

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

DONALD J. TRUMP FOR PRESIDENT, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

Case No. 1:20CV1083

v.

Hon. Janet T. Neff

JOCELYN BENSON, *et al.*,

Defendants.

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**NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL**

Plaintiffs voluntarily dismiss this action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(A). The Wayne County board of county canvassers met and declined to certify the results of the presidential election. See the attached affidavits of Wayne County canvassing board members William C. Hartman (Exhibit A) and Monica S. Palmer (Exhibit B).

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark F. (Thor) Hearne, II  
MARK F. (THOR) HEARNE, II  
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*Counsel for Plaintiffs*

# **EXHIBIT A**

**AFFIDAVIT**

The Affiant, William C. Hartmann, being first duly sworn, hereby deposes and states as follows:

1. My name is William C. Hartmann. I am an adult citizen, voter, and resident of the State of Michigan.
2. I am a member of the Board of Canvassers of Wayne County, Michigan.
3. I personally observed the Absent Voter Counting Boards in Detroit at TCF Center.
4. Since the election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, I have attended the Wayne County Canvass on an almost daily basis.
5. On November 17, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. there was a meeting of the Board of Canvassers to determine whether to certify the results of Wayne County. The meeting did not start until 5:00 p.m. We were told it was delayed so that representatives of the Democrat Board members could obtain additional affidavits.
6. At 5:00 p.m. an open meeting and discussion began to discuss the issue of whether to certify the vote. In my review of the results, I determined that approximately 71% of Detroit's 134 Absent Voter Counting Boards (AVCB) were left unbalanced and many *unexplained*. I informed the Board members of the discrepancies, but soon thereafter, a motion to certify was

made by Vice-Chairman Jonathan Kinloch. After further discussion, I renewed my concerns that the reason that the numbers did not balance for the majority of AVCB's in Detroit, and importantly, could not be explained. If the vote totals did not match, there should have been a documented reason explaining why.

7. The Board considered the ultimate question of whether to certify the vote, and the motion to certify the Wayne County elections failed 2-2.
8. This vote was followed by public derision from our two democrat colleagues. I, and Monica Palmer, who also voted against certification, were berated and ridiculed by members of the public and other Board members. This conduct included specious claims that I was racially motivated in my decision. This public ostracism continued for hours during which time we were not provided an opportunity to break for dinner and were not advised that we could depart and resume the hearing on another date.
9. I discussed a potential resolution with Vice-Chair Kinloch in confidence. Ms. Anderson-Davis told us that we must vote to certify on that night. We were told that we could not consider matters such as the unexplained reasons that most of Detroit's AVCB's did not balance and no one knew why. We

were informed that this consideration was outside of the scope of the Board's authority.

10. During the evening, Wayne County counsel, Ms. Janet Anderson-Davis, and my colleagues on the Board, continued to discuss irregularities in the AVCB's. Ms. Anderson-Davis advised the Board that the discrepancies were not a reason to reject the certification, and based on her explicit legal guidance, I was under the belief that I could not exercise my independent judgment in opposition to the certification. Therefore, I voted to certify the results.

11. Late in the evening, I was enticed to agree to certify based on the promise that a full and independent audit would take place. I would not have agreed to the certification but for the promise of an audit.

12. Vice-Chairman Jonathan Kinloch then assured us that if we voted to certify the election, a full, independent, and complete audit of Detroit's election, would be undertaken. We relied on this assurance in coming to an agreement. Without this assurance, I would not have agreed to certify Wayne County on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

13. After the meeting, I was made aware that Michigan Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson made a public claim that the representations made by Mr. Kinlock, on which we had relied, would not be followed.

- c. I am also concerned about the use of private monies directing local officials regarding the management of the elections, how those funds were used and whether such funds were used to pay election workers. I have not received answers to these questions, and I believe the people of Michigan deserve these answers. Can we release the logs to the tabulators demonstrating what happened in Detroit?
- d. Why do the pollbooks, Qualified Voter Files, and final tallies not match or balance?
- e. 71% of Detroit AVCB's did not balance, why not?
- f. Did the chairperson of each of Detroit's 134 AVCB's keep logs of shift changes?
- g. Why were republicans *not* used in signing seals certified at the end of the night on Monday, and Wednesday evening before ballot boxes were documented, closed, and locked?
- h. How many challenged ballots were counted?
- i. Was any information placed directly into the Qualified Voter Files in the AVCB's?
- j. How many voter birthdates were altered in the pollbooks?

k. Were ballots counted in TCF that were not reflected in the electronic pollbook or paper supplemental list?

l. Based upon information and belief, there were over 18,000 same-day registrations in Detroit on November 3. Were these new applicants verified as proper voters prior to the tabulation of their ballots?

18. I voted not to certify, and I still believe this vote should *not* be certified.

19. Until these questions are addressed, I remain opposed to certification of the Wayne County results.

19. The above information is true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

I certify under penalty of perjury, that my statement and the evidence submitted with it, are all true and correct.

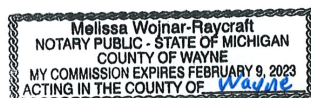
Printed Name: William C. Hartmann

Signed Name: 

Date:

Sworn to before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020 at 6:29pm

Melissa Wojnar-Raycraft  
Notary Public Melissa Wojnar-Raycraft  
My Commission expires on: Feb. 9, 2023



## **EXHIBIT B**

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Monica Palmer, being first duly sworn, and under oath, state:

1. I am the Chairperson of the Wayne County Board of Canvassers.
2. The Board is a four-member board, required to have two Republican and two Democrat members, and I serve as one of the Republican members.
3. On August 4, 2020, the Michigan primary election was held.
4. On August 18, 2020, the Board held a public meeting at the Board's office in Detroit. I attended the meeting with the other three members of the Board.
5. The Board reviewed the Wayne County election results and considered whether to certify the August 4, 2020 primary election.
6. As reflected in the meeting minutes, Wayne County Election Director Gregory Mahar gave the Board a report at the meeting that included the following findings:
  - Staff encountered difficulties while trying to canvass the City of Detroit absentee precincts. "He indicated that aside from receiving the poll books on the first Friday and Sunday after the canvass began, the list of voters received made it difficult to determine how many voters actually returned their ballot. He reported that the City of Detroit used the QVF printed list of voters but there was also a handwritten list of voters, which is common to use both, but the two lists combined put the precincts severely out of balance."
  - "Director Mahar also reported on the difficulties staff encountered with trying to retabulate any absentee precincts that were out of balance. He stated that according to the Election Management system, he could see the City of Detroit did not scan a single precinct within a batch. When multiple precincts are scanned within a batch, it makes it nearly impossible to retabulate a precinct without potentially disrupting a perfectly balanced precinct."
  - "Deputy Director Jennifer Redmond reported on the irregularities she encountered while trying to retabulate out of balance precincts. She indicated that in some cases staff could not retabulate because the number of physical ballots counted in the container did not match the number of voters according to the poll book. Staff also requested the applications to vote for Detroit precinct 444 and precinct 262. Both containers ha[d] fewer ballots in the container than the number of voters according to the poll book, but what was strange was there appeared to be some missing applications." 4.
7. It was reported that in the August 2020 primary that 72% of Detroit's absentee voting precincts were out of balance.
8. After discussion among the Board members, I voted along with all the other canvassers in a unanimous vote in favor of certifying the August 4, 2020 Primary Election.

9. Although certifying the primary election results, all Board members expressed serious concerns about the irregularities and inaccuracies. The Board unanimously approved a proposed joint resolution titled "Requesting a State Election Monitor and Investigation" that stated "Now Therefore Be it Resolved That, The Board of Canvassers for the County of Wayne, Michigan, request for the Secretary of State as Michigan's Chief Election Officer, to appoint a monitor to supervise the training and administration of the City of Detroit, Absentee Voter Counting Boards in the 2020 November General Election. Be it Finally Resolved, That, the Board of Canvassers for the County of Wayne, Michigan, request an investigation be conducted by the State Department of Elections into the training and processes used by the City of Detroit in the 2020 August Primary Election."
10. On November 3, 2020, the general election was held. I went to observe the election process at the TCF Center on November 3, 2020 and November 4, 2020.
11. Since November 5, I went to the Wayne County Canvas almost every day and helped the Wayne County staff.
12. On November 17, 2020, there was a board of Canvassers meeting scheduled to start at 3:00pm to determine whether or not to certify the November election. The meeting did not begin until 4:46pm.
13. Minutes before the meeting began at 4:46pm, I was given a report on the final canvas. We were not given an executive summary which was customary at most other certification meetings.
14. During this meeting, I determined that more than 70% of Detroit's 134 Absent Voter Counting Boards (AVCB) did not balance and many had no explanation to why they did not balance.
15. Vice-Chair Kinloch made a motion to certify the vote. I noted our prior reservations about unbalanced precincts in August 2020 and determined the record had discrepancies and irregularities and was incomplete.
16. A motion was made to certify the vote, and I voted not to certify. The vote to certify the Wayne County elections failed 2-2.
17. After the vote, my Democrat colleagues chided me and Mr. Hartmann for voting to not certify.
18. After the vote, public comment period began and dozens of people made personal remarks against me and Mr. Hartmann. The comments made accusations of racism and threatened me and members of my family. The public comment continued for over two hours and I felt pressured to continue the meeting without break.
19. After several hours of harsh comments, Vice-Chair Kinloch suggested a potential resolution. Wayne County Corporate Counsel Janet Anderson-Davis told me that I had to certify the vote that night. She told the members their role was ministerial and they could not use their discretion on matters like the record being incomplete. We were told that discretion was outside the board's authority.
20. After being told by Ms. Anderson-Davis that I could not use my discretion regarding the anomalies, I believed I had no choice but to certify the results despite my desire to oppose certification based on the incomplete record.
21. Additionally, we were presented with a resolution that promised a full, independent audit that would present answers to the incomplete record. I voted to agree to certify based on the promise of a full, independent audit. I would not have agreed to vote to certify but for that promise of a full, independent audit.

22. Vice-Chairman Jonathan Kinloch gave me assurances that voting for the certification of the November election would result in a full, independent audit of Detroit's unbalanced precincts. I relied on that assurance and voted to certify the election based on that assurance. Without that assurance I would not have voted to certify the Wayne County November election.
23. Later that evening, I was sent statements that Secretary Jocelyn Benson made saying that she did not view our audit resolution to be binding. Her comments disputed the representations made by Vice-Chair Kinloch on which I relied.
24. As a result of these facts, I rescind my prior vote to certify Wayne County elections.
25. I fully believe the Wayne County vote should not be certified.
26. The Wayne County election had serious process flaws which deserve investigation. I continue to ask for information to assure Wayne County voters that these elections were conducted fairly and accurately. Despite repeated requests, I have not received the requisite information and believe an additional 10 days of canvas by the State Board of Canvassers will help provide the information necessary.
27. I initially voted not to certify the election, and I still believe this vote should *not* be certified and the State Board of Canvassers should canvass for an additional period.
28. Until these questions are addressed, I remain opposed to certification of the Wayne County results.

The above information is true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

I certify under penalty of perjury, that my statement and the evidence submitted with it, are all true and correct.

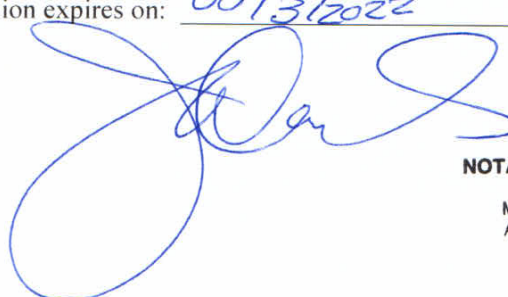
Printed Name: Monica S Palmer

Signed Name: Monica Palmer

Date:

Sworn to before me this 18 day of November 2020 at 9:33 pm

My Commission expires on: 08/31/2022



**JANICE L. DANIELS**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COUNTY OF OAKLAND**  
My Commission Expires August 3, 2022  
Acting in the County of WAYNE