

THE TORCH

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

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The People's Audit: Cleaning Texas' Voter Rolls

By Jennifer Blount, *Tarrant County GOP Precinct Chair*



With only weeks to go, the November 5, 2024 General Election is nearly upon us. Little time remains to make substantive, or even subtle, improvements to our voter rolls in Texas. This certainly is not a call for despair, but it is a wake-up call. Accurate voter rolls, where only eligible U.S. citizens are listed, are critical to maintaining our Republic. Well-intentioned elections officials have been overwhelmed with new voter applications since the Biden-Harris administration opened the border. Naturally, they are behind in vetting these potential voters for eligibility to vote in Texas.

In November 2023, a group of 12 concerned citizens, myself included, had become fed up with the lack of substantive progress being made in Texas to clean up the state's voter rolls. After extensive research and consulting with Florida-based software developer, Kris Jurski, we pooled our resources and purchased a license for the use of *The People's Audit (TPA)* software in Texas.

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Bringing TPA to Texas

TPA was first launched in Florida by Mr. Jurski, an entrepreneur with decades of experience troubleshooting security, financial and operational issues, and building systems to fix them. Since then, the number of states with grassroots organizations using TPA has increased to include Texas, Georgia, and North Carolina as well.

The concept is simple: encourage every Texas citizen-resident-voter to scan a QR code and verify that the people registered to vote using their home address are legally allowed to do so. It takes less than 15 seconds to see your results. All you need is your last name, birthdate and zip code. TPA can also show historical data from prior elections, so every voter can verify data going back several years. If you discover a problem, there is an interactive form available where you can register your concern.

By December 2023, our TPA platform for Texas was up and ready to be deployed. But we weren't quite ready to put the program to use. You see, TPA is a very powerful database sorter, but it is not a database. The data you need to feed into the program must come from wherever it's being collected and stored, and the data you feed into the program must be updated regularly so that you are getting valid results.

The Struggle to Access Texas Voter Rolls

Here in Texas, the government official responsible for voter registration is the Secretary of State. The first time we reached out to the secretary's office, we were able to receive a copy of the voter rolls fairly easily. We linked the data with TPA, and our grassroots campaign to clean up the voter rolls was off and running. But after that, we started running into trouble.

Texas Government Code Chapter 552 states that citizens have a right to access government records, and that the government or government agent cannot ask why you want the information you are looking for. According

to the Secretary of State's own website, "All government information is presumed to be available to the public," and "[governmental] bodies shall promptly release requested information that is not confidential by law[.]"

While it is true that our monthly Public Information Request (PIR) for the most recent version of the voter rolls typically is approved, what is also true is that our requests are increasingly delayed. But even more concerning, long gone are the days when our request was granted without great expense. The Secretary of State's office claims that the out-of-state data management firm it contracts with to maintain the Texas voter database charges them \$1500-1800 to run our report, and so they pass on that fee to us... every month. We received some help from Citizens Defending Freedom (CDF) when they offered a donation and provided volunteer administrators all over Texas. Their assistance enabled us to purchase one month of voter rolls. The rest of the time, we rely on the generous donation of individuals passionate about preserving election integrity in Texas.

How Does TPA Work?

The People's Audit (TPA) produces a multitude of reports for most Texas counties by comparing month-to-month voter rolls for changes. Reports such as "Undeliverable as Addressed" (a U.S. Postal Service designation), "Same Address," "Duplicate Voter ID," and so on are being used by volunteer TPA administrators to challenge suspicious addresses.

When an address is challenged, the state puts the voter into suspense. Each voter put into suspense then receives a letter notifying them of their status change and outline the corrective action. While a suspended voter is allowed to vote, he or she is required to complete a Statement of Residence in order to remain on the voter rolls. Unresponsive voters, who do not vote, or who do not respond to the notification, are eventually canceled from the voter rolls, though this could take up to four years.



The age-related “Over 100” report helps volunteers re-search public data to identify centenarians still registered to vote, which can be cross-checked against death certificates and local obituaries. Even at this stage in the election cycle, it is worth the time and effort to track down these records, because deceased voters and duplicate voters (same name, birthdate, address and voter ID) can be challenged up until Election Day.

It is Never Too Late to Clean-up Our Voter Rolls

Across Texas, TPA volunteers have challenged tens of thousands of records and are helping their local Elections Administrators to keep the rolls clean. Where I live in Tarrant County, TPA administrators have challenged 16,674 records, resulting in 9,725 suspensions and 5 cancellations. Other Texas counties have done the same, and our grassroots efforts will be ongoing well past the November 2024 election.



Every Texas resident has the right and obligation to help make our elections secure, verifiable, transparent and honest. Voter apathy will kill our Republic, and that’s something our enemies deeply desire. Exercise your right and duty to vote and take your friends and family with you! God Bless Texas! God Bless America!

Jennifer (Jenny) Blount became deeply involved in election integrity efforts in 2021. Today, she serves as the Tarrant County GOP Precinct Chair and as the Election Division Lead for Tarrant County Citizens Defending Freedom. She holds a Bachelors in Advertising, which prepared her for none of this. She lives in Fort Worth with her husband. They have two grown daughters, who also live in Texas.



To learn more about the work *The People’s Audit* is doing in Texas and beyond, visit them online at www.the-peoples-audit.org or use this secure QR code.

Check Your Address Today!

Do your part to help clean-up the voter rolls here in Texas, and join the historic effort to preserve our Republic and our American values for the next generation.

The process is very simple and only takes about 15 seconds to complete. You don’t even need your state-issued voter registration card to receive valid search results.

You will be able to view your current voter registration data, such as address, county, voter status and voting history. You will also be able to see who else is registered to vote at the same address.

How to Check Your Address

Step 1: Use the secure QR code below to access The People’s Audit in Texas online form, or visit <https://tx.the-peoples-audit.org>.

Step 2: Enter your last name, date of birth, and zip code.

Step 3: Submit your answers and view your TPA-generated voter report.



How to Report Errors or Irregularities

If your TPA-generated voter report reveals voting irregularities or inaccuracies, submit the Contact Us form at the bottom of your report page for assistance from a TPA volunteer.

Governor Abbott Announces Over 1 Million Ineligible Voters - Governor Greg Abbot announced in August that since signing Senate Bill 1 into law in 2021, Texas has removed over one million people from the state’s voter rolls, including people who moved out-of-state, are deceased, or are non-citizens. Of the over 6,500 potential non-citizens removed from the voter rolls, approximately 1,930 have a voter history. To better crack down on illegal voting, Gov. Abbott signed House Bill 1243 into law last year, increasing the penalty for illegal voting, including voting by non-citizens, to a second-degree felony. “Election integrity is essential to our democracy,” said Gov. Abbott. “The Secretary of State and county voter registrars have an ongoing legal requirement to review the voter rolls, remove ineligible voters, and refer any potential illegal voting to the Attorney General’s Office and local authorities for investigation and prosecution. Illegal voting in Texas will never be tolerated.”

SOURCE: The Office of the Texas Governor Press Release, August 26, 2024.

Attorney General Launches Illegal Voting Tipline - Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton issued a legal advisory on election integrity and launched an email tipline where the public may report suspected violations of Texas election law. In preparation for the 2024 elections, Attorney General Paxton issued guidance clarifying and emphasizing several key aspects of State election law. The guidance notes, “Significant growth of the non-citizen population in Texas and a pattern of partisan efforts to illegally weaponize voter registration and the voting process to manipulate electoral outcomes have created urgent risks to local, state, and federal elections.” This advisory is part of AG Paxton’s Election Integrity Initiative which leverages OAG law enforcement authority and resources to protect the integrity of every legal vote. “There is nothing more important than the integrity of our elections. This means protecting every legal vote from unlawful attempts to alter the outcome of our elections. Any attempt to illegally cancel out legal ballots with fraud, vote harvesting, or other methods will be met with the full force of the law,” said Attorney General Paxton. The public may report suspected violations of the Texas Election Code by email at illegalvoting@oag.texas.gov

SOURCE: The Attorney General of Texas Press Release, August 28, 2024.

Heritage Election Integrity Scorecard Ranks Texas 12th in Nation - In order to help voters, state legislators, election officials, and all Americans who want a fair and secure election process, The Heritage Foundation has published its *Election Integrity Scorecard* comparing the election laws and regulations of each state to the Foundation’s best-practices recommendations. In its report, Texas scored 75/100 overall, ranking 12th in the Nation. However, even the best laws are not worth much if repsonsible officials do not enforce them rigorously. It is up to the citizens of each state to make sure that their elected and appointed public officials do just that. To read the detailed breakdown of Texas’ score, visit www.heritage.org/electionscorecard/index.html

Correction - There was an attribution error in the August 2024 Quote of the Month. While the quote does appear in Mr. Skousen’s book, *The Five Thousand Year Leap*, Mr. Skousen himself is quoting Proverbs 29:2 from the King James Bible.

GREAT AMERICAN QUOTE

“To give the victory to the right, not bloody bullets, but peaceful ballots only, are necessary.”

- Abraham Lincoln

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“I believe now, as I always have, that America’s strength is in ‘We the People.’”

- Ronald Reagan

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