

VOTER INTEGRITY PROJECT

In early 2024, Beehive Research examined the North Carolina-based Voter Integrity Project and its founder Jay DeLancy. VIP has been among the leading organizations in the state attempting to remove registered voters from voter rolls and implementing more stringent voting regulations.

Key Findings include:

VIP was founded in North Carolina as an offshoot of True the Vote. Retired Air Force officer Jay DeLancy founded the North Carolina-based Voter Integrity Project in 2011 after attending a True the Vote meeting. While the organizations were initially associated, DeLancy split from True the Vote after the national organization raised concerns about DeLancy's anti-immigrant leanings. In 2012, VIP made headlines when it presented the North Carolina Board of Elections with a list of nearly 30,000 names of dead people statewide it claimed were still registered to vote. The Huffington Post has called DeLancy "one of the state's best-known activists in the campaign against fraud and a proponent of...ending early voting altogether." DeLancy has said that VIP "springs from outrage at the news of how election after election is stolen in some amazingly brazen ways." According to CNN, VIP is headquartered in Raleigh and has a few dozen volunteers spread across the state. In 2016, DeLancy claimed that VIP had "triggered 17 criminal referrals and two indictments." That same year, VIP sent hundreds of postcards to voters in Cumberland and Moore Counties; when many were returned undeliverable, VIP alleged evidence existed that voters should be removed from rolls. A federal judge later found that the process violated law. In 2022, the Guardian reported that "one of DeLancy's other missions is ending same-day voter registration." "Dead people do vote," DeLancy has said.

VIP supports limiting access to the ballot. VIP opposes any non-military voters registering from a mailing address. The organization supported state legislation that required children of voting age to be registered at the same address where their parents lived if parents claimed the children as dependents. "College students are easily manipulated," DeLancy said. "College student voters can destabilize local communities...If they had the IQs of...Army privates, they could easily handle voting by absentee ballot." According to CNN, DeLancy "thinks the mentally ill should be barred from voting, felons should be restored their voting right after they serve their sentence and probation, homeless people should be allowed to vote but only if they remain at the address they put on their voter registration form, and those who don't know the issues should stay home." "Rather than obeying the law, some look for gray edges and cheat their way into power," DeLancy said in 2019. "Every state has mountains of evidence that would make it easy to get noncitizen voters off the rolls and possibly deported," he said in 2020. "But so far, all parties have lacked the political will." "Is there enough voter fraud to alter the outcome of the election?" he asked rhetorically in 2022. "Yea. Can I prove it?...Not unless you give me some badges to go ask some hard questions...it's hard to prove."

VIP has been criticized for making false claims and engaging in racist and discriminatory practices. "There is little evidence to support the occurrence of widespread, organized voter fraud in North Carolina," a column in the Wilson Daily Times noted in 2012. "The Voter Integrity Project is...actually making the case that there is already a lot of integrity built into the system." VIP "has not brought forth any information to show that someone is voting in the name of another," the Director of Voter Registration at the North Carolina Board of Elections said in 2012. "With weak faith in their own ideas, they throw smoke bombs into newsrooms and yell 'voter fraud' loudly and often" according to a column in the Asheville Citizen Times. In 2012, a report released at a North Carolina NAACP state conference cited VIP in alleging that voter ID efforts were part of a partisan Tea Party effort to suppress minority vote turnout. CNN reported in 2014 that "some call (DeLancy's) efforts 'sloppy' and question

whether...he's become...illustrative of the tough Republican-driven voter identification law that critics contend intimidates and disenfranchises minority voters." According to the executive director of Democracy North Carolina, VIP has "the appearance of being a research group but they operate like a witch hunt group."

- **NAACP lawsuit.** In 2016, NAACP filed a federal lawsuit, claiming that a disproportionate number of voters removed from rolls in Cumberland and Moore Counties were Black; VIP had filed challenges to thousands of voters in the counties after sending mail to addresses where multiple people resided. In November 2016, a federal judge ruled three counties had to restore names that had been purged. "There is little question that the...process of allowing third parties to challenge...thousands of voters...constitutes the type of 'systemic' removal prohibited by the National Voter Registration Act." The judge told attorneys she was "horrified" by the "insane" process by which voters could be removed from rolls without their knowledge. "It almost looks like a cattle call, the way people are being purged," the judge said. "This sounds like something that was put together in 1901." In 2018, the same judge invalidated part of a North Carolina election law that allowed one voter to challenge another's residency. "We followed North Carolina law scrupulously in filing more than 6,000 individualized voter challenges in 2016," DeLancy said.

BACKGROUND

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DeLancy a Retired Air Force Officer Who Embraced Voter Fraud Cause after Attending True the Vote Meeting in 2011. "Finding that someone voted in the name of a dead person is the holy grail of the voter integrity movement, said Jay DeLancy, a retired Air Force officer in North Carolina who embraced the cause after attending a True the Vote meeting last year. Mr. DeLancy, who runs the Voter Integrity Project of North Carolina, said the group recently submitted the names of 30,000 people who he said were dead yet remained on voter rolls in the state. Earlier this year, he challenged more than 500 registered voters who he said were not American citizens. After reviewing the challenges, election officials refuted most of them, but confirmed that three were noncitizens who had registered improperly. One had voted. Mr. DeLancy said he was convinced that the elections agency overlooked many noncitizen voters. 'They want me to look stupid and to look like I'm wasting taxpayer money,' Mr. DeLancy said." [New York Times, 9/17/12]

- **DeLancy Split from True the Vote Partly Because Group Raised Concerns about Focusing on Immigrants.** "He said he split from True the Vote partly because the group raised concerns about focusing on immigrants. 'They're not wanting to be branded some kind of anti-immigrant activist group,' Mr. DeLancy said." [New York Times, 9/17/12]

VIP Described Itself as a Non-Partisan Group that Supports Photo ID. "The Voter Integrity Project describes itself as a non-partisan group aimed at clean and fair elections. It supports requiring photo identification to vote, which Republicans typically support and Democrats typically oppose." [News & Observer, 8/31/12]

2012: VIP Presented NC Board of Elections with List of Nearly 30,000 Names of Dead People Statewide Still Registered to Vote. A Raleigh-based group devoted to reducing the potential for voter fraud presented the N.C. Board of Elections on Friday with a list of nearly 30,000 names of dead people statewide who are still registered to vote. The Voter Integrity Project compiled the list after obtaining

death records from the state Department of Public Health from 2002 to March 31 and comparing them to the voter rolls...DeLancy said his group has found evidence to suggest voter fraud in these numbers, but will not quantify how much until he is able to do more analysis. Most cases of what look like a dead person voting are likely just administrative errors, such as a son named junior voting in his father's name instead of his own." [News & Observer, 8/31/12]

- **NC State Board of Elections Came up with Nearly 5,000 Who Might Be Dead.** "The Voter Integrity Project delivered to the N.C. State Board of Elections the names of 27,561 people who the group says are registered voters who are dead. That list included 550 people in Forsyth, Coffman said. The N.C. State Board of Elections looked at the same databases examined by the group and came up with 4,946 names of people who might be dead and still on the voter rolls. The group compiled the list after getting death records from the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services from 2002 to March 31 and comparing them with the statewide voter registration database. Jay DeLancy, the project's director, has said his group has found evidence of potential voter fraud but couldn't say how much without further analysis. Coffman said because voters' birth dates are confidential, the group couldn't get exact matches between voter rolls and the data from the state health department. 'The last thing I want to do is remove a voter and have them show up to vote,' he said. 'That's why we're not taking this information and using it as a primary source to removing voters.' After the Voter Integrity Project began making inquiries, the state elections board examined the same databases and found that 98 percent of the names on the health department's list did not match any current voter in the statewide database. State elections officials reviewed the list from the Voter Integrity Project and found fewer than 5,000 names that state elections officials had not identified." [Winston-Salem Journal, 9/27/12]

DeLancy Spoke at Wilson, North Carolina Tea Party Event. "The Wilson N.C. Tea Party brought in several speakers over the weekend for a rally prior to the November election. Speaking at the event were Joel Killion, WNCTP founder, Chris Farr, with Americans for Prosperity, Felice Perry-Pete, with the Wake Republican Women's Club, Carmen Connors of WRDU 106.1 FM's 'Morning Rush,' Dr. Greg Brannon of Founders' Truth, Kevin Baynes with the Tenth Amendment Center, James and Andrea Lafferty of the Traditional Values Coalition, Jay DeLancy of the Voter Integrity Project, the Rev. Rob Pocheck, Raleigh Road Baptist Church pastor, and Matt Krauss, with Wall Builders." [Wilson Daily Times, 10/16/12]

Huffington Post: "DeLancy...One of the State's Best-Known Activists in the Campaign against Fraud and a Proponent of...Ending Early Voting Altogether." "DeLancy, a retired Air Force officer and the head of a group called the Voter Integrity Project of North Carolina, is one of the state's best-known activists in the campaign against fraud and a proponent of even stricter election rules, like ending early voting altogether. Last year, he repeatedly challenged the validity of the state's voter rolls, at one point claiming that nearly 30,000 registered North Carolina's voters were actually names of deceased people. A state investigation eventually undermined this claim, and DeLancy now admits that concerns about counting dead people as voters are 'greatly exaggerated.' But he remains adamant that voter fraud is pervasive, and although he has little evidence to back this up, he hopes the new rules will make it easier for groups like his to catch people cheating at the polls. He plans to train people to act as observers, a strategy modeled on True the Vote, a national tea party-affiliated organization that has stirred up controversy by sending observers into African-American districts in recent years. 'We need to safeguard the ballot box, just like banks,' DeLancy says." [Huffington Post, 8/2/13]

DeLancy Initially Launched NC Chapter of True the Vote But Broke from National Group after It Raised Concerns about His Anti-Immigrant Leanings. "DeLancy launched a North Carolina

chapter of True the Vote, but he broke from the national group after it raised concerns about his anti-immigrant leanings.” [Down With Tyranny, 8/31/13]

DeLancy Said VIP-NC “Springs from Outrage at the News of How Election after Election Is Stolen in Some Amazingly Brazen Way.” “He then founded VIP-NC, which DeLancy says ‘springs from [his] outrage at the news of how election after election is stolen in some amazingly brazen way.’ Last year, DeLancy challenged the registrations of more than 500 voters in Wake County, N.C.-- mostly people of color-- who he said were not U.S. citizens. One voter was found to have improperly registered and was stricken from the rolls, while several others requested their own removal. Of the 18 challenges that the local election board found required further investigation, all were dismissed after hundreds of hours of work by the board. A furious DeLancy stormed out of the hearing, kicking open the building's glass doors and denouncing the board as looking ‘stupid.’” [Down With Tyranny, 8/31/13]

CNN: DeLancy Thinks “North Carolina Is Fraught with Voter Fraud...He...Vows...to Save the System from Eroding Honest Elections.” “To Jay DeLancy, North Carolina is fraught with voter fraud and the state is doing nothing about it. So the former Air Force veteran has taken matters into his own hands and vows, as he sees it, to save the system from eroding honest elections.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

Launched VIP and Led Band of Volunteers in Scouring Public Records and Knocking on Doors to Root out Irregularities. “DeLancy launched the Voter Integrity Project more than three years ago, leading a band of volunteers in scouring public records and knocking on doors to root out irregularities in voter rolls. It's tedious work, and DeLancy has generated mixed results as well as a measure of controversy.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

Group Was Headquartered in Raleigh and Had a Few Dozen Volunteers Spread Across the State. “At the VIP headquarters in a commercial office park in Raleigh that resembled many low-budget start-ups, complete with a dry-ink erase board, folding tables with chairs and a big wood, scuffed desk, DeLancy proudly walked through the inner workings of his organization that includes a few dozen volunteers spread around the state. Bald and 56, he seems at least a decade younger than his age. His enthusiasm screams through his rabidly opinionated professions about how voting should work.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

Williamson County, Tennessee Man Convicted for Voting Three Times in Same Election; Fraud First Discovered by VIP. “A Williamson County, Tenn. man has been convicted of voter fraud after voting three times in the same election. Prosecutors said it went on for years. It all started when a nonprofit in North Carolina wanted to see how many people voted in North Carolina in Florida. To their surprise, they found a Tennessee man who voted in all three states. Court documents show Pasco Parker used absentee ballots to vote in the other states. ‘I would like to think that as American citizens, we recognize one person, one vote,’ Williamson County District Attorney Kim Helper said. ‘And if you have someone who is abusing that process, it takes away from the integrity of the entire system.’ The fraud was first discovered by the Voter Integrity Project. ‘It's just data analysis is all it is,’ said Jay DeLancy with the nonprofit. They matched election data from North Carolina and Florida and found more than 100 people who voted in both states. ‘What we proved is that people were voting in multiple states. We need to fix this,’ DeLancy said. Parker was one of the matches. The Voter Integrity Project also learned he voted in Spring Hill, TN, under a different social security number.” [Fox 8, 12/4/15]

2016: DeLancy: “So Far...the Voter Integrity Project Has...Triggered 17 Criminal Referrals and Two Indictments...” “For the past five years, the Voter Integrity Project has forensically analyzed vote fraud and made corrective recommendations to lawmakers and law enforcers brave enough to listen. So

far, we've inspired a few good reforms. We've also triggered 17 criminal referrals and two indictments.” [News & Observer, 2/18/16]

Founded in 2011 by DeLancy and John Pizzo to Ensure Free and Fair Elections. “The Voter Integrity Project of NC (VIP-NC) was founded in 2011 by Jay DeLancy and John Pizzo. Their mission was to ensure Free and Fair Elections to all lawfully Registered Voters. Mr. Pizzo has more than 30 years private industry experience in the discipline of quality engineering and holds a Six Sigma Black Belt. Mr. DeLancy is a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, with military experience in both conventional and nuclear operations with advanced degree work in journalism, business and political communication...” [Independent View, 2/22/17]

In 2016, VIP Sent Hundreds of Postcards to Voters in Cumberland and Moore Counties; When Many Were Returned Undeliverable, Group Alleged Evidence Existed that Voters Should Be Removed from Rolls. “In 2016, volunteers for DeLancy’s organization, Voter Integrity Project, sent hundreds of postcards to voters in Cumberland and Moore counties. When many were returned as undeliverable, the group pointed to that as evidence the voters were no longer at the address, and convinced county boards of elections to remove them from the rolls.” [The Guardian, 10/11/22]

- **Federal Judge Found Process Violated Federal Law.** “A federal judge found the process violated federal law. In 2018, the judge blocked the part of North Carolina’s law allowing the state to remove voters based on challenges without also following the federal waiting period or conducting individualized inquiry into the voter’s status. That ruling, along with disclosure requirements if challengers are coordinating with an attorney, means NCEIT members will have a more difficult time removing voters from the rolls.” [The Guardian, 10/11/22]

2022: The Guardian: “One of DeLancy’s Other Missions Is Ending Same-Day Voter Registration...” One of DeLancy’s other missions is ending same-day voter registration, hailed as a voting rights victory when adopted in 2007, which allowed more than 114,000 North Carolinians to cast ballots in 2020. Voters have to verify their identity and current address to vote same-day. DeLancy says the process opens the door for voter fraud, despite having no such evidence.” [The Guardian, 10/11/22]

PHILOSOPHY

2012: Jay DeLancy: “What We’re Trying to Do Is Clean up the Voter Roll and Make Sure No One Votes Illegally.” “A volunteer group says it's fighting voter fraud by scrubbing the voter rolls clean of deceased voters. The group started in Alamance County and promised to head to all one hundred counties' boards of election. ‘I've never had that request before,’ says a worker in a video provided by the Voter Integrity Project of N.C. The group says it told the Alamance Board of Elections it found 123 registered voters in Alamance County who were dead. Alamance County says it's investigating the group's findings, but has not confirmed them yet. ‘I feel certain we're gonna get the issue resolved and get these deceased voters off the rolls before they vote again,’ said volunteer Mike Kelley. The Voter Integrity Project says it's also investigating Wake County, where it claims it's found hundreds of dead registered voters. ‘What we're doing is going through and looking them up individually on the state roll and it looks like we're north of 300 for Wake County,’ says Jay DeLancy, Executive Director of the Voter Integrity Project of N.C. According to Wake County Board of Elections, voting as another person or voting more than once in an election is a clear violation of the rules, in fact it's a felony. ‘What we're trying to do is clean up the voter roll and make sure no one votes illegally,’ said DeLancy. The Voter Integrity Project of N.C. founder says he decided to make scrubbing the voter rolls his new mission after he retired from the military. DeLancy promises to have volunteers in every county in the state, check the

voter rolls. He says within the next few weeks the group plans to release a list of the top ten counties in the state, it says have the worst records of keeping dead voters, on the rolls.” [NBC 17 WNCN, 7/25/12]

2012: DeLancy: “Mainly, What We’re Concerned about Is the Potential (for Fraud).” ““Mainly, what we’re concerned about is the potential [for fraud],” said project director Jay DeLancy. ‘Since there is no voter ID law in North Carolina, anybody can walk in and claim to be anyone else.’” [News & Observer, 8/31/12]

DeLancy: “Dead People Do Vote.” “DeLancy said he is concerned about voter fraud involving dead voters in the state. It is possible, he said, for a person or group of people to take the identities of people - - living or dead -- and vote in their place. ‘It’s no joke,’ he said. ‘Dead people do vote. We just hope they don’t do it in North Carolina.’ ‘It’s one of the most fraud friendly states in the country,’ he added. One reason, he said, is North Carolina’s lack of a voter ID law.” [Independent Tribune, 9/21/12]

DeLancy: “There Needs to Be Some Way to Match the Identity of the Voter with the Name on the Authorization to Vote.” ““There needs to be some way to match the identity of the voter with the name on the authorization to vote,’ he said, and he recommended county election boards at the very least use invisible ink as a way to establish identity.” [Independent Tribune, 9/21/12]

DeLancy Called Voter ID a “No Brainer.” “Jay DeLancy calls voter ID a ‘no-brainer.’ ‘You’d never get on an airplane without providing an ID,’ he said. ‘Why should voting be any different?’ DeLancy directs the Voter Integrity Project. The group, an offshoot of True the Vote, a national effort that challenges voter registration lists, identified nearly 30,000 N.C. voters who it claimed were possibly dead but still listed on voting rolls.” [Charlotte Observer, 9/23/12]

DeLancy: “For Too Long, Americans Have Taken Voter Integrity for Granted...” “DeLancy agreed. ‘We owe a debt of gratitude to our citizen auditors from all across the state who have spent, literally, thousands of man-hours verifying this information,’ he said. ‘And as a result of their tireless sacrifice, we have a great product that will help clean up the voter rolls.’ DeLancy said that voters must be vigilant in protecting the democratic process. ‘For too long, Americans have taken voter integrity for granted, walking around with the idea that our way of electing leaders, while not perfect, was good enough,’ DeLancy said on his website. ‘But things have changed. We’ve had numerous close elections that were overturned after lengthy recount efforts and other elections that spurred charges of massive voter fraud.’” [The Pilot, 9/24/12]

VIP Opposed Any Non-Military Voters Registering from a Mailing Address. “For the record, the Voter Integrity Project of N.C. opposes any non-military voters registering from a mailing address. Excepting the military, all voters should register from the same address they would give to their fire department or perhaps the pizza guy. This ‘where you lay your head’ rule helps prevent a certain type of vote fraud where people live and vote in another state, while voting again, using a North Carolina mailing address.” [Herald Sun, 12/22/12]

DeLancy Said Efforts to Weaken New Voter ID Requirement Were Part of a “Vast Left-Wing Conspiracy” to Pad Voter Rolls with Non-Citizens. “Jay DeLancy, the founder of North Carolina’s Voter Integrity Project, said efforts to block or weaken a new voter ID requirement were part of a ‘vast left-wing conspiracy’ to pad the voter rolls with non-citizens.” [NBC 17 WNCN, 3/12/13]

2013: North Carolina SB667 Required Children of Voting Age to Be Registered at Same Address Where Parents Lived If Parents Claimed Children as Dependents. “Senate Bill 667 requires

children of voting age to be registered at the same address where their parents live if their parents claim those children as dependents. If the child is registered to vote at an address other than their parents', then the parents would not be permitted to claim the child as a dependent.” [NBC 17 WNCN, 4/3/13]

- **DeLancy: “We View this Bill as a Way of Holding People Responsible for Their Actions.”** ““We view this bill as a way of holding people responsible for their actions,’ said Jay DeLancy, with the Voter Integrity Project. ‘If these young adults want to remain on their parents' taxes, then they would need to vote by absentee ballot from their home address.’” [NBC 17 WNCN, 4/3/13]
- **“No Class of Citizens Gets to Vote from a Temporary Address that Is Not Also Their Home of Record...”** “DeLancy added, ‘No class of citizens gets to vote from a temporary address that is not also their home of record, but the courts have quietly made an exception so students can do this even though the vast majority of them never stay in that college town after school.’” [NBC 17 WNCN, 4/3/13]

As North Carolina Senate Republicans Tried to Make It More Difficult for College Students to Register to Vote on Campus, DeLancy Said “College Students Are Easily Manipulated.” “North Carolina Senate Republicans want to make it harder for college students to register to vote on campus. The senators think that once your child registers to vote, especially if their address is someplace other than your house, they're an adult and you can no longer claim them as a dependent. The proposal would end tax deductions for parents. Jay DeLancy of the Voter Integrity Project says the legislation is necessary because ‘college students are easily manipulated’ and this would help ‘protect students from such abuse.’” [CBS 9, 4/4/13]

DeLancy: “We’ve Got to Fight for Voter ID.” ““We've got to fight for voter ID,’ DeLancy urged.” [News & Record, 4/14/13]

CNN: “He Thinks the Mentally Ill Should Be Barred from Voting...and those Who Don’t Know the Issues Should Stay Home.” “He thinks the mentally ill should be barred from voting, felons should be restored their voting right after they serve their sentence and probation, homeless people should be allowed to vote but only if they remain at the address they put on their voter registration form, and those who don't know the issues should stay home.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

CNN: “DeLancy Co-Opted His Tactics from True the Vote.” “DeLancy co-opted his tactics from True the Vote, a well-funded yet controversial conservative group in Texas that prioritizes citizen enforcement of the voter laws.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

2014: DeLancy: “College Student Voters Can Destabilize Local Communities...If They Had the IQs of...Army Privates, They Could Easily Handle Voting by Absentee Ballot...” “We’re excited to nationalize the discussion of how college student voters can destabilize local communities as they often ratify higher local taxes (or even unqualified school board members) before they graduate, move away and never suffer the consequences of their votes. If they had the IQs of, say, Army privates, they could easily handle voting by absentee ballot from their parents’ addresses just as their military peers have done for decades. Rather than hurl invectives like ‘voter suppression,’ it might be time for a reasonable discussion about correcting this unfair abuse of election law. Manipulating young college student voters is wrong regardless of which side wins.” [News & Observer, 7/19/14]

DeLancy: “Dredging up North Carolina’s Shameful Jim Crow Past Is Largely Irrelevant in 2014.”

“In another setback for Attorney General Eric Holder, Federal Judge, Thomas Schroeder from the Middle District of NC, denied a preliminary motion to enjoin the State Board of Elections’ implementation of new voting laws enacted in August 2013. ‘Dredging up North Carolina’s shameful Jim Crow past is largely irrelevant in 2014’ said Jay DeLancy, Director of the Voter Integrity Project, ‘especially when our state’s population has doubled in population because of people who came from states that already require voter ID.’” [Legal Monitor Worldwide, 8/11/14]

DeLancy Objected to Individuals Registered to Vote in More than One State. “Turns out, there's nothing illegal about voting in two states, although elections officials say it's kind of shady. ‘The problem is the law, the key word is intent,’ Jay DeLancy, director of the North Carolina-based Voter Integrity Project told the Sun Times. ‘All the perp has to do is say, ‘I intended to stay in Wisconsin but then I got a job offer in Illinois and moved back,’ We've been told before: Unless it's the very same election, we're not going to prosecute them.’” [Capital Times, 10/1/14]

DeLancy: “We Would Like the DMV to Work with the State Board of Elections and DACA...They Should Cross Check Immediately...” “As such, it would make sense for the SBOE to cross-check its voter rolls for people with DACA licenses, said Jay DeLancy, director of the Voter Integrity Project, based in Raleigh. ‘We would like the DMV to work with the State Board of Elections on LP (legally present) and DACA. They should cross check immediately. We want that cross-agency accountability on a regular basis,’ DeLancy said.” [Fox 8, 10/21/14]

“Any State that Has DACA Licenses, Any State that Offers Any Sort of Driver’s Licenses to People Who Are Not Citizens Has the Problem.” “‘We want the public to understand that people are not being proactive in dealing with this massive problem,’ said Jay DeLancy, director of the North Carolina Voter Integrity Project. ‘Any state that has DACA licenses, any state that offers any sort of driver's licenses to people who are not citizens has the problem.’” [US Official News, 11/5/14]

DeLancy Objected to Updated State Voter ID Law. “Federal and state lawsuits filed nearly two years ago challenging what's in North Carolina's election overhaul law are finally heading to trial starting next month. But unexpected moves on the way to the courthouse could break down arguments of plaintiffs seeking to overturn the law's most high-profile component: a photo identification requirement to vote in person starting next year. Republicans who have defended robustly their 2013 law quickly passed through the General Assembly this month changes that could allow perhaps hundreds to vote in person without qualifying photo IDs. GOP Gov. Pat McCrory signed the bill, which will allow people who have a ‘reasonable impediment’ to obtaining a driver's license, government ID or other photo document that the law requires to cast a legal ballot anyway if they provide other documentation. The updated law also will allow more expired driver's licenses to qualify. While the legislature overwhelmingly approved the changes, a cadre of conservative activists says GOP leaders gutted the photo ID requirement and opened up potential fraud. Passing voter ID was a top priority of Republicans when they took over the legislature in 2011. ‘The more we look at it, the more our breath is taken away at the depth of the loophole,’ said Jay DeLancy, director of the Voter Integrity Project of North Carolina. ‘There are so many ways that this bill is unbelievably bad.’” [AP, 6/28/15]

DeLancy: “Tell Me, How Many Stolen Votes Are Acceptable?” “In an interview Monday with FOX8, Jay DeLancy with the Voter Integrity Project said there are more than a hundred cases of suspected voter fraud being investigated in the state from the last election. He pointed out several elections in the state that were lost and won by only a few votes. ‘They say- oh the numbers are so

small. So tell me, how many stolen votes are acceptable? They say one disenfranchised vote is one too many. Ok, I agree with you actually. But how many stolen votes are one too many?" [Fox 8, 7/15/15]

DeLancy: "All We're Doing Is Trying to Prevent Fraud...We're Not Trying to Disenfranchise Anyone..." "All we're doing is trying to prevent fraud. We're not trying to disenfranchise anyone,' says Jay DeLancy, co-founder of the Voter Integrity Project in North Carolina, which has new restrictions in place this year on registration and voting." [US News, 4/1/16]

2019: DeLancy: "Rather than Obeying the Law, Some Look for Gray Edges and Cheat Their Way into Power..." "Voting is the most sacred civic action we share as Americans. No matter our income level, our sex, or our skin color, we all enjoy exactly the same freedom when we enter the voting booth ... as long as everybody follows the rules. But rather than obeying the law, some look for gray edges and cheat their way into power. Many participate as unwitting stooges in those quasi-criminal enterprises. Others know exactly what they are doing." [Fayetteville Observer, 7/6/19]

2020: DeLancy: "Every State Has Mountains of Evidence that Would Make It Easy to Get Noncitizen Voters Off the Rolls and Possibly Deported...But So Far, All Parties Have Lacked the Political Will." "Noncitizens are embedded in North Carolina jury and voting pools, raising new questions about the integrity of elections, according to an immigration reform group. The Immigration Reform Law Institute on Monday said it had uncovered examples of noncitizens, and likely also illegal immigrants, in the pools in Charlotte, North Carolina, and other key areas dating back to 2012. Working with the Voter Integrity Project, IRLI conceded that the numbers were not enough to overturn election results but point to the lack of 'political will' by government officials to clean up their rolls. Voter Integrity Project co-founder Jay DeLancy said, 'The fact is that every state has mountains of evidence that would make it easy to get noncitizen voters off the rolls and possibly deported. But so far, all parties have lacked the political will.'" [The Examiner, 12/7/20]

2022: DeLancy: "Is There Enough Voter Fraud to Alter the Outcome of the Election? Yea. Can I Prove It?...Not Unless You Give Me Some Badges to Go Ask Some Hard Questions...and that Kind of Thing...It's Hard to Prove..." "Is there enough fraud to alter the outcome of the election? Yeah,' DeLancy said in an interview. 'Can I prove it? Not unless you give me the resources. Not unless you give me some badges to go ask some hard questions to people and that kind of thing. So it's hard to prove without the government having the desire to prove it. And this is my problem.'" [The Guardian, 10/11/22]

ELECTION SECURITY

WAKE COUNTY

2012: Voter Integrity Project Challenged 553 Wake County Registered Voters Who Were Excused from Jury Duty by Stating They Were Not US Citizens. 'A group called the Voter Integrity Project of NC also is challenging 553 Wake County registered voters who were excused from jury duty by stating they are not U.S. citizens.' [News & Observer, 5/23/12]

- **State Board of Elections Inquiry Found 510 of the Voters Were Indeed US Citizens.** 'A Wake County advocacy group filed a legal complaint Friday appealing a decision by the Wake County Board of Elections to dismiss the bulk of its complaint about noncitizen voters. The Voter Integrity Project wants to remove 528 Wake County residents from the voter registration list because it believes they are not U.S. citizens and not eligible to vote. It identified residents

dismissed from jury duty as being a noncitizen and cross-referenced the list with voter registration data. But a State Board of Elections inquiry using Division of Motor Vehicles data found that 510 voters were indeed U.S. citizens and the Wake board dismissed those complaints. The remaining 18 people whose citizenship was not verified by the state are set to appear before a full hearing Aug. 21 in Raleigh. The appeal filed in Wake County Superior Court names Wake elections director Cherie Poucher, state elections director Gary Barlett and state transportation Secretary Gene Conti, among others.' [News & Observer, 7/9/12]

- **NBC 17: 'The Voter Integrity Project...Founder Says He Decided to Make Scrubbing the Voter Rolls His New Mission after He Retired from the Military.'** 'The Voter Integrity Project says it's also investigating Wake County, where it claims it's found hundreds of dead registered voters. 'What we're doing is going through and looking them up individually on the state roll and it looks like we're north of 300 for Wake County,' says Jay DeLancy, Executive Director of the Voter Integrity Project of N.C. According to Wake County Board of Elections, voting as another person or voting more than once in an election is a clear violation of the rules, in fact it's a felony. 'What we're trying to do is clean up the voter roll and make sure no one votes illegally,' said DeLancy. The Voter Integrity Project of N.C. founder says he decided to make scrubbing the voter rolls his new mission after he retired from the military.' [NBC 17, 7/25/12]
- **Deputy Director of Wake County Board of Elections: 'The Biggest Thing Is That This Is Not a Grand Conspiracy.'** 'Gary Sims, Deputy Director of the Wake County Board of Elections said, 'It's not a perfect process and we will go through the list and the biggest thing is that this is not a grand conspiracy.' Sims said, 'We have over 600,000 registered voters in Wake County so finding out that 300 something have recently disappeared that's not a surprise to us.' [NBC 17, 8/3/12]
- **August 2012: Wake County Board of Elections Dismissed Case.** 'The Wake County Board of Elections dismissed a case brought by Voter Integrity Project of NC, which questioned some names on voter rolls. The hearing Tuesday in Raleigh centered around non-citizens on voter polls. Volunteers calling themselves the Voter Integrity Project of NC said they found more than 550 people they did not believe could vote. The Wake Board of Elections looked into 18 of the cases. The Voter Integrity Project of NC identified those 18 cases as being non-US citizens who are registered to vote. Jay DeLancy, the executive director of the Voter Integrity Project of NC, left the meeting disappointed.' [NBC 17, 8/21/12]
- **Brennan Center Found Majority of Attempted Purged Voters Were People of Color.** 'Meanwhile, when the Voter Integrity Project attempted to have 500 voters purged from Wake County, North Carolina rolls, the Brennan Center found that the majority of those were people of color. The attempt too closely mirrored a voter suppression tactic used in 1872 in Wake County to stop black people from voting. Similarly, when Florida's Secretary of State and governor began a purge program, with huge support from True the Vote, it was mostly voters of color who were on the purge list.' [The Nation's Blogs, 9/6/12]

Voter Integrity Project Had Connections to True the Vote. 'On its website, the Voter Integrity Project says it is nonpartisan and aims for clean and fair elections. It supports laws requiring voters to present a photo ID to vote. Republicans have pushed for voter ID laws in several states, including unsuccessfully in North Carolina. The group has had ties to True the Vote, a national group against voter fraud. DeLancy said he is supportive of the group and refers people to True the Vote, but said the two groups have slightly different focuses. Earlier this summer, the Voter Integrity Project sued to have 528

Wake County residents it claimed were not U.S. citizens removed from the voter registration rolls. The county elections board investigated the complaint and removed 11 names from its registry and referred the names to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, said Cherie Poucher, director of the Wake County Board of Elections.’ [Winston-Salem Journal, 9/27/12]

2012: True the Vote Listed 286 Volunteers in 60 North Carolina Counties, Including 71 in Wake County Alone. ‘As of Sept. 30, the report states, True the Vote listed 286 volunteers in 60 North Carolina counties, including 71 in Wake County alone. ‘We expect a major effort,’ says N.C. Central law professor Irving Joyner, who’s leading a legal team organized by the NAACP to help anyone prevented from voting.’ [Indy Week, 10/17/12]

2016: Raleigh-Based Voter Integrity Project Sued Wake County Board of Elections Claiming It Failed to Maintain Updated and Accurate Voter Rolls. ‘A Raleigh-based group devoted to reducing the potential for voter fraud has filed suit against the Wake County Board of Elections claiming that it has failed to maintain updated and accurate voter rolls as well as make public information requested by the group. The suit, filed by the Voter Integrity Project, said that according to census data, Wake County has had more voters on the rolls than actual eligible voters. It says roughly 670,000 people were registered to vote in the 2014 election, according to numbers reported by Wake County, while census data shows that the average number of people eligible to vote between 2010 and 2014 was roughly 640,000.’ [News & Observer, 7/19/16]

- **Executive Director of Voter Integrity Project: ‘Any Time You Have People on the Voter Rolls Who Are Ineligible to Vote, You Run a Very High Risk of Mischief.’** ‘‘Any time you have people on the voter rolls who are ineligible to vote, you run a very high risk of mischief,’ said Jay DeLancy, executive director of the Voter Integrity Project. In June, the group sent notices to the Wake County Board of Elections informing it of the apparent discrepancy in the rolls and requesting information on the county’s efforts to maintain accurate voter rolls. The board did not respond to the notices, DeLancy said, resulting in Monday’s lawsuit.’ [News & Observer, 7/19/16]
- **Director of Board of Elections Said Lawsuit Cited Outdated Information.** ‘Gary Sims, director of the Board of Elections, says the lawsuit cites outdated information. He said more recent census data from 2015 shows that in fact there were more eligible voters than people registered to vote.’ [News & Observer, 7/19/16]

2017: Legal Battle Ended with Each Side Agreeing that Wake County Followed Federal Laws and County Vowing to Seek More Frequent Review of Its Voter Rolls. ‘A legal battle between the Wake elections board and a watchdog group ended earlier this month with each side agreeing that the county has been following federal laws and Wake vowing to seek more frequent review of its voter rolls. Wake’s Board of Elections reached the settlement with the Voter Integrity Project, which sued the board last summer. VIP alleged that Wake failed to maintain updated and accurate voter rolls, a claim the county disputes, and that the county failed to make public information requested by the group. The group requested information from Wake’s board on June 2, 2016, and, after not hearing back, sued the county on July 18, 2016. In the settlement, Wake’s board claims that it planned to respond to the Voter Integrity Project’s request but also agrees to divulge public information the group requests in the future within ‘a reasonable amount of time.’ Jay DeLancy, VIP’s director, cast the deal as progress in his group’s mission to fight voter fraud. ‘We are glad the Wake Board of Elections is taking measures that will increase public confidence in their hard work,’ DeLancy said in a statement.’ [News & Observer, 6/27/17]

BUNCOMBE COUNTY

2013: VIP Pushed Bill to Require Children of Voting Age to Register at Parents' Address If Parents Claimed Those Children as Dependents. “A bill introduced Tuesday in the state Senate would affect young North Carolina voters attending universities outside their hometowns. Senate Bill 667 requires children of voting age to be registered at the same address where their parents live if their parents claim those children as dependents. If the child is registered to vote at an address other than their parents', then the parents would not be permitted to claim the child as a dependent.” [CBS 9 WNCT, 4/3/13]

- **Jay DeLancy: “We View This Bill as a Way of Holding People Responsible for Their Actions.”** “‘We view this bill as a way of holding people responsible for their actions,’ said Jay DeLancy, with the Voter Integrity Project. ‘If these young adults want to remain on their parents' taxes, then they would need to vote,’ DeLancy added, ‘No class of citizens gets to vote from a temporary address that is not also their home of record, but the courts have quietly made an exception so students can do this even though the vast majority of them never stay in that college town after school.’” [CBS 9 WNCT, 4/3/13]
- **Republican Christina Merrill Filed Official Protest with Board of Elections After Losing Race for County Commissioner; VIP Said Warren Wilson College Students Swayed Election.** “In November, Republican Christina Merrill filed an official protest with the Board of Elections after she lost her bid for Buncombe County commissioner in District 2. The Voter Integrity Project and Merrill say Warren Wilson College students swayed the election.” [CBS 9 WNCT, 4/3/13]

DeLancy: “The Race Showed How Easily College Students Can Be Manipulated Like Pawns.” “House Republicans also recently unveiled their latest version[6] of a state voter ID law. Republican sponsors have defended[7] their push to reform voting laws as a way to save money, while the conservative-backed Voter Integrity Project of NC hailed the college voting restrictions as a way to ‘shift the landscape of college town voting.’ In a statement to WRAL[8], Jay DeLancy of the Voter Integrity Project pointed to a particular election in Buncombe County, in which he believed college voters had helped swing the outcome through questionable practices. ‘That race showed how easily college students can be manipulated like pawns,’ DeLancy said. ‘These bills will protect students from such abuse.’” [Huffington Post, 4/5/13]

2013: News & Observer: VIP “Has Argued Voter Fraud Is a More Serious Problem than Authorities Think.” “A number of speakers were connected to the Voter Integrity Project, a group that has argued voter fraud is a more serious problem than authorities think. For example, numerous speakers alleged there were 63 cases of fraud last November in Buncombe County.” [News & Observer, 4/10/13]

2014: Asheville Tea Party, with VIP’s Help, Challenged Registration of 182 Voters in Buncombe County. “The Asheville Tea Party on Friday challenged the registration of 182 voters in Buncombe County who the group says no longer live at the addresses they gave the elections office. The Raleigh-based Voter Integrity Project joined the group in filing the challenges. Elections workers will research each challenge and set a hearing before the Board of Elections if evidence suggests a voter must be removed from the rolls, said Trena Parker, elections director. The voter will be notified 10 days before the hearing though the notification will go to the last known-address, which sometimes is no longer accurate.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 3/15/14]

- **Elections Director Trena Parker Said She Had Never Caught Anyone Trying to Use Name of Inactive Voter to Commit Voter Fraud in the County in 19 Years.** “Parker said she has never caught anyone trying to use the name of an inactive voter to commit voter fraud in Buncombe County. She's been with the office for 19 years.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 3/15/14]
- **DeLancy: “We Think This Is an Epidemic Problem to Have that Many Voters on the Roll When No One Knows Who They Are and No One Knows Where They Are.”** “Jay DeLancy, executive director of Voter Integrity Project, also said there is no evidence of fraud connected to inactive voters. ‘The only evidence we know for sure is that these people are on the roll and the vulnerability exists that someone could walk in and, just by uttering the voter's name and address, they could vote in that person's place,’ he said. Election officials must wait four federal election cycles, or 8 years, before removing an inactive voter from the roll under federal law, Parker said. DeLancy credited the Asheville Tea Party with doing ‘miraculous working in cleaning up the election rolls in Buncombe County. He said his group has helped and coached them. ‘We think this is an epidemic problem to have that many voters on the roll when no one knows who they are and no one knows where they are,’ he said.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 3/15/14]
- **DeLancy Said Volunteers Went Door-to-Door to Find Out Whether Inactive Voters Lived at Address Filed with Elections Office.** “He said volunteers in Buncombe County went door-to-door to find out whether inactive voters lived at the address filed with the elections office. They found voters did not in the cases they presented as challenges on Friday. Volunteers, he said, also mailed a letter to the voter, which was returned undeliverable. The letter became the evidence in the challenge.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 3/15/14]

2014: Registrations of 90-Some Inactive Voters Removed from County Rolls. “The registrations of 90-some inactive voters will be removed from the voter roll after the individuals failed to show up or send representation to a hearing Thursday challenging their registration in Buncombe County. There is a 10-day window to appeal Thursday's proceedings through Buncombe County Superior Court. The Board of Elections will also allow an additional five days for processing, Chairman John Watson said. The Asheville Tea Party and the Raleigh-based Voter Integrity Project brought the challenges, which were initially among 182 filed last month; the elections board dismissed the others. The groups fear the registrations could be used for voter fraud.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 4/11/14]

- **DeLancy: “There Are 95 Voters Who Do Not Have to Worry about Their Identities Being Stolen Now.”** “‘There are 95 voters who do not have to worry about their identities being stolen now,’ said Jay DeLancy, executive director of the Voter Integrity Project of North Carolina. Watson asked multiple times if anyone was in attendance whose voter registration was being challenged. The names of the challenged registrations were read aloud twice. No one identified themselves any of those times. The hearing lasted less than 20 minutes at the Buncombe County Administration Building.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 4/11/14]
- **League of Women Voters: “Allegations that these Challenges Address Any...Potential Voter Fraud Are Entirely Fallacious and Misleading...”** “Sarah Zambon, of the Asheville-Buncombe League of Women Voters, issued a written statement prior to the hearing. She said 82 of the challenged voters were registered at one of Asheville's homeless shelters. ‘Allegations that these challenges address any of potential voter fraud are entirely fallacious and misleading,’ she said. ‘Many of these voters have been registered since 2008 and there is no record of any votes

being cast in their names, clearly demonstrating the lack of voter fraud in Buncombe County.”
[Asheville Citizen-Times, 4/11/14]

- **President of Asheville League of Women Voters Said VIP Targeted Minority and Democratic Leaning Districts.** “Sarah Zambon, president of Asheville League of Women Voters, said VIP targets minority and Democratic leaning districts, leading to voter disenfranchisement and voter intimidation. She said that of the 80 precincts in Buncombe County, all of VIP's challenges came from 11 precincts, most of them low income or minority -- communities that are more likely to have more people living under one roof.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

In Liberal Buncombe, VIP Knocked on Doors Where It Found More than Five People Registered.

“In Buncombe County, which includes the western city of Asheville, a liberal bastion in a relatively conservative state, DeLancy's forces teamed with a local tea party group to analyze data. When five or more registered voters are listed at one address, a red flag goes up. Then they put on their shoes and pound the pavement. ‘We would actually knock on the door at that address,’ DeLancy said. His volunteers would check to see who lived there and if it matched the records. The response? ‘Some would slam the door in our face,’ DeLancy said, but added that others would answer their questions. If doubts persisted after confronting residences, they'd move to Stage Two. VIP would address a letter to the person in question. If the letter came back with ‘return to sender,’ that letter became evidence to submit to the Board of Elections. DeLancy said a worst-case scenario would involve someone voting fraudulently or, at the very least, they need to be removed from the voter rolls for not living at the address listed. DeLancy took 180 cases to the Buncombe County elections board and a little more than half the names were stricken from the voter rolls.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

CRITICISM & CONTROVERSY

EVIDENCE & FALSE CLAIMS

2012: Wilson Daily Times: “There Is Little Evidence to Support the Occurrence of Widespread, Organized Voter Fraud in North Carolina.” “An outfit that calls itself the Voter Integrity Project of North Carolina may indeed be proving a point. That point is that there is little evidence to support the occurrence of widespread, organized voter fraud in North Carolina. As I’ve pointed out previously in this column, the few instances of concerted, organized voter fraud that have occurred in this state in recent years have primarily involved the collection and use of absentee ballots. That’s not to suggest that no one has ever claimed someone else’s identity and voted under that person’s name. Doing so is already a felony, by the way. But there is a huge difference between an individual deciding that he or she going to vote under an assumed identity, and an organized effort to engage many individuals voting under assumed identities in order to throw an election.” [Wilson Daily Times, 8/6/12]

- **“The Voter Integrity Project Is Trying to Make a Case that State Law Should Require Voters to Show a Picture ID...It Is Actually Making the Case that there Is Already a Lot of Integrity Built into the System.”** “The Voter Integrity Project is trying to make a case that state lawmakers should require voters to show a picture ID to vote in North Carolina. It is actually making the case that there is already a lot of integrity built into the system.” [Wilson Daily Times 8/6/12]

2012: Rachel Maddow: “Those 30,000 People Are Not All Dead, Even If this Tea Party Affiliated Voter Integrity Project Says They Are.” “MADDOW: Doesn’t know how many of those names were used to vote illegally yet. Of the state’s six million voters, 30,000 are dead. That’s the press on the Voter

Integrity Project in the swing state of North Carolina. But guess what? Those 30,000 people are not all dead, even if this Tea Party affiliated Voter Integrity Project says they are. We know these people aren't dead because North Carolina officials started the laborious process of reviewing this list of allegedly dead voters last week. They whittled the list down to 5,000 names that matched up enough for a second look and started sending out letters to those voters. And the results so far have been spectacular. Look at this. One voter, Carolyn Perry has been voting in North Carolina since 1967. This month, she got a letter from her county board of elections saying she might not be qualified to vote anymore on account of she might be dead. She says, quote, 'my initial reaction, I was mad as hell.' Yes. Understandably. Carolyn Perry's county is sending these 'you might be dead' letters to 148 voters because of this kick the people off the voting rolls process that was started by a North Carolina tea party group. They sent letters to these voters alleging they are dead and actually already 42 of the people on the list have raised their living hands and said, hold on there, hold on there a minute, now, I do not appear to be dead, at least when I look at myself in the mirror." [Rachel Maddow Show, 9/20/12]

- **Maddow: "Zero Actual Problem Voters."** "So far, North Carolina elections officials say they have found not a single instance, not one, of anybody on the tea party group's challenge list who has voted when they were not supposed to vote. So the press is saying, because this tea party group says so, that 30,000 of the voters in North Carolina, 30,000 of the votes in North Carolina were maybe cast in dead people's names. Right? 30,000, massive fraud. The real number, at least so far, is zero. As for Carolyn Perry, she told the local press her theory on why she got challenged. She said, quote, 'I'm a senior, and I'm African-American and I'm not registered in the same party they are most likely.' Carolyn Perry I should tell you is a Democrat. So, North Carolina started out with challenges to 30,000 registered voters. At last report, those challenges have revealed goose egg for an actual problem. Zero actual problem voters." [Rachel Maddow Show, 9/20/12]

2012: Director of Voter Registration at NC Board of Elections: "The Voter Integrity Project Has Not Brought Forth Any Information to Show that Someone Is Voting in the Name of Another, and I Think Citizens in North Carolina Need to Be Aware of that." "But state election officials told The (Raleigh) News and Observer that they were already reviewing most of those names, and that more than one-third of them were already listed as inactive – meaning they were on track to be removed from the voter rolls. 'People are concerned about voter fraud, but we are not finding evidence of (such fraud),' said Veronica Degraffenreid, director of voter registration voting and absentee voting at the N.C. Board of Elections. 'The Voter Integrity Project has not brought forth any information to show that someone is voting in the name of another, and I think citizens in North Carolina need to be aware of that.'" [Charlotte Observer, 9/23/12]

DeLancy Admitted There Was No Evidence of Fraud Connected to Inactive Voters. "Jay DeLancy, executive director of Voter Integrity Project, also said there is no evidence of fraud connected to inactive voters. 'The only evidence we know for sure is that these people are on the roll and the vulnerability exists that someone could walk in and, just by uttering the voter's name and address, they could vote in that person's place,' he said." [Asheville Citizen-Times, 3/15/14]

2014: Asheville Citizen Times: "With Weak Faith in Their Own Ideas, They Throw Smoke Bombs into Newsrooms and Yell 'Voter Fraud' Loudly and Often..." "Now consider state Republican leaders, Jay DeLancy, the dogged amateur sleuths of his Voter Integrity Project, and the Asheville Tea Party. They see voter fraud everywhere....Republican supporters and the Voter Integrity Project could register voters and invest more in get-out-the-vote efforts. But with weak faith in their own ideas, they throw smoke bombs into newsrooms and yell 'Voter fraud!' loudly and often to create the perception

that where there are smoke bombs there must be fire. They are preparing the ground for challenging votes for the opposing team should theirs lose. Plus, bolstering support for photo ID laws to make it harder for opponents - and supporters - to vote in the first place.” [Asheville Citizen-Times, 4/20/14]

RACISM & DISCRIMINATION

2012: Report Released at NC NAACP State Conference Charged Voter ID Efforts Were Part of Partisan Tea Party Effort to Suppress Minority Vote Turnout. “A new report released Saturday charges that efforts to require North Carolina voters to show identification are part of a partisan effort by Tea Party activists to suppress minority voter turnout. The report, released at the North Carolina NAACP State Conference, was used as a rallying cry by the civil rights group to get 1 million minority and ‘progressive white’ voters to participate in early voting that starts Thursday. One of the report’s authors, Devin Burghart, told conference attendees that the study shows ‘the highly partisan and political agenda to deny African Americans and Latinos, specifically, the right to vote.’ ‘North Carolina, in many respects, has become ground zero in the fight over voter suppression,’ said Burghart, vice president of the Institute for Research & Education on Human Rights, a civil rights group based in Missouri and Washington. ‘There are not one but two statewide efforts to try to block the vote here in North Carolina.’” [News & Observer, 10/13/12]

- **VIP Cited in Report and Denied Allegations.** “The two groups cited in the new report – True the Vote and the Voter Integrity Project of North Carolina – denied the allegations, saying they’re only trying to root out voter fraud. Jay DeLancy, director of the Voter Integrity Project of N.C., said it’s not burdensome to require voters to show identification, which critics say could disenfranchise students, minorities and senior citizens. ‘The only votes I want to suppress are illegal votes,’ DeLancy said.” [News & Observer, 10/13/12]

CNN: “Some Call His Efforts ‘Sloppy’ and Question Whether...He’s Become...Illustrative of the Tough Republican-Driven Voter Identification Law that Critics Contend Intimidates and Disenfranchises Minority Voters.” “Some call his efforts ‘sloppy’ and question whether he’s addressing a serious shortcoming or whether he’s become -- intended or not -- illustrative of the tough Republican-driven voter identification law that critics contend intimidates and disenfranchises minority voters.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

Executive Director of Democracy North Carolina: “They Have the Appearance of Being a Research Group But They Operate Like a Witch Hunt Group.” “But Bob Hall, executive director of Democracy North Carolina, a voter protection organization, said DeLancy’s group does ‘sloppy’ research and submits piles of claims to the board of elections to sift through with no substantial outcome. ‘They have the appearance of being a research group but they operate like a witch hunt group,’ Hall said. ‘That’s not useful.’ DeLancy dismisses his critics and states the overall goal. ‘We want to figure out how people are voting multiple times. That’s the whole ball game,’ he said.” [CNN, 5/26/14]

In Federal Lawsuit, NAACP Said Disproportionate Number of Voters Removed from Rolls Were Black. “Local elections boards in North Carolina are illegally removing thousands of voters from the rolls, and a disproportionate number of them are black, the NAACP said in a federal lawsuit filed Monday. Voters are being removed because of challenges filed by individuals, which the NAACP says is illegal under federal law less than 90 days before an election. However, state officials say it’s legal under state law...The group’s lawsuit zeroes in on Cumberland, Moore and Beaufort counties, where thousands of voters’ names have been challenged. In most cases, mail sent to an address is returned as undeliverable, which county boards can accept as evidence that the voter no longer lives there. The

lawsuit says the state law, and the removals, are in violation of the National Voter Registration Act. It also asks to restore the names of voters who already have been removed. An emergency hearing was scheduled for Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Winston-Salem.” [AP, 10/31/16]

- **VIP Volunteers Filed Challenges in Cumberland and Moore Counties.** “The people filing challenges in Cumberland and Moore counties say they're volunteers with the Voter Integrity Project. The group's director, Jay DeLancy, says he wants to reduce the potential for voter fraud.” [AP, 10/31/16]
- **NPR: “The Bulk of the Cancellations Are Tied to the Voter Integrity Project.”** “MICHAEL TOMSIC: The bulk of the cancellations are tied to the Voter Integrity Project, a small group in Raleigh that Jay DeLancy co-founded. JAY DELANCY: Well, it's all through data mining. It's all through taking public records and spending money on postage....MICHAEL TOMSIC: The NAACP argues some of the removals targeted African-Americans. It's an allegation with fresh history in North Carolina. A federal appeals court ruled this summer, the state's Republican-orchestrated voting overhaul targeted African-Americans with, quote, ‘almost surgical precision.’ Jay DeLancy says race plays no role in the Voter Integrity Project's work. JAY DELANCY: It just makes me mad when they try and call us racists and use our blind research as an excuse to throw that race card out on the table...” [NPR Morning Edition, 11/2/16]

Federal Judge Ruled Three Counties Had to Restore Names to Voter Rolls that Had Been Purged.

“A U.S. District Court judge ruled on Friday that three counties must restore names to voter rolls that were part of recent mass purges. The ruling from U.S. District Judge Loretta Biggs came in response to a lawsuit filed Monday by the state NAACP. In the lawsuit, seeking an emergency halt to voter roll purges in Beaufort, Moore and Cumberland counties, NAACP representatives and several affected voters described the practice as an effort to suppress the African-American vote. At issue was whether the North Carolina law that allows individual voters to challenge anyone's registration violates the National Voter Registration Act, which ‘prohibits the mass removal of voters from the rolls within the 90 days prior to the election.’ The organization also contended that county election boards did not follow proper notification or hearing procedures for the challenges.” [News & Observer, 11/4/16]

- **Judge: “There Is Little Question that the...Process of Allowing Third Parties to Challenge...Thousands of Voters...Constitutes the Type of ‘Systemic’ Removal Prohibited by the National Voter Registration Act...”** ““(T)here is little question that the County Boards' process of allowing third parties to challenge hundreds and, in Cumberland County, thousands of voters within 90 days before the 2016 General Election constitutes the type of 'systematic' removal prohibited by the (National Voter Registration Act),’ Biggs, an appointee of President Barack Obama, wrote in her ruling ordering the restoration of the removed names. The decision prohibits more challenges in the three counties for this election.” [News & Observer, 11/4/16]
- **Mass Mailings Had Led to 4,000 Challenges in Moore County Alone; Judge Told Attorneys She Was “Horrified” by “Insane” Process by which Voters Could Be Removed from Rolls without Their Knowledge.** “Mass mailings in Cumberland County led to nearly 4,000 challenges there. A series of Moore County challenges were prompted by N. Carol Wheeldon, secretary of the Moore County Republican Party and a volunteer with The Voter Integrity Project, whose director Jay DeLancy says he wants to reduce the potential for voter fraud and show that voter rolls across the state are not purged as often as he would like to remove people who have moved or died. After calling an emergency hearing on Wednesday in federal court in Winston-Salem and hearing some of the evidence in the case, Biggs told county attorneys who

had appeared before her that she was ‘horrified’ by the ‘insane’ process by which voters could be removed from the rolls without their knowledge, according to The Associated Press.” [News & Observer, 11/4/16]

- **Judge: “It Almost Looks Like a Cattle Call, the Way People Are Being Purged...This Sounds Like Something that Was Put Together in 1901...”** “‘It almost looks like a cattle call, the way people are being purged,’ Biggs said. ‘This sounds like something that was put together in 1901,’ when the state used Jim Crow laws to prevent black citizens from casting a ballot.” [News & Observer, 11/4/16]

2018: Federal Judge Invalidated Part of North Carolina Election Law that Allowed One Voter to Challenge Another’s Residency. “A federal judge invalidated part of North Carolina elections law that allows one voter to challenge another’s residency, a provision that activist groups used to scrub thousands of names from rolls ahead of the 2016 elections. U.S. District Judge Loretta Biggs said in an order signed Wednesday that the residency challenges are pre-empted by the 1993 federal ‘motor voter’ law aimed at expanding voting opportunities. The National Voter Registration Act ‘encourages the participation of qualified voters in federal elections by mandating certain procedures designed to reduce the risk that a voter’s registration might be erroneously canceled. Defendants’ conduct contravened these procedures,’ Biggs wrote.” [AP, 8/8/18]

- **DeLancy: “We Followed North Carolina Law Scrupulously in Filing More than 6,000 Individualized Voter Challenges in 2016...”** “Biggs had ordered days before the 2016 elections that Cumberland, Moore and Beaufort counties restore thousands of canceled voter registrations. She acted after the NAACP and others sued, alleging the purge of voter rolls disproportionately targeted blacks. Biggs concluded then that the three counties had purged between 3,500 and 4,000 voters from registration rolls since August 2016. The people who had challenged valid residency of voters filing challenges in Cumberland and Moore counties were volunteers with the Voter Integrity Project. The group’s North Carolina director, Jay DeLancy, said it was part of an effort to reduce the potential for voter fraud. ‘We followed North Carolina law scrupulously in filing more than 6,000 individualized voter challenges in 2016 and the local election boards acted properly in sustaining those challenges,’ he said Wednesday. He said his group would ask state legislators to revise the law ‘to empower private citizens wishing to detect and challenge illegal voters.’” [AP, 8/8/18]

FILINGS & FINANCES

VIP Was Not A Tax-Exempt Organization. According to the VIP “Contribute” portal, “While we appreciate your support of election integrity, a hostile federal government does not. So, to protect your identity from angry ‘Progressives,’ we have opted NOT to be a tax-exempt organization. The good news is your name will not be floated on left-wing blog sites as supporters of honest elections. The bad news is you do not get a tax break for supporting this worthy cause.” [Voter Integrity Project Website, “Contribute,” Accessed [2/20/24](#)]

Jay DeLancy Served as Registered Agent for Election Law Education Center Inc. The business is currently listed as “current-active” and formed on September 19, 2017.[North Carolina Secretary of State Records, Accessed [2/20/24](#)]

VIP’s Website Notes that “If You Wish to Make a Tax-Deductible Donation to the Cause of Election Integrity, Please Visit the Donation Page of the Voter Integrity Project’s Education and

Legal Fund...For More Details, Please Visit Election Law Education Center.” [Voter Integrity Project Website, “Contribute,” Accessed [2/20/24](#)]

- **Election Law Education Center Now Known as Voter Integrity Justice.** [Voter Integrity Justice, Accessed [2/20/24](#)]
- **While the Entity Is Tax-Exempt, No Public Annual Reports Are Available.** [Guidestar Databases, Accessed February 2024]

Public Records & Database Searches of DeLancy Reveal Three Driving Infractions But Nothing More Serious. [Mult.]