
<cjohnson@georgewbush.com>; Mike Magan (E-mail)
<hr/>

Received Cuyahoga county returned mailing/inactive CD from McInerney. I extracted from the total returned list (of kick backs from the county's own mailing), the ACT and ACORN #s .

> NOTE: This is just a partial list, as the BOE was unable to put onto a CD the entire returned mailings to date. It does, however give a great snapshot.

 $^{>}$ According to the CD, there have been 502 returned registration mailings for ACT, and 1068 for ACCRN.

> > <<Inactive Returned List-ACT.xls>> > <<Inactive Returned List-ACORN.xls>>

RNC 000171

Case 2:81-cv-03876-DRD-SDW Document 21-5 Filed 10/29/2004 Page 32 of 36

2

OCT-30-2004 SAT 01:03 PM

FAX NO.

P. 04/04



DATE: October 27, 2004 TO: Charles Drake

FROM: Democratic National Committee

Your name has been filed to serve as a witness and/or challenger on Election Day, on behalf of the Republican Party.

The Democratic Party recognizes the legal right of witnesses and challengers, under Ohio election law, to perform their lawful duties.

At the same time, we are concerned that the challenge process not be abused as a means of harassing or intimidating voters, or of obstructing the ability of lawfully qualified and registered citizens to vote safely, efficiently and conveniently. Voting is one of the most sacred rights of all American citizens. We do not believe any qualified citizen should be deprived of that right without good cause.

To that end, you should be aware that Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell has instructed all County Boards of Elections that "Challengers may not interfere with the voting process or unnecessarily delay it" and that "if a challenger challenges so many voters that his or her activities slow down the voting process or intimidate voters," the presiding judge must expel that challenger from the polling place. Indeed it is a crime under Ohio law to be in a polling place "so as to hinder, delay or interfere with the conduct of the...election." (ORC §3599.249(A)(5)).

Please be advised that that Democratic Party of the United States and the Ohio Democratic Party will insist on strict enforcement of the law.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Case 2:81-cv-03876-DRD-SDW Document 21-5 Filed 10/29/2004 Page 34 of 36

3

OCT-30-2004 SAT 01:02 PM

FAX NO.

P. 02/04



WILLIAM D. MASON CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Donr Witness/Challenger:

Your name has been provided to the Board of Elections as a challenger to voters for the November 2 election. The constitutional right to vote is probably the most dearly held of our civil rights. And, now, more than ever, this cherished right must be encouraged and protected.

Interference with a voter's exercise of that right or with election officials' conduct of an election can result in criminal penalties. Ohio statutes create a role for challengers in the polling places, but it is the individual challenger's responsibility to be aware of the laws and procedures governing and restricting the activities of challengers at the polling places.

This letter is intended to remind challengers that the election officials and law enforcement officers are required to enforce the Election Laws, including any violations by a challenger. Further, if such violations coour, law enforcement officers will be contacted immediately, and this Office will prosecute the individuals responsible to the fullest extent of the law.

The polling place judges are specially charged by law with the duty to maintain open and unobstructed access to the polling place for voters and to prevent and stop any improper practices or attempts that are likely to obstruct, intimidate, or interfere with any elector voting. The polling place judges have the legal right to eject any challenger from the polling place for any violation of the State Election Laws.

In order to discharge their duties, polling place judges may call upon the sheriff, police officers, or other peace officers to assist them in enforcing the law. The polling place judges may order the arrest of any person violating the State Election Laws. The sheriff, police officers, and other officers of the peace are required to immediately obey and aid in the enforcement of any lawful order made by the precinct election officials in the enforcement of the State Election Laws. R.C. 3501.33

Challengers must obey the laws and the lawful directions of election officials while at a polling place. Challenges of the qualifications of voters at the polling place are limited by law to the following matters: citizenship; state residency during the 30 days immediately preceding the ejection; residency of the county or precinct where the voter seeks to vote; and legal voting age (18). R.C. 3505,20

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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OCT-30-2004 SAT 01:02 PM

FAX NO.

P. 03/04

These are some of the criminal violations set out in the State Election Laws:

- No person shall unduly delay or hinder an elector from attempting to vote or voting. A person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a fifth degree felony. R.C. 3599.26
- No person shall attempt to intimidate an election officer, or prevent an election
 official from performing the official's duties. A person who violates this
 prohibition is guilty of a first degree misdemeanor. R.C. 3599.24
- No election official, witness, or challenger, while performing that person's duties related to the easting of votes, shall do either of the following:
 - (1) Wear any badge, sign, or other insignia or thing indicating that person's preference for any candidate or for any question submitted at an election;
 - (2) Influence or attempt to influence any voter to cast the voter's ballot for or against any candidate or issue submitted at an election.

Any person who violates either of those prohibitions is guilty of a first degree misdemeanor. R.C. 3599.38

- No person shall loiter in or about a polling place during the easting or counting of ballots so as to hinder, delay, or interfere with the conduct of the election. A person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. R.C. 3599.24
- A person who is convicted for violating the State Election Laws a second time shall be disqualified from the right of voting, in addition to the applicable criminal penalty for the second conviction. R.C. 3599.39

The penalties for a fifth degree felony can include imprisonment for six to twelve months, and a fine of up to \$2500.00. The penalties for a first degree misdemeanor can include imprisonment for up to 180 days and a fine of up to \$1000.00. The penalties for a minor misdemeanor can include a fine of up to \$150.00. R.C. 2929.14, ~18, ~24, ~28

Challengers fulfill a legitimate and valuable role in our election process, and their public service should not be marred by the misponduot of a few. Elections in the Unites States of America are a solemn expression of democracy and a beacon of freedom for the world. Together, we must all work together to ensure a fair election and a positive democratic experience for all of our citizens.

Sincerely,

William D. Mason Prosecuting Attorney

William O. Mason