



Yuma County Sheriff's Office

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Yuma County Voting Fraud

Location of Incident: Yuma County, AZ

The Yuma County Sheriff's Office (YCSO) and the Yuma County Recorder's Office (YCRO) are working together to actively examine cases of voting fraud from the 2020 General Election and now a recent pattern of fraudulent voter registration forms leading up to the 2022 Primary Election.

As of March 2022, YCSO has 16 voting/registration open cases. All relevant evidence is being formally documented by the Yuma County Recorder's Office and further investigated by the Yuma County Sheriff's Office.

Some examples of voter fraud Yuma County is currently seeing are the following:

- **Impersonation fraud:** Voting in the name of other legitimate voters and voters who have died or moved away.
- **False registrations:** Falsifying voter registrations by either using a real or fake name, birth date, or address. This is being done by outreach groups who are paid for each registration form they submit, therefore, are out soliciting voters into unnecessarily re-registering or falsifying forms with Yuma County resident's identities.
- **Duplicate voting:** Submitting multiple votes or registering in multiple locations and voting in the same election in more than one jurisdiction or state.
- **Fraudulent use of absentee ballots:** Requesting absentee ballots and voting without the knowledge of the actual voter; or obtaining the absentee ballot from a voter and either filling it in directly and forging the voter's signature or illegally telling the voter who to vote for.

If you suspect or witness individuals committing any of the mentioned voting frauds, share their name or any other identifying information to law enforcement immediately.

The majority of voter fraud cases in Yuma County are related to duplicate voting (typically charged as illegal voting and false voter registration). Under Arizona law, illegal voting is a class 5 or class 6 felony. A person found guilty faces up to 2 or 2.5 years in prison, fines, restitution, loss of voting rights, and/or probation.

YCSO and YCRO advise all Yuma County residents to go directly to the Yuma County Recorder's Office or Arizona Secretary of State's Office to register to vote, check their voter registration status and/or update their voter registration in advance of the voter registration deadline of Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

Do not fill out voter registration forms in the community unless it is a County employee as these are being mined for personal information and often take over a month to be submitted to the County Recorder's Office for processing.

If Yuma County voters find any incorrect information in their current voter registration record, please notify the County Recorder's Office immediately at (928) 373-6034 or voterservices@yumacountyaz.gov.

Anyone with information regarding voter fraudulent schemes or believe they have been a victim of a fraudulent vote, please contact the Yuma County Sheriff's Office at 928-783-4427 or 78-CRIME to remain anonymous. You can also visit our website at www.yumacountysheriff.org to submit an anonymous tip.

Information Released By: Tania Pavlak, Public Affairs Specialist