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ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin

FEDERAL

How Liberal professors Are Blackballing Studies Confirming Trump's Claim of Vote Fraud

More than 90 political scientists have signed an open letter calling for the blacklisting of studies done by Virginia professors who estimated that thousands, and perhaps millions, of non-citizens register and vote illegally in U.S. elections. Political science professor Jesse Richman of Old Dominion University in Norfolk is one of three academics who have produced research on non-citizen voting. The research has irked liberal professors who contend that their surveys show that “zero” of some 20 million non-citizens vote in the U.S. Conservative activists are driving the anti-fraud vote movement, without much help from establishment Republicans.

Mr. Richman and his associates relied heavily on the Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES), spearheaded by Harvard professor Stephen Ansolabehere, other scholars and the polling firm You.Gov. The biennial study on voters and their views is produced by a consortium of 28 universities. Its lengthy questionnaire asks about voters' citizenship status, and a significant number of respondents anonymously acknowledged they were not citizens when they voted. The most frequent journalistic synopsis of Mr. Richman's studies is that 38,000 to as many as 2.8 million noncitizens voted in the 2008 presidential election.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/mar/29/noncitizens-voting-research-irks-liberal-professor/>

Conservative Attorneys Urge Sessions to Clean Up Obama's 'Partisan' Civil Rights Division

A letter to Attorney General Jeff Sessions, which was signed by 25 attorneys, journalists, and Kansas' sitting secretary of state, offers guidance on how to evaluate candidates for assistant attorney general for the Civil Rights Division. The Public Interest Legal Foundation, an Indiana-based group that litigates to protect election integrity, released the letter. "During the Obama administration, the Division served purely ideological ends with rigidity unmatched in other federal offices," the letter reads. "Entrenched federal bureaucrats jettisoned precepts like equal enforcement in favor of political and racialized dogmas with a zeal that risks litigation failure and invites court sanctions.

Worst of all, the Division has placed itself in the passenger seat while political allies bring faulty actions against the states working to protect their votes."

<http://freebeacon.com/issues/conservative-attorneys-urge-sessions-clean-obamas-partisan-civil-rights-division/>

McConnell: Gorsuch Will Be Confirmed this Week

"Unanimously well-qualified by the American Bar Association – my counterpart, Sen. Schumer, once called that the gold standard," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said of Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch. "I think it is noteworthy that no Supreme Court justice has ever, in the history of our country, been stopped by a partisan filibuster — ever." He added, "We're going to confirm Judge Gorsuch this week."

<http://www.breitbart.com/video/2017/04/02/mcconnell-going-confirm-judge-gorsuch-week/>

Why Republicans Can't Find the Big Voter Fraud Conspiracy

Hans von Spakovsky, now head of the Election Law Reform initiative at the Heritage Foundation and an American Civil Rights Union Policy Board member, is a cheerleader for more restrictive voting laws. In February, he published a piece titled "Why Trump's Probe of Voter Fraud is Long Overdue."

Asked whether he would be involved in the new administration, he said, "I have no idea. Nobody's called me about it." But he has plenty of ideas to offer. "Voter fraud, to be able to detect it, you have to work at it," he says. He thinks prosecutors should contact the chief voting registrar in their districts and ask for lists of people who are not citizens, or are registered in more than one state. And since voter registration lists are used to create jury pools, they should investigate everyone called for federal jury duty who is excused for being a noncitizen. "That's just a very basic, easy step," he says.

<http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/04/why-republicans-cant-find-the-big-voter-fraud-conspiracy-214972>

STATES

New Hampshire Investigating Possible Voter Fraud by Hundreds

New Hampshire is investigating possible voter fraud involving 458 people who cast ballots in November's election. A local station reported the numbers after New Hampshire's secretary of state provided them, noting that if in fact 458 people did vote illegally, it could have had an effect on the outcome of close local races. Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte lost her re-election bid to Democrat Gov. Maggie Hassan by around 1,000 votes.

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<http://www.newsmax.com/TheWire/new-hampshire-investigating-voter-fraud/2017/03/28/id/781254/>

Vermont Lawyer Asks Court to Cancel Election over Alleged Vote Fraud

A well-known attorney in Vermont has asked a court to cancel the town of Victory's April 5 run-off election, claiming the voter checklist contains unqualified voters and non-residents, 11 of whom allegedly cast absentee ballots on Town Meeting Day.

<http://watchdog.org/292023/victory-voter-fraud/>

Nigerian Citizen Indicted for Felonies, Including Vote Fraud

A federal grand jury in St. Louis returned a superseding indictment on March 29 charging Kevin Kunlay Williams, also known as Kunlay Sodipo, with mail fraud, aggravated identity theft, voter fraud, illegal re-entry and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Williams and others allegedly used public school employees' IDs stolen from a payroll company to file more than 2,000 fraudulent federal income tax returns. Williams also allegedly used fraudulently obtained identification numbers to obtain refund checks. Williams was deported in 1995 but allegedly returned illegally in 1999 and voted illegally in the 2012 and 2016 elections.

<http://www.ksdk.com/news/crime/nigerian-citizen-indicted-in-stolen-identity-refund-fraud/426805494>

West Tennessee City Alderman Indicted for Voter Fraud, Double Voting

A grand jury indicted a Moscow city alderman with false entry on an official registration or election document, one count of perjury, false statement, and five counts of voter fraud. The official allegedly double voted on multiple occasions.

<http://www.lebanondemocrat.com/Law-Enforcement/2017/03/30/City-alderman-in-West-Tennessee-charged-with-voter-fraud.html>

Terry McAuliffe — Virginia's Voter-Fraud Guru

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, the former head of the Democratic National Committee, is at it again, vetoing six bills aimed at preventing voter fraud and illegal voting. What does he have against election integrity? Why does he want to make it easier to commit fraud and harder for election officials to detect or deter it? Voter fraud is a problem in the Commonwealth of Virginia and nationwide. The database that the Heritage Foundation started less than two years ago is already up to 474 cases and 755 criminal convictions — and this is just the tip of the iceberg, since many cases go unreported and unprosecuted. According to a 2016 report by the Public Interest Legal Foundation, a small sample of only eight counties in Virginia showed 1,046 non-citizens who were registered to vote, many of whom had voted before they were removed from the voter rolls. Heritage's database shows voter-fraud convictions in Virginia for everything from absentee-ballot fraud to false registrations to vote buying.

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/446286/terry-mcauliffe-voter-fraud-virginia>