

WHEN VOTE TOTALS DON'T MATCH:

*AN INVESTIGATIVE ANALYSIS REGARDING THE
ADMINISTRATION OF THE NOV. 5, 2024 ELECTION*

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*An Investigative Analysis regarding the
administration of the Nov. 5, 2024 Election*

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Executive Summary

When Tim Vetter, Phani Mantravadi, and the Mich. Data Team first requested election records for Nov 5th 2024, they expected a routine process to ensue, and to receive the requested information within the next few days. After receiving a puzzling response effectively denying their request, however, their mentalities shifted.

Over the next 45 days, the team strategized to figure out how to best obtain this now-contested data, with the eventual decision being made to FOIA each of Michigan's 83 county clerks. As responses began rolling in, the team noticed a shocking pattern of mismatched totals emerge between the official Election Summary Reports and the Statement of Votes Cast they obtained, with differences numbering in the thousands for some jurisdictions.

This led the team to conduct a further examination, not only of the data received, but also of the data collection and management methods used by the State of Michigan. What the team uncovered was shocking:

1. Vote history records have been added, deleted, and altered post-certification.
2. Vote history designations have been switched from in-person to absentee and vice versa, which can potentially have the effect of altering overseas (UOCAVA) ballot designations.
3. Vote histories have been transferred from the voter ID that originated them to completely separate voter IDs of registrants who did not cast the recorded ballots.
4. Vote histories are sometimes moved to locations other than those from which they originated.
5. Vote histories have been duplicated at the state level, in contradiction to local records.
6. Vote histories have been scrubbed from voters who have an active status, and continue to participate in the electoral process.

This Investigative Analysis serves as both a means of reporting the results that the team uncovered, as well as a source of recommendations that can be adopted in order to bring to cessation the abuses detailed herein. It is the author's hope that this information is of value and utility to the reader.

Audemus Jura Nostra Defendere: *"We dare to defend our rights!"*

Frederick Woodward

December 2024

Background and Initial Observations

Efforts to conduct a routine audit of the most recent election cycle's data have met with such resistance that a reasonable person has to wonder: Is there something about the 2024 election, and possibly the elections in 2020 and 2022, that Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and the Michigan Bureau of Elections (BOE)—the chief election administrators—might not want citizens to know?

State Rep. Josh Schriver, the Michigan Data Team, and others first requested the Nov. 5 2024 election vote history records before the election was certified on November 22. At that time, the Secretary of State's Office announced it would release the requested information on December 1, after certification.

That date came and went. No vote history data was forthcoming.

Tim Vetter, lead analyst for the Michigan Data Team, submitted a follow-up request. Citing [MCL 15.231 et seq](#), which requires the transparent release of data, Vetter believed he had strong standing to make the request.

“For possibly the first time ever, subscribers to the statewide QVF data release were denied the November 5th 2024 vote history records as expected to appear in the December 1st 2024 QVF... Given these circumstances, we are requesting this data directly from you...”

Again, the BOE refused to share the information but on different grounds. The Bureau had not yet received all of the necessary data, it claimed. The official communication (Fig. 1 below) stated, “The complete voter history for the 11/5/2024 election is not in this file as information is still being uploaded by clerks.”

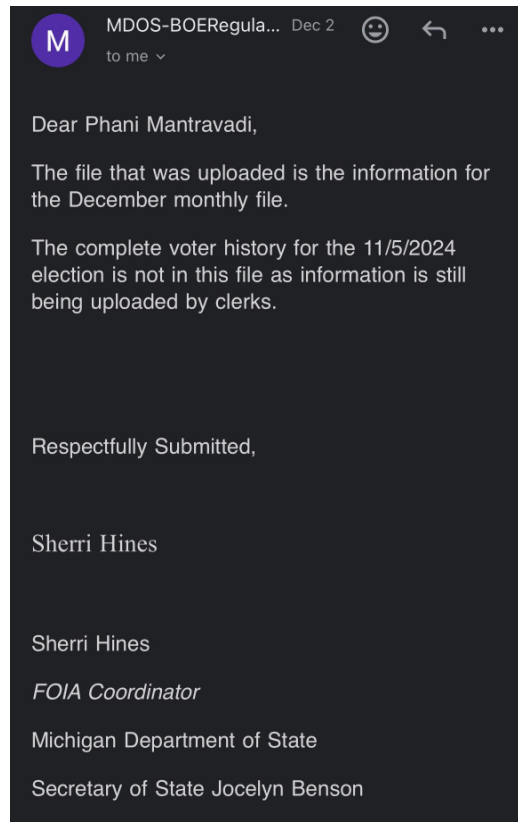


Fig. 1- MI BOE email response to FOIA requesting 2024 election vote data.

The researchers were puzzled. Never before had they received this sort of response, and the implications were concerning. If Michigan’s top election officials had not received the final results, reported from each precinct, how then could the election have been lawfully certified?

The Michigan Constitution is clear on the issue. [MCL 168.823](#) refers to the reception of full and accurate precinct results as a prerequisite to the certification of an election at the county level— even going so far as to give a county board of canvassers the power to adjourn and delay certification until this data is provided.

If it is found, upon the convening of the board of county canvassers, that the returns from any of the boards of election inspectors of the several election precincts are missing, incomplete, or incorrect, or for any other reason it is found necessary, then the board of county canvassers shall have power to adjourn from day to day until the returns shall have been procured or corrected.

Either one or more clerks across Michigan’s 83 counties must have failed to abide by [MCL 168.828](#) and upload their final results within the 24 hour post-certification timeframe, or the Michigan BOE was unlawfully withholding the public release of this information.

Curious readers might ask: What could have prompted the state to take such an irresponsible action as to declare they were not in possession of this critical data and then to offer no subsequent correction? Occam's razor—the principle that the simplest explanations are often the most likely—suggests that the responsible officials might have had more to lose in releasing the data than in professing its incompleteness.

Why does the data matter?

The data that researchers were attempting to obtain from the state is of critical importance in auditing and verifying the correct administration and results of an election. The primary category of the sought data falls under the phrase, "Statement of Votes Cast," or SOVC. Township clerks receive this data, generated by each vote counting machine, and report it to their county clerks. Then the County Boards of Canvassers certify the elections within their counties.

This data is important because a SOVC provides a precinct-by-precinct breakdown, differentiating it from the Election Summary Report available on each jurisdiction's website. The SOVC is used to compare and contrast Election Summary Data with the actual number of votes and voters recorded at each precinct across the state of Michigan.

Upon receiving the above-pictured response from Michigan's Bureau of Elections, Phani Mantravadi, Founder of CheckMyVote.org, and the Mich. Data Team refused to take no for an answer.

"We decided to reach out to the county clerks after hearing the shocking report from the BOE that clerks hadn't uploaded the data fully even after almost a month after the election," Mantravadi explained. "This was a clear violation of [MCL168.828](#), which mandates that voting data from an election be sent to the Secretary of State within the 24 hours after certification."

With no time to waste, Mantravadi and the Mich. Data Team set out to apply a previously untested approach: Send Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to each of the 83 county clerks across the state of Michigan. The data team experienced early success with over half of the state's clerks responding positively to the data requests.

Then trouble began to brew.

First one, then two, and eventually six clerks responded negatively—either assigning massive fees or refusing to cooperate with the FOIA requests entirely, a violation of [MCL 15.231 et seq.](#), as [summarized](#) below by Attorney General Dana Nessel:

What public records are subject to disclosure?

The FOIA requires the disclosure of all public records, except to the extent that they fall within a statutorily-recognized exemption.⁵² Some common examples of types of records that may be subject to disclosure as public records include electronic records such as email, data saved on a computer, digital photographs, and any other electronically stored information; and physical records such as minutes of open meetings, officials' voting records, employee discipline

Fig 2 FOIA law *summary* from AG Dana Nessel, page 13.

The dissenting clerks gave mostly generic reasons. However, one clerk, who requested to remain anonymous, reported receiving a call from the Mich. BOE advising her not to release the data. The most logical, yet troubling, reason for this appears to be as follows:

Among the initial results received, could there have existed a mismatch between the SOVC data and numbers published in the official Election Summary Report as posted on each county's website?

Shocking Preliminary Confirmation

Of the over 50 counties that responded to the team's FOIA requests, 92% of the data confirmed the fears of Mantravadi and the Mich. Data Team. Only 8% of the data provided showed a one-for-one match between the Statement of Votes Cast (SOVC) and the official Election Summary Reports. The rest, 92%, contained varying degrees of dissimilarity with several counties, including Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, and Isabella, having 2,000-plus, 3,000-plus, and 11,000-plus initial mismatches, respectively.

Isabella County in particular, revealed a dramatic effect of this discrepancy. This county, home to Alma and Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, has only about 32,000 voters in total. In other words, one in three (1 in 3) votes cast in the most recent election were potentially problematic.

Underlying Issues Revealed

What makes the situation appear even worse for Michigan Election Officials (and the voters of Michigan) is that since the 2020 election, the Mich. Bureau of Elections has adopted a policy of re-assigning vote histories through a random assignment algorithm —meaning the votes credited to Isabella County could have potentially originated from anywhere across the state of Michigan. To make matters worse, this vote history reassignment is accelerating at a precipitous rate. See Figure 3:

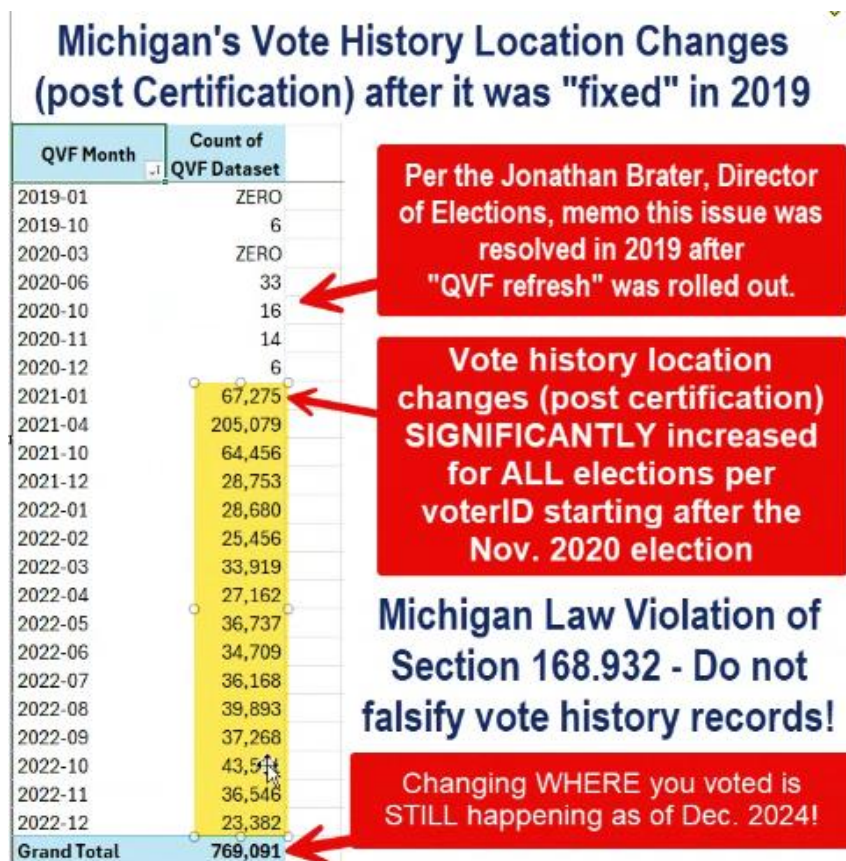


Fig. 3- quantification of vote history changes since random assignment algorithm rolled out by Mich. Bureau of Elections after 2020 election.

In the minds of election integrity advocates, this random assignment algorithm amounts to a blatant obfuscation of records.

“Randomly changing voter histories appears to be a thinly veiled attempt to stymie and stifle efforts to audit and verify key election results,” said Mantravadi.

“If the Secretary of State or her Bureau of Elections can offer an explanation, I’m all ears,” lead Data Analyst Tim Vetter added.

The similar conclusions of these expert analysts seemed hard to argue against. As Mantravadi went on to explain, “This pattern of obfuscating or altering historical data makes it almost impossible to reconcile counts. Regardless of what level,” he said, “the number of voters should always match the number of ballots. It’s simple math. And a voter’s history should always be his history, fixed in time.”

According to the Michigan Data Team, there are 6 main ways that the State of Michigan is actively corrupting vote history data:

1. Vote histories have been transferred from the voter ID that originated them to completely separate voter IDs of registrants who did not cast the recorded ballots.
2. Vote history records have been added, deleted, and altered post-certification.
3. Vote history designations have been switched from in-person to absentee and vice versa, which can potentially have the effect of altering overseas (UOCAVA) ballot designations.
4. Vote histories are sometimes moved to locations other than those from which they originated.
5. Vote histories have been duplicated at the state level, in contradiction to local records.

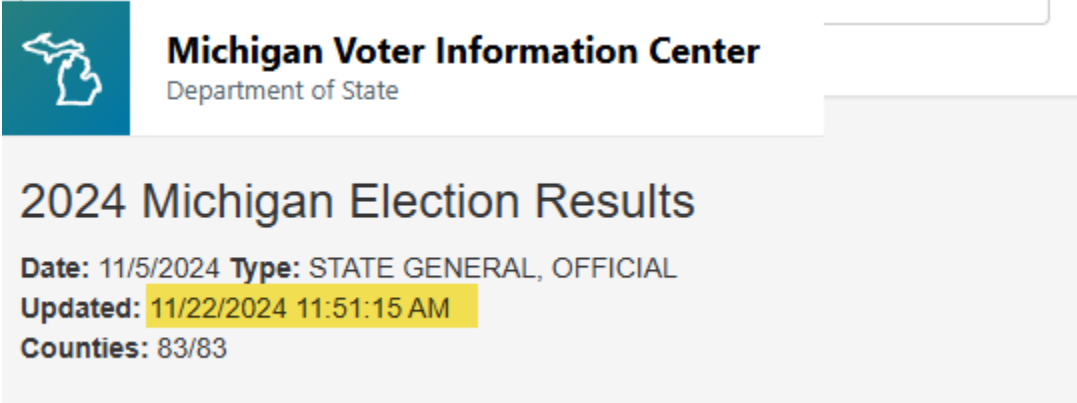
Vote histories have been scrubbed from voters who have an active status, and continue to participate in the electoral process.

All of these actions—whether changing algorithms or voter IDs or voter histories—have a similar effect, Mantravadi said. “They make independent attempts to audit or verify Michigan’s stated election results nearly futile. But transparency is the law, and if we are to restore and preserve free and fair elections, we have to receive and examine this data.”

Furthermore, according to Mantravadi, the BOE could stop its obfuscation practices, by locking down vote history tables immediately. As he put it, “The answer is simple. The BOE should not be spending extra time and effort changing historical records. Leave the historical data untouched.

Accurately report the results to the public, so independent audits can take place.” According to the Secretary of State, the Nov. 5 Presidential Election was certified on Nov. 22, (See Fig. 4.)

“Common sense tells us there should be no more vote history manipulations after that date. But the record clearly shows that this is not the case,” Mantravadi said.



Michigan Voter Information Center
Department of State

2024 Michigan Election Results

Date: 11/5/2024 **Type:** STATE GENERAL, OFFICIAL
Updated: 11/22/2024 11:51:15 AM
Counties: 83/83

Fig. 4- *official date and time of November 5th 2024 election certification.*

Since the last article on this topic was published, Patty McMurray’s *Gateway Pundit* [Exclusive](#), the Mich. Data Team has received and analyzed 30 new datasets. Each subsequent analysis has confirmed the previous assertion with more and more “injected voters” popping up across the state.

Recommendations

The information presented here demonstrates a grave need for systemic correction regarding the management of Michigan’s voter data. As Mantravadi put it, “We have a critical need to restore transparency and accessibility to public vote history records. Vote history records should be frozen after an election, making sure that vote histories are no longer manipulated. No more adding or scrubbing post-certification should happen.”

1. Vote history designations should be locked and unswitchable from in-person to absentee and vice versa.
2. Overseas military and citizen absentee voting (UOCAVA) ballots should be clearly marked with a separate category indicator.
3. Vote histories should always be tied to the voter ID that originated them, and moving these histories to locations other than those from which they originated should be prohibited.

4. An extensive forensic audit should be conducted to ensure that duplicate vote histories at the state level, which exist in contradiction to local records, are purged.

5. Vote histories which have been scrubbed from active status voters should be restored in every instance.

6. Inclusion of other counties' precincts due to school zones should be listed separately and not appear in overall county total SOVCs.

Conclusion

At the end of the day, Mantravadi summed up the situation.

“Transparency and accessibility of public records should be a top priority for lawmakers to address as soon as possible. Otherwise, faith in elections will continue to erode as we’ve been seeing over the past 4 years.”

America and Michigan as a sovereign state are predicated fundamentally on the notion of equal representation of all citizens at the ballot box. Every illegitimate vote cast and every legitimate vote that is mis-tallied cancel out the vote of an American citizen.

“Americans’ great Constitution guarantees every citizen the right to have one vote per election. Compromising that right represents an injustice, which cannot be corrected until all SOVC and all election summaries match, algorithmic manipulations of voter history cease, and all future illegitimate votes and illegitimate registrations are purged from our systems.”