FACTS BURST THE BUBBLE: TENNESSEE DEFINITELY HAS ELECTION INTEGRITY ISSUES

Some say Tennessee has no problems with election integrity. These three examples document otherwise.

1. **October 26, 2021 Franklin Alderman Election**
For such a small election (7,400 votes), the October 26, 2021 municipal election in Franklin, Tennessee had a huge number of breathtaking problems that are being investigated by citizens.

- **Machines running unknown software**: After-the-fact learned 19 of 20 election tabulators (in early, absentee, election-day voting) were running different software than version demonstrated to candidates during machine inspection September 28, 2021. In our judgement, this rendered the inspection meaningless. To date, no explanation has been offered as to how, why, or by whom this occurred, despite repeated questions to Williamson County and state election officials. Some details:
    o The underline equipment showed one software; Would not open machines; Connectivity? No answer given.
    o WCEC scanner tapes affirm there was a mixture of two software in an integrated system.
    o WCEC certified election on 11/9 despite knowing we had a critical question in writing urging delay.

- **Election machines stopped counting votes during election day**: In three Franklin vote centers, both scanner/tabulator machines produced end-of-day tape reconciliation reports that seriously undercounted the number of ballots actually cast. To date, no explanation has been offered as to how or why this occurred, despite repeated questions to Williamson County and state election officials. Some details:
    o Election artifacts moved 11/9 from WCEC to Nashville by TN Election Coord to provide cover WCEC.
    o WCEC lawyer placed a gag order on WCEC election officials in talking with us.
    o Despite open records requests, Election Coord ignoring our questions about this situation.
    o Nothing has been said or done; < 3 months before new election in Williamson County.

- **Poor quality of election officer reconciliation reports**: Our group uncovered multiple, blatant, serious errors and discrepancies in election officer reconciliation reports that were signed off on by WCEC election officials, with no explanation documenting the mistakes. These are official election documents that back up electronics and should be easily readable, understandable and mathematically and factually correct. To date, no explanation has been offered as to how or why this occurred, nor has any remediation strategy been discussed for future elections. Some details:
    o Most machine certification reports, BMD/Spoiled ballots forms report inaccurate numbers.
    o No report re: applications to vote & no report of this discrepancy despite TCA 2-7-114(c)(2).
    o Totals don't agree; some forms unsigned, unexplainable; addition errors, bad math.
    o Yet all approved by Williamson County election officials as acceptable.

- **Incomplete open records request responses**: Our group has engaged both the Williamson County Election Commission (WCEC) and the Tennessee Secretary of State offices for answers to a litany of questions raised by the issues noted above, as well as several other significant mechanical and chain-of-custody concerns. This has resulted in incomplete responses requiring considerable follow-up. In many cases, we are still awaiting answers that appear not to be forthcoming. Some details:
    o Not given chain of custody documents to unsealed scanner ballot bins identified at start of audit.
    o Inspection also confirmed the Results, Tally & Reporting system is, indeed, a huge concern. Per Dominion manual and WCEC employ confirmation, system allows for mass changing of votes by hand downstream from precinct. Also plus has internet connectivity. Have informed WCEC, TN State Election Commission, Hargett and Goins multiple times. No commitment whatsoever to address.
    o No answer about TCA 2-8-108 retention of paper and electronic artifacts; asked multiple times.
    o Ignoring questions that should concern election officials; no curiosity from them or legislators.

- **Lack of transparency**: Our group has engaged WCEC since election night. Since November 9, 2021, the investigation triggered by these problems has been delegated to a nebulous state "task force" for which neither the WCEC nor Secretary of State will provide information. No answers given about this task force, its participants, their selection, their mission, process, reports, findings, etc. Some details:
  - Both WCEC and SoS have ignored number of documents and questions about problems.
  - Requested: Poll worker glitch assessment documents; Dominion written report about the problems.
  - If we can't get answers from these highest state/county officials, where can we turn?

2. **The May 2018 Williamson County primary election**

This county primary contained a result that, honestly, seems just too hard to believe. And, naturally, makes one suspicious. To our knowledge, no one has explained this result: Three Republican candidates vying for the District 7 county commissioner position all secured identical vote tallies for both election day and early voting.

Williamson County Republican Primary Election May 1, 2018						
Name	**Total Votes**	**%**	**Election Day**	**Early Voting**	**Absentee**	**Provisional**
Jennifer Luteran	630	25.33	312	312	6	0
Christopher Richards	366	14.72	182	182	2	0
Tom Tunnicliffe	633	25.45	315	315	3	0

Now, what are the odds of that happening?   This should underscore our recommendation to lessen the technology involved in elections with a more secure voting model and hand-marked paper ballots.

3. **Previous elections findings**

Our group, **Tennessee Voters for Election Integrity,** has researched and documented a number of issues we first found in Williamson County, but now believe are also present in other Tennessee counties. A few include:

- 70% of TN counties can't audit because they vote on DREs, with no paper ballot. No voter-verified ballots.
- BMDs encrypt the ballot so even counties with BMDs don't have voter-verified ballots.
- Studies (see whitepapers) prove BMDs can be hacked & don't lessen voter time in the precinct.
- Vendors control entire voting process in some counties – printing, sourcecode, encrypting, scanning, tally.
- Technology needs to be scaled back; go to hand-marked, high-security paper ballots with ballot ID #s.
- Voter rolls driven by tech & can be hacked; need to be cleaned, locked & offline during all voting.
- Voting centers are an open door for fraud, loss of ballot control; return to precinct voting.
- A mandatory audit is vital to verifying winners; few, if any, counties do that now. Williamson just did.

Check our website: www.tennesseeelectionintegrity.com for whitepapers/videos that back up our findings, as well our reasoning for a safer, more secure voting model that will return citizen confidence in Tennessee's elections.

Conclusion

The scarcity of information from election officials regarding these election issues further raises concerns that public officials have not taken these matters involving equipment, processes and people seriously, or are purposefully obscuring known problems in hopes the public will move on from this issue. Despite being informed in multiple presentations. This sense of concern is growing exponentially as we approach county primary elections beginning in two months.

We believe it imperative that appropriate remediation strategies be developed, explained and implemented with citizen involvement immediately in a transparent manner to return citizen trust in our elections.

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