

TENNESSEE

Mary Lou Simpson

CONVICTED: 2005

Impersonation Fraud at the Polls

Mary Lou Simpson, of Manchester was arrested after the 2004 election for attempting to vote in the name of her deceased sister. Ms. Simpson was spotted by a poll worker who recognized that she had already voted earlier in the day. The facts have been confirmed by the district attorney's office which prosecuted the case. The then 63-year-old woman was convicted of a class E felony which is punishable by up to two years in prison.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2evh0N2

bit.ly/1H6wudY

TEXAS

Rosa Maria Ortega

CONVICTED: 2017

Ineligible Voting

Rosa Maria Ortega, a non-citizen, was found guilty on two counts of voting in the November 2012 general election and the 2014 Republican primary runoff. Ortega claimed she thought she was a citizen, and blamed her lack of education for the mixup, but prosecutors pointed out that Ortega had previously indicated on a drivers license application that she was a non-citizen. A judge sentenced her to eight years' imprisonment, after which she faces the possibility of deportation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2md3dMU

bit.ly/2kNcL4a

nyti.ms/2lMcoqg

TEXAS

Noe Olvera

CONVICTED: 2017

Misc.

Noe Olvera pleaded guilty to a federal bribery charge. Olvera, a postman, admitted to taking a \$1,000 bribe from a paid campaign worker in exchange for a list of the names and addresses of mail-in ballot recipients on his postal route. After a two-year investigation into local voting fraud, hidden camera footage surfaced revealing a uniformed and on-the-job Olvera “negotiating an exchange of money for mail-in voter lists.” Olvera is scheduled to be sentenced on May 25, 2017.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2pm8x4P

bit.ly/2q6sZoh

bit.ly/2pmlJGE

TEXAS

Graciela Sanchez

CONVICTED: 2016

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Prosecutors charged Graciela Sanchez with four misdemeanor counts of violating election law in an effort to assist Guadalupe Rivera win re-election to the post of Weslaco city commissioner in 2013. Rivera and Sanchez were found to have illegally “assisted” absentee ballot voters. The results of the election were disputed, and a judge determined that 30 ballots had been illegally cast in an election decided by only 16 votes. Sanchez pleaded guilty and received two years’ probation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2f8AtkT

bit.ly/2f8AtkT

TEXAS

Guadalupe Rivera

CONVICTED: 2016

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Guadalupe Rivera, a former Weslaco city commissioner, pleaded guilty to one count of providing illegal assistance to a voter by filling out an absentee ballot “in a way other than the way the voter directed or without direction from the voter.” The fraud took place during Rivera’s 2013 re-election bid, which he won by a scant 16 votes. His challenger sued alleging fraud, and a judge determined that 30 ballots had been illegally cast, enough to alter the outcome of the election. A new election was subsequently held, and Rivera lost. Rivera originally faced 16 election-related charges, 15 of which were dropped as part of his plea deal. He was sentenced to one year of probation and ordered to pay a \$500 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fjITJn

bit.ly/2evjfA1

bit.ly/2fjIQNy

TEXAS

Francisco “Frankie” Garcia, Rebecca Gonzalez, Diana Balderas Castaneda, and Guadalupe Escamilla

CONVICTED: 2015

Buying Votes

In the Donna School Board race, four campaign workers participated in a scheme that involved buying votes with cocaine, cash, beer, and cigarettes. All four pleaded guilty; Garcia received an 18-month sentence, and Castaneda received an 8-month sentence receiving credit for cooperating against her co-defendants.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2e8xPPu

bit.ly/2f1BqOh

bit.ly/2f8BVDS

TEXAS

Hazel Brionne Woodard

CONVICTED: 2015

Impersonation Fraud at the Polls

Hazel Woodard, a Democratic Precinct Chairwoman candidate in Fort Worth, Texas, was concerned that her husband would not make it to the polls to vote - so she had her teenage son vote for him, instead. The impersonation went undetected until the husband went to the polls later that day and tried to cast a second ballot in his name. Hazel was indicted for impersonation fraud at the polls, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to two years of deferred adjudication probation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2ell5A2

TEXAS

Richard Alan Collier

CONVICTED: 2014

Duplicate Voting

Richard Alan Collier pleaded guilty to attempting to vote twice in the November 2012 general election, in both Minnesota and Texas. He requested and submitted absentee ballots to vote in both states. Galveston County officials were alerted to Collier's illegal behavior when they were tipped off about a Facebook post in which Collier admitted to double voting. Collier's misdemeanor conviction earned him a \$4,000 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2q6PzNq

bit.ly/2oMG7xt

TEXAS

Belinda Solis and Veronica Saldivar

CONVICTED: 2014

Buying Votes

Two campaign workers pleaded guilty in the Southern District of Texas for paying voters to vote in two 2012 elections in Hidalgo County, Texas. In an elaborate vote-buying scheme, Belina Solis and Veronica Saldivar offered “baggies” of cocaine and money in exchange for votes for local and county candidates. After an extensive FBI investigation, they both pleaded guilty to one count of vote-buying.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fjGqhX

bit.ly/2eGQUo

TEXAS

Adrian Heath, Sybil Doyle, and Roberta Cook

CONVICTED: 2014

False Registrations

Adrian Heath, Sybil Doyle, and Roberta Cook were convicted of voting on a referendum about whether the Woodlands Road Utility District could raise taxes to cover municipal debt, even though none of them were residents in the district. The election results were subsequently overturned. Heath was sentenced to a three year prison sentence and a fine of \$10,000; Cook and Doyle each received three year prison sentence, five years’ probation, and fines of \$5,000.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2eGQ1vM

bit.ly/2e8xRXu

TEXAS

Lorenzo Antonio Almanza, Jr.

CONVICTED: 2013

Impersonation Fraud at the Polls, Duplicate Voting

Lorenzo Antonio Almanza, of Progreso, TX, was convicted of voting twice in Progreso's 2009 school board election, once in his own name and once using his incarcerated brother's name. Almanza was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and five years of probation.

SOURCES

abcn.ws/1iAehQh

wapo.st/2sAGUo5

bit.ly/2rCqRoj

TEXAS

Margarita Rangel Ozuna

CONVICTED: 2013

Illegal "Assistance" at the Polls

Margarita Rangel Ozuna pleaded no contest to illegally assisting Ricardo Liceaga Alonso in voting in 2010. She prepared his ballot without his direction, and then deposited his carrier envelope without providing the proper information on the envelope. Ozuna received a sentence of probation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCmpGt

bit.ly/2rQM9mq

TEXAS

Magdalena Robledo Rodriguez

CONVICTED: 2013
False Registrations

Magdalena Robledo Rodriguez pleaded guilty to illegal voting for falsely listing an address during the 2010 election in Alton. Rodriguez changed her registration to an address belonging to Jose Picasso, one of the candidates in the Alton mayoral election. Rodriguez was sentenced to deferred adjudication and was ordered to pay a \$250 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2tsJ7lt
bit.ly/2tt8hk6

TEXAS

Martha Estella Rodriguez

CONVICTED: 2013
False Registrations

Martha Estella Rodriguez of Mission, Texas, pleaded guilty to voting in the 2010 election in nearby Alton, despite not living in that city. According to officials, Rodriguez changed her registration to an address belonging to Jose Picasso, one of the candidates in the Alton mayoral election. Records indicated that at least 23 others did the same prior to voting. Rodriguez was sentenced to serve one day in jail, two years of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$500 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2tsWG4B
bit.ly/2tt8hk6

TEXAS

Sonia Leticis Solis

CONVICTED: 2013
False Registrations

Sonia Solis pleaded guilty to voting five times under five different names in the 2012 primary runoff election. She committed her fraud using absentee ballots. She was sentenced to six months of home confinement and five years' probation.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2tsYMRE

bit.ly/2sVDD5h

bit.ly/2tt4CTg

TEXAS

Jacob Awuol Barac

CONVICTED: 2012
Ineligible Voting

Jacob Barac pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges after admitting that he signed a voter application attesting to his citizenship despite his permanent resident status, which made him ineligible to vote. Barac claimed that he had requested the ballot so that his roommate could vote, and then filled it out himself. He was sentenced to 5 years of supervised probation and 40 hours of community service.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2e8AUyM

TEXAS

Gilda Hernandez

CONVICTED: 2012

Illegal “Assistance” at the Polls, Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Gilda Hernandez pleaded guilty to two counts of unlawful assistance, two counts of illegal possession of a ballot, and two counts of failure to provide identifying information while assisting a voter. Hernandez was sentenced to one year deferred adjudication and a \$250 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

TEXAS

Christine Thomas Shank

CONVICTED: 2012

Illegal “Assistance” at the Polls

Christine Thomas Shank, of Brazos County, pleaded guilty to unlawful assistance at the polls in the 2010 general election. She was sentenced to one year of deferred adjudication. Shank was placed under community supervision and was ordered to complete 20 hours of community service and pay a \$500 fine and \$332 in court costs. Shank was also barred from offering any future “assistance” to voters.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

TEXAS

Carlos Medrano

CONVICTED: 2012
False Registrations

Dallas County Justice of the Peace Carlos Medrano was found guilty of one count of illegal voting for persuading a niece to register to vote using an address where she did not reside. Medrano was sentenced to 180 days' incarceration.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fLc4p7

TEXAS

Reyna Almanza

CONVICTED: 2011
Impersonation Fraud At The Polls, Ineligible Voting

Almanza was charged with illegal voting and voter impersonation in a 2009 school district election. Almanza and one of her sons cast votes at a polling place. Later, Almanza brought her son back to the polls, where he cast a vote in the name of his incarcerated brother. She received a two-year suspended sentence, 5 years' probation, 90 days in county jail, and court costs.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2evjH1j

bit.ly/2fmiN6o

bit.ly/2f8zaT7

TEXAS

Jack Carol Crowder

CONVICTED: 2009

Impersonation Fraud at the Polls

Jack Carol Crowder pleaded guilty to one count of fraudulent use of identifying information. Crowder impersonated his deceased father in the 2008 Democratic primary in Harris County. Crowder used his father's registration card to cast a ballot in his name. He was sentenced to one year deferred adjudication and ordered to pay a \$200 fine.

SOURCES

on.msnbc.com/1gtDDgJ

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

TEXAS

Oralia Frausto

CONVICTED: 2009

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots, False Registrations

Oralia Frausto was sentenced for his role in a scheme that involved registering fake voters to vacant lots during the 2006 Democratic Primary. The goal was to submit a large number of mail-in ballots. He received a pre-trial diversion.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2sAuBYJ

bit.ly/2sVyni7

TEXAS

Maria Gonzalez

CONVICTED: 2009

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots, False Registrations

Maria Gonzalez was sentenced for her role in a scheme that involved registering fake voters to vacant lots during the 2006 Democratic Primary. The goal was to submit a large number of mail-in ballots. She received pre-trial diversion.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2sAuBYJ

bit.ly/2sVyni7

TEXAS

Paulito Nilo

CONVICTED: 2009

Ineligible Voting

Paulito Nilo pleaded guilty to one count of voting despite being a felon. Nilo cast his illegal vote in the 2008 municipal election. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, probated to five years of community supervision. He served one day in jail and was ordered to pay a \$500 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

bit.ly/2tNFRAs

TEXAS

Elva Gutierrez Lazo

CONVICTED: 2008

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballot

Elva Gutierrez Lazo, a former Duval County precinct secretary, pleaded guilty to one count of illegally possessing another's ballot during the 2006 primary election. Lazo and others helped voters to register to receive absentee ballots by falsely claiming they were disabled. She later returned to collect and mail the absentee votes. Lazo received one year deferred adjudication and one year of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

bit.ly/2tNAvVP

TEXAS

Jose Rene Gomez

CONVICTED: 2008

Duplicate Voting

Jose Rene Gomez pleaded guilty to one count of illegal voting. Gomez was implicated in a scheme to register phony voters at vacant lots in an effort to receive and submit a large number of mail-in ballots for the 2006 Democratic Primary. Gomez was also charged with voting twice in that election. He was sentenced to two years of deferred adjudication, two years of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2sAuBYJ

bit.ly/2rCJNU7

TEXAS

Lydia Molina

CONVICTED: 2008

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballot

Lydia Molina, then-Treasurer for Duval County, pleaded guilty to one count of illegally possessing another's ballot during the 2006 primary election. Molina and others helped voters to register to receive absentee ballots by falsely claiming they were disabled. She later returned to collect and mail the absentee votes. Molina received one year deferred adjudication and one year of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

bit.ly/2tNAvVP

TEXAS

Oscar Rios

CONVICTED: 2008

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Oscar Rios pleaded guilty to 12 counts of illegally possessing a ballot without a voter's consent. Rios was involved in a scheme to register phony voters at vacant lots in an effort to receive and submit a large number of mail-in ballots for the 2006 Democratic Primary. He was sentenced to two years of deferred adjudication, two years of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2sAuBYJ

bit.ly/2rCJNU7

TEXAS

Maria Soriano

CONVICTED: 2008

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballot

Maria Soriano, then-head of the Duval Welfare Department, pleaded guilty to one count of illegally possessing another's ballot during the 2006 primary election. Soriano and others helped voters to register to receive absentee ballots by falsely claiming they were disabled. She later returned to collect and mail the absentee votes. Soriano received one year deferred adjudication and one year of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

bit.ly/2tNAvVP

TEXAS

Maria Adelina Trigo

CONVICTED: 2008

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballot

Maria Adelina Trigo, a former Duval County welfare clerk, pleaded guilty to one count of illegally possessing a ballot that was not her own during the 2006 primary election. Trigo and others helped voters to register to receive absentee ballots by falsely claiming they were disabled. Trigo later returned to collect and mail the absentee vote. She received one year deferred adjudication and one year of community supervision, and was ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2rCDVKI

bit.ly/2tNAvVP

TEXAS

Debra Briseno

CONVICTED: 2007
False Registrations

A former Port Lavaca city councilwoman was sentenced to five years in prison for registering non-citizens to vote and tampering with government documents. During the trial, she acknowledged that she did not ask registrants about their citizenship, nor did she inform them that only United States citizens are eligible to vote. Illegal voting is a third-degree felony.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2evdRgn

TEXAS

Maria Dora Flores

CONVICTED: 2006
Illegal “Assistance” at the Polls

Maria Dora Flores pleaded guilty to engaging in illegal “assistance” at the polls during the 2006 Democratic primary election. Prosecutors charged that Flores escorted several voters into their polling locations and then filled out and submitted ballots without their consent. The judge sentenced Flores to a \$750 fine and two years of deferred probation. In a statement discussing the case, then Attorney General Greg Abbott remarked that, “Those who perpetrate voter fraud are victimizing and intimidating the elderly. This violates the law and is simply another form of elder abuse.”

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fdWvDn

bit.ly/2e3fHq1

TEXAS

Willie J. Ray, Jamillah Johnson, and Melinda Hunter

CONVICTED: 2006

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Willie Ray, a Texarkana Ward 2 City Councilwoman, and Jamillah Johnson pleaded guilty to fraudulent use of absentee ballots during the 2004 general election. The two women illegally assisted elderly and other voters in submitting applications for mail-in ballots, then collected and mailed in the completed ballots for the voters. This assistance is a class B misdemeanor under Texas law. The judge fined Willie Ray \$200 and sentenced her to 8 months of probation. Jamillah Johnson received a \$200 fine and 6 months of probation. A third defendant, Melinda Hunter, was ordered to participate in a supervised 6 month pretrial diversion program.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fcgEMG

bit.ly/2f26dli

TEXAS

Josefina Marinas Suarez

CONVICTED: 2006

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Josefina Marinas Suarez pleaded guilty to a charge of handling an official ballot belonging to another. During the 2005 Robstown school district election Suarez targeted elderly voters, soliciting votes and returning the absentee ballots herself. Under Texas law, she was not permitted to handle or transport absentee ballots. Suarez was sentenced to one year deferred adjudication probation and a \$500 fine.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fmjblv

TEXAS

Trinidad Villalobos

CONVICTED: 2006

Fraudulent Use of Absentee Ballots

Trinidad Villalobos was convicted by a jury of illegally possessing and transporting ballots belonging to multiple voters during the 2004 primary. According to witnesses, Villalobos offered to assist elderly voters fill out applications for absentee ballots, and would later collect and mail those ballots. Unauthorized possession of ballots is a misdemeanor under Texas law. Villalobos received six months of probation for each charge.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2flh0ek

bit.ly/2eYP84q

bit.ly/2evYJPN

UTAH

Zachary Millett, Brandon Ellsworth, and Charles Rich

CONVICTED: 2008

False Registrations

Zachary Millet, Brandon Ellsworth, and Charles Rich pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor attempt to fraudulently register to vote in a 2006 election for sheriff. The small county of Daggett (population 900) saw 28 others placed in a diversionary program for misdemeanor fraud committed in the same election. Each were sentenced to 30 days in jail (suspended) and fined \$500 as part of a diversion agreement.

SOURCES

bit.ly/2fClmVr