



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

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Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

April 14, 2026

Via Electronic Mail

The Honorable Cathy M. Garrett  
Wayne County Clerk  
Elections Division  
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 502  
Detroit, MI 48226  
wcelections@waynecountymi.gov

Re: Demand for Wayne County 2024 Federal Election Ballots and Records

Dear Ms. Garrett:

We write to you as the chief election official for Wayne County, Michigan concerning election records in your possession from the November 2024 federal election. Pursuant to the Civil Rights Act of 1960 (“CRA”), codified at 52 U.S.C. § 20701, *et seq.*, we are requesting that you produce the following election-related records from that election: all ballots (including absentee and provisional), ballot receipts, and ballot envelopes.

By enacting the CRA, Congress empowered the Attorney General, or his representative, to request all records related to voter registration and other acts requisite to voting for any federal office. Such records must be preserved for twenty-two months after any federal general, special, or primary election. *See* 52 U.S.C. §§ 20701, 20703. These records include, “among other things, voting registration records, poll lists, applications for absentee ballots, ballot envelopes, tally sheets, computer programs used to tabulate votes, as well as the ballots themselves[.]” *McIntyre v. Morgan*, 624 F. Supp. 658, 664 (S.D. Ind. 1985).

The Department of Justice, including the Civil Rights Division, is authorized to investigate and prosecute individuals who may have registered to vote or voted in violation of 52 U.S.C. §§ 10307 and 20511, as well as 18 U.S.C. §§ 611 and 1015. In recent years there have been a number of recorded allegations and convictions in Wayne County of election fraud including, but not limited to, the following:

- Nancy Juanita Williams, Case No. 22-000117-01-FH (forging signature on absentee ballot and receiving payment to influence vote);
- Carless Clark, Case No. 2021-2106120901-FY (impersonating another to vote in an election);
- John Paul Parana, Case No. 20AG304520 (impersonating another to vote in an election).

In addition, in 2020, Wayne County and the City of Detroit were sued based on allegations of election-related fraud including, but not limited to, the following:


- “Defendants systematically processed and counted ballots from voters whose name failed to appear in either the Qualified Voter File (QVF) or in the supplemental sheets.”
- “Defendants instructed election workers to not verify signatures on absentee ballots, to backdate absentee ballots, and to process such ballots regardless of their validity.”
- “After election officials announced the last absentee ballots had been received, another batch of unsecured and unsealed ballots, without envelopes, arrived in trays at the TCF Center. There were tens of thousands of these absentee ballots, and apparently every ballot was counted and attributed only to Democratic candidates.”
- “Defendants instructed election workers to process ballots that appeared after the election deadline and to falsely report that those ballots had been received prior to November 3, 2020 deadline.”
- “Defendants systematically used false information to process ballots, such as using incorrect or false birthdays.”

Complaint, *Constantino v. Detroit, et al.*, Case No. 20-014780-AW, Doc. 1 (Nov. 8, 2020).

Based on this history of fraud convictions and other allegations concerning the election procedures in Wayne County and, for the purpose of ensuring that the foregoing federal election laws were not violated in the November 2024 federal election, we are requesting that you produce the following election-related records from that election: all ballots (including absentee and provisional), ballot receipts, and ballot envelopes.

Please produce these records within fourteen (14) days from the receipt of this letter. Please direct any questions to Eric Neff, Acting Chief of the Voting Section, at [Eric.Neff@usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Neff@usdoj.gov). Failure to timely produce the requested records may result in the United States seeking a court order for production of such records. 52 U.S.C. § 20705.

Regards,



Harmeet K. Dhillon  
Assistant Attorney General