

NEW MEXICO

Gillian Yingling

CONVICTED: 1998

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Gillian Yingling and 18 others, of Rio Arriba County, including several local officials, were arrested on election-fraud charges, including ineligible absentee voting and false statements on absentee ballots. Yingling pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor voter fraud charge, receiving 364 days' supervised probation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fL3qH7

NEW YORK

Rus Thompson

CONVICTED: 2017

False Registration

Rus Thompson, a political activist, pleaded guilty to one count of offering a false instrument for filing. Thompson, a longtime resident of Grand Island, was evicted from his home and moved to Niagara County. Nevertheless, Thompson signed an affidavit falsely claiming to be a Grand Island resident, and voted there in the 2015 primary. The terms of Thompson's plea agreement stipulate that he will receive probation, thus avoiding any jail time. Thompson is set to be officially sentenced on May 3, 2017.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2q8itPW

on.wgrz.com/2q8pWyw

NEW YORK

Ernest Everett

CONVICTED: 2016
Ballot Petition fraud

Ernest Everett was convicted on three counts of offering a false instrument for filing. Everett was initially charged with second-degree forgery and first-degree offering a false instrument for filing. The charges stemmed from Everett filing nominating petitions that he knew were falsified with the Rensselaer County Board of Elections to run in the Democratic primary for mayor in 2015. Three of the seven misdemeanor charges were subsequently dismissed. Of the four remaining misdemeanor charges, a jury found Everett guilty of three counts of offering a false instrument for filing. Everett received a sentence of 90 hours of community service, to be served through the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Work Program.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2pmtOLv
bit.ly/2q6Q9ee
bit.ly/2oMZtmc

NEW YORK

Hector Ramirez

CONVICTED: 2016
Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Hector Ramirez pleaded guilty to one count of criminal possession of a forged instrument. Ramirez, a 2014 State Assembly Candidate for the 86th District Assembly District, deceived voters into giving their absentee ballots to his campaign on the false premise that the campaign would then submit the ballots. Instead, Ramirez's campaign inserted his name on at least thirty-five of the absentee ballots. Ramirez initially won the 2014 race, but a recount determined he had lost by two votes. In lieu of jail time, Bronx Supreme Court Justice Steven Barrett imposed a three-year ban on Ramirez running for office. Ramirez could face jail time if he runs for office in violation of his three year ban. Prior to his guilty plea, Ramirez unsuccessfully ran for the same state assembly seat on numerous occasions, most recently in the 2016 election.

SOURCES

nydn.us/2oMjycA
nydn.us/2p4LACJ
bit.ly/2oMRy8o

NEW YORK

Frank Sparaco

CONVICTED: 2015
Ballot Petition Fraud

Frank Sparaco was, as his overseeing judge referred to him, a “rising star [who] has fallen very quickly, very far.” A Rockland County Legislator, Sparaco pleaded guilty to eight misdemeanor charges for filing election petitions that nominated individuals to Clarkstown Republican Committee positions, while listing addresses that were not their true residences. In addition, he pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor charges of furnishing false information by “renting” a room in his home so that he could register two other individuals to vote. He was forced to resign from his \$103,000-per-year county legislator position, and was sentenced to serve eight weekends of county jailtime followed by three years’ probation. He will be ineligible to hold political office during the probation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fjyMUI

NEW YORK

William McInerney, John Brown, Anthony DeFiglio, and Anthony Renna

CONVICTED: 2014
Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

William McInerney, John Brown, Anthony DeFiglio, and Anthony Renna men pleaded guilty to felony charges, having forged signatures on absentee ballots during the 2009 Working Families Party primary. Sentences: John Brown - six months’ imprisonment; Anthony DeFiglio - 100 hours’ community service; Anthony Renna - 200 hours in work-order program; William McInerney - 90 days in work-order program.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fjCzlb

NEW YORK

New York City Department of Investigation

CONVICTED: 2014

NYC Department of Investigation Report

Undercover New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) agents testing the integrity of New York City elections were able to vote 61 times out of 63 attempts using the names of inelligible voters, known felons, and deceased city residents.

SOURCES

on.nyc.gov/2fjCBJz

bit.ly/2f8uGvA

NEW YORK

Dominick Forte

CONVICTED: 2009

Ballot Petition Fraud

Dominick Forte pleaded guilty to a felony forgery charge in connection with election misconduct as the leader of the Town of Cornwall's Conservative Party committee. Forte admitted to signing fake signatures on nominating petitions in a race for a county legislature seat. He was sentenced to a conditional discharge.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fCes2v

NEW YORK

Vincent Sculco

CONVICTED: 2008
Ballot Petition Fraud

Vincent Sculco, Republican Chairman for the town of North Greenbush, pleaded guilty to forging a signature on a nomination petition for a 2007 election. The investigation revealed that Sculco may have forged more than 40 signatures. Sculco was sentenced to the sheriff's work order program.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2foFeWP

NEW YORK

John O'Hara

CONVICTED: 1999
False Registrations

John O'Hara deliberately registered to vote using his girlfriend's address so that he could continue to vote and run for office in his old district. District lines were changed in 1992 during redistricting, prompting O'Hara to use the address, despite it not being his permanent residence. He was sentenced to 1,500 hours of community service and fined \$20,000.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fmg1hw