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Ballot Shredding: Unraveling Bullock's Involvement Warrants Scrutiny

Election Night Ballot Shredding: What was Comm. Bill Bullock's Role?

Election day in Montana is a state holiday for all government employees. Except for emergency services and election staff, all other officials and employees are given the day off. That means courts are closed, the Department of Motor Vehicles etc.

On election night, November 2022, an inquiry was made by poll watcher Chip Bennett to Commissioner Bill Bullock concerning his role in the Annex Building. Bullock promptly identified himself as a head election judge. To ensure transparency and accountability, community members reached out to the election office, seeking a comprehensive list of all authorized judges and poll watchers who had permission to be inside the building or manage ballots that evening. Bullock was not on any judge or election worker list.

As a note to our readers, in order to be a certified election judge, you must go through training the year of the election, past training does not carry over to current election cycles. This ensures that all election judges are up-to-date with the latest procedures and protocols, reinforcing the integrity of our election process.

The Carbon County Attorney's office doubled down on Bullock being an election judge and continued to back his presence on election night as authorized. Upon further probing by the Daily Montanan's Editor, including public records requests for documentation such as election



judge certification letters for Bullock, the Carbon County Attorney's office revised their narrative to state Comm. Bullock has every right to access his office, use his computer and essentially disrupt the election process; even after normal working hours during an election. However, this update came after numerous months of silence on the issue and with none of the public records requests filled.

The situation begs the question – if the commissioner's office can be accessed during an election by commissioners, and perhaps other employees and officials that work there; then maybe for the security of our elections, it makes sense to move the tabulation of the election to another facility where only authorized officials, judges and poll watchers are allowed access?

After the November 2022 elections, a group of concerned citizens submitted a request to obtain a copy of the county's security footage. Macque Bohleen, the Clerk & Recorder, informed that the staff's request for privacy screens on all interior cameras has been implemented, eliminating the possibility of any interior footage. The only active recording device was the outdoor camera and she retorted the cost to obtain the footage would exceed \$600. The citizens bore the expense for the footage. However, the citizens discovered that the privacy screen did not completely cover the recording. It left one inch of recording where the date and timestamp were located.

Through the grace of God, the surveillance system captured Commissioner Bullock handling ballots in various sections of the premises, including the tabulation room. The cameras also recorded him observing Crystal Roascio, the election administrator, as she seemingly shredded over 100 absentee ballots around 8:45pm on election night. His persistent side glances her way indicate he was continuously monitoring to see if she had finished shredding. As per Montana Attorney General Austin Knutsen, the shredded materials bear an uncanny resemblance to absentee ballots.

Security footage from external cameras illustrates Bullock seemingly removing election-related items, potentially even ballots, from the election tabulator room. These items are later seen on the front seat of his vehicle. The Carbon County Attorney's Office clarifies that these supposed loose ballots, which Bullock handles on election night



and places on the passenger seat of his parked car, are actually road crew schedules.

This article includes a QR code associated with the video of Bullock removing materials from the tabulator room on election night. Readers are encouraged to view the footage and form their own opinion of Bullock's intentions. Footage of Bullock handling ballots and watching the election administrator shred what appears to be absentee ballots: https://rumble.com/v442jlb-electionadministrator-crystal-roasciocommissioner-bill-bullock.html



Footage of the Carbon County Election Administrator, Crystal Roascio, shredding ballots: https://rumble.com/v26deb6-carboncounty-montana-2022-generalelection-night-video.html?e9s=src_ v1_upp

Given the rising public concern over election security, it's crucial that officials, especially commissioners charged with certifying our elections, maintain transparency in their actions. By removing what seem to be ballots from the tabulator room and placing them in his vehicle, Bullock fueled these concerns and left the public with the impression that Bullock is not committed to election integrity or a secure and transparent election process. As in the movie *Gone with the Wind*, Bullock's actions scream "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn."

For the sake of election integrity, any work that needs to be accomplished on election day should ideally be conducted from a home setting. His coming into the office for over seven hours on election night to "hang-out" with election staff not only embodies disrespect for civic responsibilities, but also shows his willingness to compromise the integrity of our election process to suit his needs with utter disregard to the process and his constituents.

Preserving the sanctity of our elections is paramount. All tasks that need to be tackled on election day should be undertaken from the comfort of home. Bullock chose to spend over seven hours socializing in the office with election staff on election night. Not only does this undermines the seriousness of our civic responsibilities, it risks the integrity of our election system, overlooking the crucial process and the people it serves. Let's prioritize maintaining unblemished election proceedings over personal convenience.

Bullock's presence in the tabulator room and handling ballots on election night is a manifestation of irreverence for the security and integrity of our electoral process. Bullock's actions, such as using his phone and computer in the tabulator room in the midst of an election and leaving with a stack of documents from that room, are not in line with election integrity. Bullock did not show any commitment to uphold the sanctity or security of our elections.

But this is how Bullock operates. The public has noted certain concerns regarding Bullock's attitude. His interactions with the public and employees have been perceived as domineering and dismissive. It's apparent that his assertiveness has evolved into actions that can be construed as aggressive bullying, particularly towards those he represents.

Bullock lacks discretion and weaponizes his position as commissioner. Bullock reclassifies roads so they are no longer maintained. He refuses to release public information and threatens members of the public and encourages them to sue the county if they don't like how he operates. His behavior epitomizes toxic culture.

Many other public workers and constituents say Bullock's dismissive attitude and his arrogance is offensive and undermines the public trust needed in a collaborative work environment.

It should be said that when arrogance becomes bullying or bigotry it should not be tolerated; therefore, Bullock should not be re-elected.