

1201 “Wrong Precinct” Voters in Cuyahoga County were Wrongly Denied their Vote

Our study of “wrong precinct” voters in Cuyahoga County, Ohio shows that of the 2158 provisional voters denied their vote for being in the “wrong precinct”, nearly 56% (1201 voters) were in the correct polling place, *i.e.* they were in the correct building but were in the wrong line and were not told that they should “vote across the aisle.”

Even more disturbing is the fact that 365 “wrong precinct” voters were actually in the correct precinct, but somehow were rejected as being in the wrong precinct.

These findings were presented to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections on December 22, 2004. Director Michael Vu said that these voters were “not relevant to the recount certification” and indicated that it was too late to do anything about them now.

This “wrong precinct” group of disenfranchised voters is just one of several groups comprised of citizens who, through no fault of their own, were denied their right to vote.

Cuyahoga County rejected over 8,500 provisional ballots, more than 35% of the ballots submitted.

This rate is more than twice the rejection rate from the last presidential election and considerably more than any other county in Ohio.

Several sample pages from the “Correct Polling Place - Wrong Precinct Summary Report” follow. The report shows, by polling place, the number of voters who were in the correct polling place, but in the wrong precinct.

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Microsoft Access - [qryPPTSamePollingPlaceWrongPrecinct]

Correct Polling Place - Wrong Precinct - Summary

<i>Municipality / Ward</i>	<i>Polling Place</i>	<i># Rejections in Polling Place</i>
BAY VILLAGE		
01	BAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	1
02	DWYER MEMORIAL SENIOR CENTER	1
03	BAY HIGH SCHOOL	3
	GLENVIEW SCHOOL	2
04	BAY HIGH SCHOOL	1
	ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH	1
		<i>Total Number of Rejections in Municipality</i>
		9
BEACHWOOD		
00	BEACHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL	5
	BRYDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	3
	HILLTOP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1
	THE HAMPTONS REC. BUILDING	8
		<i>Total Number of Rejections in Municipality</i>
		17
BEDFORD		
01	ELLENWOOD CENTER	5

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<i>Municipality / Ward</i>	<i>Polling Place</i>	<i># Rejections in Polling Place</i>
WESTLAKE		
02	HILLIARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1
	HOLLY LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	4
03	ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH	5
	WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL	1
04	WESTLAKE UNITED METH. CHURCH	1
05	ST. LADISLAS CHURCH	2
06	WESTLAKE CTR. FOR COMM. SERVICES	1
		<i>Total Number of Rejections in Municipality</i>
		17
		<i>Total number of "Wrong Precinct" rejections, where voter was in correct polling place*</i>
		1201
		<i>Total number of "Wrong Precinct" rejections (in Wrong Precinct report)</i>
		2152
		<i>Percent of Wrong Precinct Rejections</i>
		55.8

* 365 of 1201 were in the correct precinct!