

Subject: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2024-152 Completed
Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 11:11:11 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>
To: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>

EXTERNAL SENDER

Dear Requestor,

The request [Request Number: EL-2024-152](#) has been completed. Please click on the request link to download the response documentation.

Per TGC Section 552.275(d) this request took our staff 7.5 hours time to respond to. This time will be applied to the cumulative time limit as set forth by the Tarrant County Elections Administration (TCEA) of 24 hours monthly, not to exceed 108 hours per fiscal year. If the requestor exceeds the set limits, see TGS Sections 552.275(e), (g), (h) and Section 552.271 (e). To see the complete TCEA policy effective 11/22/2023 or to request a detailed statement, please contact us at ElectionsPIR@tarrantcountytx.gov.

Tarrant County's Fiscal Year (FY) begins on October 1 of each calendar year and ends on September 30 of the following calendar year.

Tarrant County reserves the right to suspend the time limits for a requestor at its discretion.

Thank you,

Tarrant County, TX



Tarrant County Elections Office
2700 Premier St.
Fort Worth, TX 76111
(817) 884-8683
ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov

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From: Troy Havard - Tarrant County (Texas Association of Counties) <tchavard@members.county.org>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2023 4:57 PM EDT
To: Clinton A. Ludwig <CALudwig@tarrantcountytx.gov>
CC: TAC-Elections-Community <tac-elections@groups.county.org>
Subject: [TAC-Elections] Re: Date CVRs available to public

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

Kevin is correct. HB5180 made it mandatory for them to be released the day after canvass. That law went into effect on Sept 1 of this year.

[View full conversation](#)

Kevin Stroud - Aransas County
Aransas County • Elections Administrator

This is from the SOS Advisory 2023-08 (2023 Legislative Summary). CVRs are to be available the first day after the election was canvassed.

- **House Bill 5180 (Wilson):** Clarifies the date by which voted ballots, cast vote records, and ballot images are available for public inspection. Cast vote records and ballot images (if maintained) shall be made available by the general custodian of election records for public inspection no later than the first day after the final canvass of an election. On the 61st day after election day, the general custodian shall make available for public inspection the original voted ballots. The general custodian shall adopt procedures to ensure the redaction of any personally identifiable information of the voter that is contained on the voted ballot, ballot images, or cast vote records before making them available for public inspection.

Effective Date: September 1, 2023

Statutes Affected: Election Code § 1.012

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Please refrain from printing this email unless completely necessary. Go Green! *****

Tammy Biggar - Fannin County
Fannin County • County Clerk

I believe it was in contention. The OAG said one thing, and I think the SOS read the statute another. We were told to contact our county attorneys
Tammy

Date CVRs available to public

I know this has been discussed several times, but I cannot remember what was said. I have a request for the CVRs for elections from 2020 to May 2023. Are these under the rule that they have to be in retention for the 22 months, or can we release them to requestors. I have called SOS and my County Attorney, but no one has been able to answer their phone. :)

Jenise 'Crickett' Miller - Parker County
Parker County
Elections Administrator

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mob-#p810908

From: Troy Havard - Tarrant County (Texas Association of Counties) <tchavard@members.county.org>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 8:13 AM EDT
To: Clinton A. Ludwig <CALudwig@tarrantcountytx.gov>
CC: TAC-Elections-Community <tac-elections@groups.county.org>
Subject: [TAC-Elections] Re: FW: Ballot Verifier

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

We're actively seeking a contract with them. Supposedly, they can match ballot images to CVRs, allowing anyone to do an audit in the comfort of their own home!

Looking for a demo using our actual data to verify.

[View full conversation](#)

◦ **Brenda Arp - Brown County**
Brown County • Elections Administrator

Thank you so much!

We are so Happy you an Heider are BACK!!

◦ **Chris Davis - Travis County**
Travis County • VR Division
Director

Yes, it's legit. It was covered during the [Legislative Update presentation \(12 slide down\)](#) at the August seminar.

FW: Ballot Verifier

Ok want someone's opinion about this. Has anyone else been contacted and is this legit?

Thanks in advance for your help

Brenda Arp

Brown County

Elections Administrator/REO/CERA

BRENDA.ARP@BROWNCOUNTYTX.GOV

613 N Fisk, Ste 200

Brownwood, Texas 76801

(325)646-4333

Fax (325)643-6317

From: John Fleisch <john.fleisch@civera.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 10:24 AM

To: Brenda Arp <brenda.arp@browncountytexas.gov>

Subject: Ballot Verifier

HB 5180

https://custom.statenet.com/public/resources.cgi?id=ID:bill:TX2023000H5180&cuiq=cebcefa4-252a-5dcb-aeb1-7fc87d570de0&client_md=cdecaab79c25be37fee19856e9cfe9b6&mode=current_text

Ballot Verifier

<https://adaid.elstats-stg.com/>

John Fleisch

Solutions Architect

CIVERA

phone :: 678.906.3779

email :: john.fleisch@civera.com



Brenda Arp - Brown County

Brown County
Elections Administrator

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mob-#p911105f

From: Troy Havard - Tarrant County (Texas Association of Counties) <tchavard@members.county.org>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 8:28 AM EST
To: Clinton A. Ludwig <CALudwig@tarrantcountytx.gov>
CC: TAC Elections Community <tac-elections@groups.county.org>
Subject: [TAC-Elections] Re: Is Poll watcher certificate of appointment subject to the FOIA

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

Troy Havard - Tarrant County - Assistant Elections Administrator

Yes, ma'am, it is. It's also an election record, which means retention for 22 months, minimum.

Join this discussion

Reply to chat privately with Troy
Reply all to discuss with everyone

Trudy Hancock - Brazos County - Elections Administrator

Yes. All election records are subject to Public information requests.

Tammy Biggar - Fannin County
County Clerk

Is Poll watcher certificate of appointment subject to the FOIA

Had a request for a copy of a certificate of appointment for a poll watcher. Is this an open record??

0 2

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From: Troy Havard - Tarrant County (Texas Association of Counties) <tchavard@members.county.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 10:54 AM EDT
To: Clinton A. Ludwig <CALudwig@tarrantcountytx.gov>
CC: TAC-Elections-Community <tac-elections@groups.county.org>
Subject: [TAC-Elections] Re: Voter signing ballot

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

We have voters that will occasionally write a mini novel on their ballots. Had one that signed both sides of an absentee ballot 4 times on each side – once on each edge.

That just makes it painful to do as Trudy mentioned. WE have to physically inspect and redact both the images and the ballots. What a pain in the anus!

BTW, the CVR will not contain that information, no matter how much they want to try to use that...

[View full conversation](#)

◦ **Susie Spring - Parmer County**
Parmer County • County Clerk

We had a voter sign their ballot before with out even asking. If they want to sign it so everyone will know it was theirs when we get all these requests for ballot copies so be it. I figure it's everything goes for anyone except us working the elections. We follow the strict guidelines or get charged with a felony.

◦ **Trudy Hancock - Brazos County**
Brazos County • Elections Administrator

HB 5180 in the last session requires that any information that identifies the voter MUST be redacted.

Trudy

◦ **Sheri Nerren - Rockwall County**
Rockwall County • Assistant Coordinator

I've watched quite a few videos that an enthusiast has sent me just so I can keep up with what is going on. Yes, this is one of those things that has been suggested to do so they can see in the CVR that their votes were actually counted and were what they selected. My only question is, because that voted ballot becomes a public record, do we have to redact their signature? My thought is they are knowingly signing a public record so they made that choice kind of like a petition but then there's the whole thing about what is considered available for inspection and released.

Voter signing ballot

I have always been told that the voters do not sign their ballots. So yesterday, we had a voter that said he would not put his ballot in the scanner, until he signs his name and if we would t let him sign it, he would tear it up. After a lengthy conversation with him, I called the SOS and was told there was nothing in the code to stop a voter from signing his name on his ballot. So..... he signed his name and scanned it. I am just trying to see if I am the only one that has been thing this for 10 years or has it come to just let the voter do whatever they want?

Shawn Weemes

Red River County Clerk

200 North Walnut Street

Clarksville, Texas 75426

(903) 427-2401



Shawn Weemes - Red River County

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mob-#p911149f

□

From: EL - Quorum Training Room 1 <ELQuorumTrainingRoom1@tarrantcountytx.gov> on behalf of Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 3:08 PM EST
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Accepted: Public Inspection of Ballots (2023-05)

From: Stephen Eklund <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arlington Republican Club - Political Watch Committee #10
To: Clinton A. Ludwig <CALudwig@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: October 26, 2023 10:46 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: PWC Report #10.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

FYI. See County Offices section.
Steve

Sent from my iPad

Political Watch Committee

Arlington, Texas

A combined Committee of Members of the Arlington Republican Club and the Republican Women of Arlington

Report #10

October 2023

Contents

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National Offices

Senator John Cornyn

In the month of September **Cornyn** has continued his bad track record of co-sponsoring Democrat Senate bills and voted with them six times. Some examples include a bill (S.2993) introduced by Debbie **Stabenow** (D-MI) to amend the Social Security Act and Public Health Service Act to Permanently authorize certified community behavioral health clinics, and he also co-sponsored Democrat Senator Margaret **Hassan's** bill (S.2919) entitled the Alert Communities Act. John **Cornyn** also voted with democrat senators and RINO's in the latest Continuing Resolution, a bill that on the surface may seem good to avoid a government shutdown, however, this bill continues to fund Ukraine and contains no money for our own southern border. **Cornyn** can always be counted on to betray his party, his state and the country.



Senator Ted Cruz

Senator **Cruz** joined eight other Republican senators and voted against the latest Continuing Resolution. In addition, he introduced a bill (S.2983) to stop the funding of any public-school facilities that provide shelter to illegal aliens, and co-sponsored the Protecting the Right to Keep and Bear Arms Act of 2023 (S.2911).



Rep. Roger Williams - CD25



Congressman **Williams** co-sponsored HR.5561, which is the house version of the Protecting the Right to Keep and Bear Arms Act of 2023. He also co-sponsored HR.5073, which is a bill to promote domestic energy production. As the chairman of the House Small Business Committee, Roger **Williams** has frequently introduced and co-sponsored bills that help our business community. Although these bills never get any main stream media coverage, they help keep Texas the economic power

house of the country. Roger **Williams** voted against removing Speaker **McCarthy**.

Rep. Jake Ellzey - CD6

Jake **Ellzey** co-sponsored HR.5507, a bill to prohibit the use of federal funds to establish a Disinformation Governance Board. Additionally, he joined 33 other House Republicans in co-sponsoring HR.5465, the Congressional Access to Bureaucratic Offices Act. Currently, agencies like the FBI can block congressmen from access to their offices and building which makes it easy for them to hide things from the public and congress. Jake **Ellzey** voted against removing Speaker **McCarthy**, and as of the date of this report, has voted against Jim **Jordan** for Speaker.



State Offices

After the Texas House impeached Attorney General Ken **Paxton**, the Senate took up the case. The House Managers (think prosecuting attorneys) presented witnesses that basically testified they had no evidence of wrongdoing. In the end, **Paxton** was only guilty of being an effective conservative voice. He was acquitted with only two Republicans voting with the Democrats to remove him. Arlington Senator Kelly **Hancock**, usually a good conservative, inexplicably was one of them.

There were several issues that were prioritized for this session of the legislature. Since both the House and the Senate are majority Republican, the only way to block priority bills is through parliamentary tricks or blocking them in committees. The table below shows a summary of how Arlington Senators and Representatives voted on priority bills.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Chamber</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>HB1243</i>	<i>HB5180</i>	<i>SB1403</i>	<i>SB1900</i>	<i>SB14</i>	<i>SB12</i>	<i>SB1527</i>	<i>HB3</i>	<i>HB3137</i>	<i>SB29</i>
Kelly Hancock	Rep	Senate	SD9	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea *	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea *
Phil King	Rep	Senate	SD10	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea *
Brian Birdwell	Rep	Senate	SD22	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea !	Yea *	Yea *	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea !
Royce West	Dem	Senate	SD23	Nay	Nay	Nay	Yea	Nay	Nay	Yea	Yea	Nay	Nay
Nate Schatzline	Rep	House	HD93	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Nay	Yea	Yea *	Yea
Tony Tinderholt	Rep	House	HD94	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Nay	Yea	Yea	Yea
David Cook	Rep	House	HD96	Yea *	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea *	Yea	Yea
Chris Turner	Dem	House	HD101	Nay	Yea	Nay	Nay	Nay	Nay	Yea	Yea	Nay	Nay

Key:

- ! – Authored
- * - Coauthored

The next table summarizes the priority bills and their result. Note that the bills that failed never came to the floor for a vote. Also, note how many bills died in committee or through some parliamentary trick. There were many more bills submitted in the most recent session, including ones that related to the stated priorities, but these are a representative sample.

<u>Bill</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Result</u>
HB1243	Elections	Increases penalties for fraud	Signed into law
HB5180	Elections	Allow public inspection of election records	Signed into law
HJR98	Elections	Gives AG authority to prosecute election law violations	Died in Committee
HB125	Elections	Deals with DAs that refuse to prosecute election law violations	Died in Committee
HB1671	Elections	Prohibits ballot harvesting	Died in Calendars Committee
SB1403	Borders	Coordinate with other states; build a wall	Signed into law
SB1900	Borders	Provides resources to fight foreign terrorist organizations	Signed into law
SB14	Gender Modification	Bans gender reassignment surgery on minors	Signed into law
SB249	Gender Modification	Creates a stronger penalty for gender reassignment surgery	Died in committee
SB12	Sexualization of Children	Restricts sexually oriented performances for minors	Signed into law (Currently being blocked by courts)
SB1527	Sexualization of Children	Fights human trafficking	Signed into law
HB4876	Abortion	Imposes liability on abortion providers	Died in committee
HB3	Gun Rights	Require armed safety officers in schools	Signed into law
HB3137	Gun Rights	Prohibits local laws to restrict gun rights	Signed into law
HB636	Gun Rights	Allows election judges to be armed	Died after Point of Order
SB29	Parental Rights	Bans Covid 19 vaccine and mask mandates in schools and businesses	Signed into law
HJR37	Parental Rights	Protects private schools from government regulation	Died in committee
HB360	Parental Rights	Requires disclosure to parents of certain materials and activities	Died in Committee



In other news, Tony **Tinderholt** (R-HD 94) made an inquiry from the floor regarding vacating the chair. Speaker Dade **Phelan** (R-HD 21) subsequently banned Representative **Tinderholt** from asking further questions from the floor. This is an extreme move and another reason why the speaker must be replaced.

County Offices

Judge Tim **O'Hare** led Tarrant County to approve a lean budget, reducing spending by \$8.1 million, achieving the county's lowest property tax rate in at least a decade.

The County Commissioners voted to block funding for Girls, Inc. in a 3-2 vote. On Tuesday October 3rd the commissioners were asked to allocate \$115,334 in state grants for a "progressive" non-profit organization called Girls, Inc. The three who voted to reject funding for Girls Inc. said they were concerned about the messaging put on display by the national organization. The group recognized "Bisexuality Visibility Day," they shared their celebration of LGBT "Pride Month," saying "Pride is everyday." The organization also supports abortion. They also expressed outrage over Texas' Heartbeat bill. They blasted the Texas Legislature for introducing legislation protecting women from men competing in their sports. Thankfully the County Commissioners Court is protecting tax payers hard earned money from those who would subvert our culture, our morays and our children!

Despite the name, Commissioners Court is not a Judicial court but is the general governing body of the county. Among the major duties of the Court, the Court is to:

- Set the tax rate and adopt the County budget;
- Appoint county officials and hire personnel;
- Fill elective and appointive vacancies;
- Establish voting precincts, appoint precinct judges and call County bond elections;
- Let contracts and authorize payment of all County bills;
- Build and maintain county roads and bridges;
- Build, maintain and improve County facilities, including jails;
- Provide for hospitals, public welfare and veterans assistance;
- Manage all County facilities;
- Provide for the data services and archival needs of the County;
- Appoint an Administrator to oversee the operations of those departments reporting to the Court.

There are 25 County Boards and Commissions acting as advisory bodies to the Court. To be considered for service on one of these advisory bodies contact the Commissioners Court Secretary at (817) 884-1234 or your Court's precinct Commissioner.

The court is composed of four Commissioners representing four precincts and the county judge. A County Clerk provides supports staff for the Tarrant County Commissioners Court. The County Clerk is responsible for keeping court minutes and records.

Our new County Elections Administrator, appointed on August 1, is Clinton **Ludwig**. Clint is Captain U.S. Marine Corps (Retired) and he was a counterintelligence / human intelligence officer. We can be assured his LIDMAC (loyalty, integrity, discretion, morals and character) to our Republic was tested every which way, including Sunday, for 20 years from the days when he was an enlisted Marine. Clint was / is a Mustang officer up from the enlisted ranks and



commissioned. Bravo Zulu (well done in Naval Service vernacular) Clint! We can all look forward to well run County Elections Administration. His deputy director, Troy **Havard**, is another retired Marine officer. I think Tarrant County elections are in good hands.

Projections for Precinct-Based Voting and Hand Counting in Tarrant County

The Elections Office did a study to determine the cost that would be incurred if the county reverted to precinct-based voting and hand counting ballots. The considerations and cost are shown below.

Precinct-Based Voting

1. Currently have 694 voting precincts.
2. On average, an Election Day polling location costs \$2500, which includes supplies and labor.
3. For our current vote center process, we are required to have minimum of 347 polling locations based on a new law.
4. Would cost approximately an additional \$867,500 for polling locations.

Conducting Hand Count

1. Must utilize precinct-based voting.
2. The Presiding Judge may not leave once hand count has started and must have the results to the Elections Administrator within 24 hours of the polls closing or commits a class B misdemeanor.
3. Requires the use of 3 tally sheets simultaneously.
 - a. Minimum 2 people- Example; 1 person calling votes and marking a tally sheet and 1 person marking other 2 tally sheets.
 - b. Ideally, 4 people- Example; 1 person calling and 3 people tallying one sheet each.
 - c. To be complete the results on all 3 tally sheets must match.

Approximate Numbers to Count 2020 General Election

To calculate the time for counting ballots, an estimate of six seconds was used per race on a 35-race ballot (3.5 minutes a ballot). The six seconds comes from a test done by the Secretary of State to determine the time it takes to hand count. The average number of races on a ballot in the 2020 General Election was 35. (Note – our ballot board also conducted a hand count time study and we are awaiting the final report.)

To calculate the cost, the study used the hourly rate for a three-person counting team (1 caller and 2 talliers) and a Presiding Judge for each location.

In a perfect world scenario where no recounts were needed; counters maintained a six second per race pace with no breaks; no adjudications were required; and they had a full 24 hours to count. This did not account for set up time or transit time to get results to the Elections Office.

1. Since precinct-based voting is required to accomplish the hand count, additional polling locations would cost approximately \$907,500.
2. Approximately 1,597 counting teams (4791 people) would be needed to count all the

ballots at polling locations and the Ballot Board within 24 hours of the polls closing. This would cost approximately \$2,899,759.11 in additional wages.

- The total for the additional polling locations and the wages to pay for the hand count would be approximately \$3,812,259.11.

City Offices – City Council Meetings

There are 21 Citizen Boards and Commissions for the City of Arlington. These are volunteer positions for various committees giving advice and direction to our City Council members. Each council member may nominate one person for each board/commission. The mayor may nominate two citizens for each. An application is available online at arlingtontx.gov where all boards/commissions are listed and defined. Contact your representative council member or the mayor for consideration of your application. At that same website you can find reports and minutes of all City Council meetings for any further research you might wish to do.

June 27, 2023 Meeting

The Consent Agenda included expenditures and other miscellaneous items. The expenditures are shown here:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Demolition and Abatement Services Project # 23-0184	\$400,000
Electrical Services Project # 23-0133	\$300,550
Contract for Purchase of Software and Related Services Project # 23-0216	\$2,530,000
Contract for Purchase of IT Hardware and Related Services Project #23-0217	\$1,100,000
Fleet Focus Software Management System Project #23-0143	\$321,249
Contract for Generator Maintenance Project # 22-0145	\$58,200
Contract for Bullet Resistant Vests APD Project # 20-0145	\$251,906
Contract for State Highways Right of Way Mowing Project #19-00723	\$275,000
Contract for Grounds Maintenance for Water Treatment and Remote Sites Project #22-0121	\$53,969
Contract for Maintenance and Repair of Operable Walls for the Esports Stadium Arlington and Expo Center	\$450,505
Contract for Liquid Asphalt Emulsion for Potholes Project #22-0174	\$50,400
Contract for Concrete Materials Project #22-0078	\$486,345
Purchase of Playground Equipment for JW Dunlop Sports Center and Fish Creek Neighborhood Park Project #23-0200	\$432,637
Purchase of 2 Tractors for Parks and Recreation Department Project #23-0220	\$82,347
Purchase of 3 Transit Vans for Parks and Recreation Department #23-0224	\$163,685
Purchase of 1 Hazmat Utility Truck for AFD Project #23-0210	\$83,708
Purchase of Unmanned Aircraft Systems Command Vehicle for APD #23-0198	\$150,000
Purchase and Installation of New Carpet on 3rd Floor City Hall #23-0227	\$177,486

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sole Source Purchase for Upgrades of the Water Utilities Billing System # 23-0218	\$847,690
Contract Modification #2 for Construction Contract for Pierce-Burch Water Treatment Plant Chemical Clearwell Pump Station Improvements #WUTR 18001	\$2,700,000
Construction Contract for Julia Burgen Park Trail Connection	\$1,409,132
Professional Service Contract for Helen Wessler Park Design Project #23-0212	\$558,000
Engineering Services for Lower Johnson Creek Drudging Phase II Project PWD23011	\$277,665
Engineering Services Contract for Lake Arlington Dam Breach Analysis Project WUTR 23014	\$56,200
Modification of Four-Year Contract for Implementation Services of Enterprise Resources Planning Software Project 20-0050	\$916,360
Payment of Oncor Pole Contracts Rental for Department of Public Works	\$55,958.80
Real Property Appraisal Services for Division Street Sidewalk Project #PWSW 16003	\$137,000
Grand Total	\$17,659,858.44

These remaining items were also considered at the meeting:

- A zoning case for 2221 and 2231 Forum Drive and 3231 East Arkansas Lane changing zoning classification to Planned Development for Residential Medium Density 12 and Community Commercial plus Banquet Hall passed 7-2 with **Moise** and **Hogg** dissenting.
- Zoning changes for properties in the 600 and 700 block of S. Center Street, 100 and 200 block of E 3rd Street, 700 block of Glenn Crossett Court, and 200 block of E 4th Street for Atlantic Student Housing Project passed 6-3 with **Moise**, **Gonzalez** and **Hogg** opposing.
- Resolution authorizing \$1,862,685 for traffic light improvements and for installation of flashing yellow arrows for traffic signal improvements passed.
- Honorary Street Naming for Miss Persis **Foster** along S Oak Street unanimously passed. Six speakers in favor and five non-speakers supported this resolution.
- Bret **Stidham** was unanimously confirmed as Arlington Fire Chief.
- An ordinance was unanimously accepted to appoint an Associate Municipal Judge for the Municipal Court of Record for the City of Arlington to declare an emergency.
- A Parks Mall Performance Agreement for the redevelopment of the mall passed 8-1 with Council member **Boxall** opposing. The Parks Mall is the 9th most visited mall among the 48 Texas malls. Please see the staff video presentation on this topic at the afternoon meeting June 27, 2023 Council Meeting.
- The Council agreed unanimously to award construction incentives to improvements planned for Front Street in Arlington. During Citizen Participation one Viridian

resident complained of trash, traffic, and graffiti in that neighborhood. Two citizens complained of inappropriate adult exposure during Gay Pride Festival entertainment in Arlington.

August 1, 2023 Evening Meeting (There were no Council Meetings held in July)

Sixty citizens were added to Arlington Boards and Commissions.

Improvements to 2401 SW Green Oaks Blvd. (Item 6.1) was unanimously approved. (See the video of this meeting to research more about this topic.)

The Consent Agenda included expenditures and other miscellaneous items. The expenditures are shown here:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contract for Citizen Reporting Tool Project # 23-0222	\$261,615
Contract for Crowd Management at Esports Stadium Arlington and Expo Center Project # 19-0067	\$85,470
Painting Services City-owned Properties Project #22-0061	\$788,580
Elevator Maintenance, Repair, and Inspections Project #22-0137	\$71,460
Ott Cribbs Public Safety Renovation Project #PJ000174	\$546,865
Contract for Airport Consulting Services Project # 23-0077	\$232,872
Artist Contract within Entertainment District, along Johnson Creek Project #PJPKL23004	\$90,000
Consultant Services for River Legacy Park Erosion Issues	\$19,922
Contract for Polly Webb Road Project Modification	\$328,295
Purchase of Closed-Circuit Television Equipment for Water Department Project # 23-0239	\$327,609
Purchase and Installation of the HVAC Replacement System Arlington Municipal Airport Project # 23-0240	\$69,873
Purchase 4 Vehicle Replacements for Various Departments Project #23-0245	\$308,255
Purchase and Installation of Lift Station Pump Replacement at Northeast Library Project # 23-0235	\$71,370
Purchase and Installation of New Carpet at Southeast Library Project # 23-0236	\$84,390
Real Property Acquisition Services Contract Division Street Project PWSW16003	\$336,300
Grand Total	\$3,622,876

There was also a discussion of a rate increase by Oncor to their Arlington electricity customers. (Please view the staff report online at this portion of the meeting minutes for more information)

In addition, there was a discussion of a waiver of development fees for reconstruction of Bell’s Aircraft Parking at the Arlington Municipal Airport. (Again, please review the staff report online if you have an interest in this topic.)

August 22, 2023 Evening Meeting

The Consent Agenda included expenditures and other miscellaneous items. The expenditures are shown here:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Contract for Sensus Meter SmartPoint Project # 23-0234	\$2,262,000
SCADA annual contract to monitor and operate water treatment plants in Arlington (these plants produce more than 18 billion gallons of treated drinking water For the City each year)	\$70,000
Contract for Management of Software Project # 23-0215	\$88,007
Purchase Contract of IT Network Communications Hardware and Services	\$1,533,000
Renewal of Contract for Communication Cable and Installation Project # 21-0114	\$690,075
Renewal of Annual Contract for Landscape Project # 22-0080	\$228,510
Renewal of Contract for Supplemental Taxi Services for Handitran Project #17-0047	\$2,423,500
Renewal of Staffing Contract at Esports Stadium Arlington and Expo Center Project # 21-0057	\$535,000
Contract for Water Instrumentation and Testing Supplies Project # 23-0238	\$500,000
Purchase of 3 Crew Trucks for Arlington Water Utilities Department Project # 23-0250	\$141,910
Purchase of Overseed Products for City Golf Courses Project # 23-0254	\$134,075
Purchase and Installation of Equipment for Fire Training Project # 23-0232	\$82,857
Contract Modification for 101 Center Street Parking Garage Assessment Project # CMAM20006	\$49,000
Contract Modification to California Lane Drainage Improvements Project # PWDR19002	\$269,726
Engineering Services Contract for 2023 Pipeline Stream Crossing and Geomorphological Services Project # WUWS23004	\$150,000
Engineering Services Contract for Stormwater Services Project # PWDR2313	\$100,000
Grand Total	9,258,460

The Council gave unanimous approval for a new housing type known as “Cottage Communities”. See the staff report concerning this topic in this meeting’s minutes online to find more detailed information about this new designation.

The Council also gave unanimous approval to change zoning on certain properties on California Lane and Sprocket Drive to Planned Development for Residential Single Family.

During Citizen Participation, one citizen complained about the long wait at a traffic light near his home.

September 5, 2023 City Council Evening Meeting

The Mayor proclaimed September 17 through 23, 2023 Constitution Week, which was accepted by Daughters of the American Revolution. Arlington Charities were also recognized by the Mayor for feeding the hungry of Arlington. September 2023 was proclaimed Arlington Hunger Action Month by the Mayor.

There were 23 appointments to Boards and Commissions of the City of Arlington.

The Council considered two properties for condemnation on East Mayfield Road and New York Avenue by use of eminent domain. This was unanimously passed by the Council.

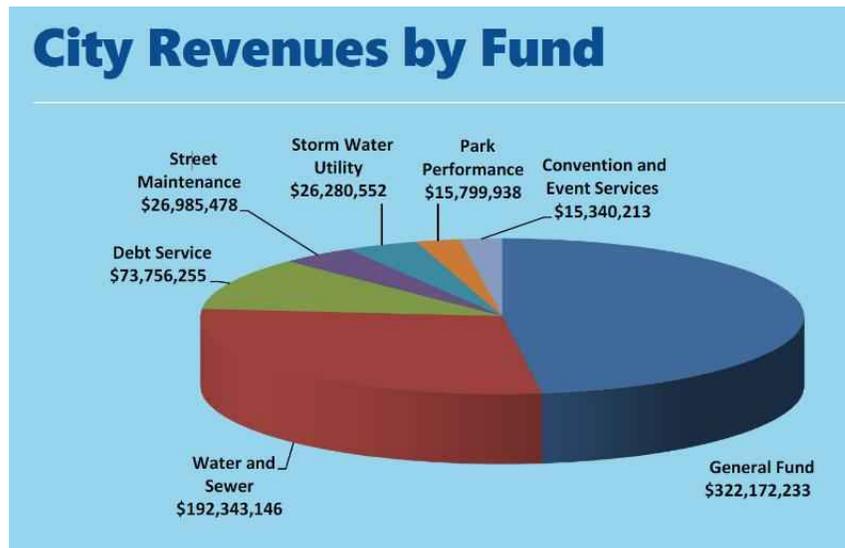
The Consent Agenda included expenditures and other miscellaneous items. The expenditures are shown here:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Five-Year Requirements Contract for Managed Print Services Project 22-0204 (for FY 2024,2025,2026,2027, and 2028)	\$2,680,000
Annual Requirements Contract for Overhead Door Repair Project # 23-0197	\$95,000
Annual Requirements Contract for Support and Maintenance Subscription for LeanIX Software Project # 23-0263	\$121,863
Annual Requirements Contract for Support and Maintenance 23- Subscription for PPMP Software Project # 23-0261	\$60,498
Annual Requirements Contract for Support and Maintenance for Sole Source Purchase of ePlanREVIEW Software Project #23-0265	\$114,865
Renewal of Annual Requirements Contract for Mowing of Code Violations Properties Project # 19-0058	\$72,275
Renewal of Annual Requirements Contract for Street Mill and Overlay Program Project # PWSM22003	\$3,422,640
Renewal of Annual Requirements Contract for Breakaway Signposts Project # 22-0201	\$90,306
Renewal of Annual Requirements Contract for Tree Trimming Services Project # 19-0137	\$650,800
Renewal of Annual Requirements Contract for Irrigation Components, Parts, and Supplies Project # 19-0234	\$52,955
Renewal of Annual Requirements Contract for Calcium Hypochlorite Tablets Project #22-0154	\$129,600
Purchase of Three Dump Trucks for Arlington Water Utilities Department Project # 223-0251	\$418,486
Purchase of Two Sewer Cleaning Trucks for Arlington Water Utilities Department Project # 23-0252	\$640,080
Construction Contract for 2022 Water and Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project # WUWS22011	\$9,453,254
Ratification and Modification to the Contract for the North Texas Softball Umpire Association of Fort Worth, Texas	\$82,000
Engineering Services Contract for Airport Road Environmental Study Project #23-0260	\$362,835
Engineering Services Contract for Airport Parking Apron Environmental Study Project # 23-0259	\$69,253
Grand Total	\$18,516,710

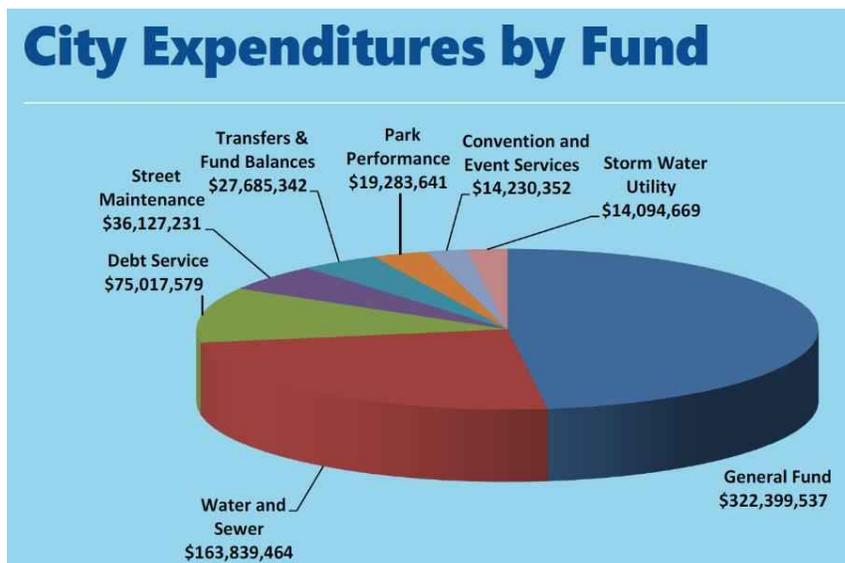
These Minute Orders were unanimously approved by the Council 9-0.

The FY 2024 Proposed Property Tax Rate of \$0.5898 per \$100 valuation (“which is effectively a 10.5% increase in the tax rate”) was unanimously approved 9-0. The FY2024 Operating Budget of \$322,399,537 was unanimously approved. There was one speaker opposed to the budget stating that the budget should reflect the 3% inflation in our economy not the 10% increase proposed. Please, see the video from this meeting for more information.

The City Manager, Trey **Yelverton**, provided an estimate of the City Revenues for FY2024 by fund, shown below. The sum of the expected revenues is \$672,677,815.



Yelverton also showed the Expenditures by fund. These expenditures also total \$672,677,815, indicating a balanced budget. The expenditures are shown in the chart below.



AISD School Board of Trustees

(Note: Many thanks to Richard Weber, who granted permission to reprint this section from the Arlington SPECTATOR for this report.)

The board met twice the week of October 16th. They met on Monday for team leadership training (no agenda items in open session). They also met Thursday, October 19 for their regular meeting. The agenda for the Thursday meeting can be found [here](#).

TEA Accountability Data:

- [2022 Accountability](#)

- [2021 Accountability](#)
- [2019 Accountability](#)

In 2020, the AISD was tied for the highest Maintenance and Operation (M&O) rate of all the school districts in Tarrant County. In 2021 through 2023, there was NO tie. The AISD now HAS the highest M&O rate in Tarrant County. [school district tax rates]

Highest M&O Rates in Tarrant County (21 ISDs Total):

<u>Rank</u>	<u>ISD</u>	<u>M&O Rate</u>
1	Arlington	\$0.824900
2	Fort Worth	\$0.790400
3	Mansfield	\$0.789200
3	Birdville	\$0.789200
3	Everman	\$0.789200

Lowest Tax Rates in Tarrant County (21 ISDs Total):

<u>Rank</u>	<u>ISD</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
1	HEB	\$0.921100
2	Burleson	\$0.924700
3	Carroll	\$1.002500
4	Azle	\$1.025000
5	Fort Worth	\$1.062400
6	Keller	\$1.087500
7	Northwest	\$1.090200
8	Everman	\$1.094146
9	Arlington	\$1.115600
10	Lewisville	\$1.130100

State delays the release of school ratings

The state is delaying the release of A-F Accountability ratings for schools. As mentioned in a section of the story, ratings are not based on straight student test results, but also schools take into consideration progress and efforts made toward closing the gap. (This makes the ratings given practically useless. This is how a district like Arlington ISD can get a “B” with over half the students failing the test]. The Fort Worth Report story can be found [here](#). Many school districts, including Arlington, are suing the TEA on related issues.

Grievances Filed

The following account is from David Jarvis regarding a series of grievances he has filed with AISD.

During the period from early Nov 2022 early Oct 2023, I filed several Public Complaints (Grievances) against AISD. A sample of my grievances includes: the AISD Board refused to answer my questions about what guidance AISD gives to teachers about how to answer questions from male and female students about sensitive issues such as same sex attraction, gender identity and male students identifying as female allowed access to female locker rooms; the Board refused to take action against AISD General Counsel **Eichelbaum**, who engaged in retaliation against me when he informed me that all AISD administrators were too busy to communicate with me – thus completely denying me access to all administrators; the Board refused to take action when AISD Superintendent barred all taxpayers from observing AISD Public Complaint (Grievance) hearings, although AISD policy and prior precedent did not authorize such banning of citizen observers; the Board refused to take action when I sent the Board a transcript of an audio recording of a public hearing on 5-15-23 in which an AISD official twice insulted citizen observers by referring to them as “minions”. This official was never reprimanded or held accountable for using such demeaning words when referring to AISD citizen observers.

On 6-8-23, AISD scheduled a Level Four consolidated grievance hearing before the entire AISD Board of Trustees covering my four grievances (detailed above). Prior to presenting my arguments in favor of my grievances, the Board announced they planned to close the 6-8-23 hearing and remove all public observers. I argued that it was vital that the people be allowed to hear about the misconduct of AISD officials. I also assured the Board that I would not identify any AISD officials by name – so there would be no chance that the character or reputation of any AISD official would be damaged in any way. Notwithstanding my assurances, the Board closed this hearing over my objections. All citizen taxpayers were forced to leave the hearing room and not allowed to hear to hear my arguments in support of my grievances. The Board later denied all four of my grievances.

On 9-21-23, counsel for the public interest law firm Citizens Defending Freedom served a demand letter on AISD – informing AISD that a lawsuit would be filed against AISD for their unlawful closure of the 6-8-23 grievance hearing. The unlawful closure on 6-8-23 was in clear violation of the Texas Open Meetings Act. In the demand letter, AISD was informed that if AISD allowed a rehearing of the same four grievances in open session with the public allowed to attend – then no lawsuit would be filed. AISD was given a deadline of 9-29-23 to agree to schedule a public rehearing of these four grievances. AISD ignored the deadline, so a lawsuit against AISD will be filed soon.

The banning of parents and taxpayers from the 6-8-23 hearing was part of a clear pattern I have experienced over several months in my interactions with AISD. To put it mildly, AISD has not been “a model of transparency” when responding to my inquiries. Over several months, I have sent several emails to the Board of Trustees seeking information and answers to specific questions. The elected members of the Board have consistently ignored my questions – forcing me to file public complaints to compel some form of AISD response.

On their own website, the Board proudly proclaims that they see themselves as “guardians of the public trust”. A noble goal, to be sure – but why should Arlington

parents and taxpayers trust the Board with their vote, when the Board has consistently shown the Board does not trust the people with the truth?

Mansfield School Board (34% of MISD students live in Arlington)

- Advisory Committees for the Attendance zones, Utilization of Buildings and Campuses, and Choice of Schools presented their findings over the last seven months. The committees' selection comprised Board of Trustee Appointees, Superintendent Appointees, Staff, Administrators, and Community volunteer Members. A variety of recommendations was presented and showed the overlapping findings for district wide resolutions and the deliberate planning processes of each committee.
- Consideration and approval of the attendance zones and corresponding options passed unanimously.
- Consideration and approval of the ordinance levying taxes for the 2023 Fiscal Year and directing the assessment and collection of taxes passed unanimously.
- A motion was made for MISD to join the A through F accountability lawsuit against TEA Commissioner Mike **Morath** over the revised accountability system and to approve the legal services. The motion passed 5 -0. Two trustees were absent.

Note: Public school taxes involve two figures, which divide the school district budget into two "buckets." The first bucket is the Maintenance and Operations budget (M&O), which funds daily costs and recurring or consumable expenditures such as teacher and staff salaries, supplies, food, gas, and utilities. Approximately 85 percent of the district's M&O budget goes to teacher and staff salaries. The second bucket is the Interest and Sinking budget (I&S), also known as Debt Service, and that is used to repay debt for longer-term capital improvements approved by voters through bond elections.

Political Watch Committee (PWC) members are members of the Arlington Republican Club and the Republican Women of Arlington (RWA): Steve Eklund, Bert Smith, David Rakes, Karyn Douglas, Melodie Morris, Barbara Caho.

Disclaimer: The reporting and opinions expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the official policies and agenda of the Arlington Republican Club (ARC), nor those of the Republican Women of Arlington (RWA).

If you want to send a "**Letter to the Editor**" or just your comments regarding this report, please send it to: [REDACTED]. Thanks!

From: Christopher P. Miranda <CPMiranda@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: FW: ATTN: Public Records Request
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Cc: Patricia V. Benavides <PVBenavides@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: January 4, 2024 2:11 PM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: Tarrant County Elections Administration (TX) .pdf

Mary,

Patricia said I should forward this request to you so you can log into JustFOIA.

Christopher Miranda
Voter Registration
Elections Administration
2700 Premier St., Fort Worth, TX 76111
P: 817.831.6449
M: 682.347.8107
F: 817.850.2394
E: cpmiranda@tarrantcountytx.gov



From: records strategic <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1:00 PM
To: Tarrant County Voter Registration <voterregistration@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: ATTN: Public Records Request

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

To Whom It May Concern,

Please see the public records request below for your review and processing. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Kathleen Casey



Tarrant County Elections Administration (TX)
2700 Premier Street
Forth Worth, TX 76111
Email: voterregistration@tarrantcounty.com

To whom it may concern,

The following request is being made in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act (Tex. Govt Code §552.001 et seq.). I am requesting copies of the following records:

Voter Record(s) For The Individual(s) Listed below. I am requesting copies of the following records maintained by the office for the individual(s) listed below. The office should search their office for voter registration/affidavits, current/past voter profiles, current/past voter history, change-of-address and/or change-of-status form/request, and absentee ballot requests related to these individual(s).

- Richard Lynn Scott, Born: [REDACTED] 1952
- Frances Annette Scott/Holland, Born: [REDACTED] 1952

I acknowledge that there may be fees associated with my request, if the fees/cost are over \$25 please let me know so that I can authorize proceeding with the request.

We are only requesting public records which are subject to public inspection. If any portion of the requested documents must be withheld due to legal and/or factual grounds, please provide the specific legal grounds for withholding any portion of the requested documents and/or request. I ask that you release any public record with any necessary redactions.

If the requested documents are not maintained by your office, please refer my request to the proper office and/or bureau.

I prefer to receive the requested documents in an electronic format and via email, but if that is not possible then I prefer to have the records mailed to me at the address listed at the bottom of my request.

You may email your response to [REDACTED]. If you wish to speak with me, please call [REDACTED] between 9am and 6pm (EST).

Thank you,
Kathleen Casey
600 Pennsylvania Ave SE, #15476
Washington, DC 20003

From: EL - Quorum Training Room 1 <ELQuorumTrainingRoom1@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 1:41 PM EST

To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: Declined: Public Inspection of Ballots (2023-05)

Your meeting request was declined.

This resource doesn't accept meetings longer than 1440 minutes.

Sent by Microsoft 365

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@justfoia.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2023 3:03 PM EDT

To: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: EL-2023-335 Discussion started: Proposed Language

Write ABOVE THIS LINE to post a reply

Request Number EL-2023-335

Tarrant County, TX

Troy, this is a great opportunity to determine how to notify a requestor of availability of the ballots. Will we be finalizing the Confluence document or will we be using a shorter blurb like this via the generic email template?

"Pursuant to House Bill 5180 effective September 1, 2023, access to Voted Ballots 61 days after the election is allowed. However, we still must review and redact them before making available for public inspection. We will notify you as soon as this step has been completed."

In the case of the May 2023 there is another requestor seeking access so I would do the same in that case.

Thoughts?

From: Mary F. Dane </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ACF8422D2A924CA8B0320502585FA5EE-65340902-E0> on behalf of Mary F. Dane

Sent: Friday, October 06, 2023 3:36 PM EDT

To: Stacey M. Behymer <smbehymmer@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Melinda G. Lopez <MLopez3@tarrantcountytx.gov>

CC: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: Follow up Clarification on 0521 Election Paperwork (EL-2023-486/-487)

Good afternoon, ladies.

I'm not sure if these are Stacey or Melinda questions but let me know if you can direct me to where I can find the answers to these questions/clarifications to finish a Public Records Request.

We have a request for information regarding the Public Inspection of the Ballots that was done earlier this year from the May 2021 election (Ref. EL-2023-372). We provided two specific reports to them:

0521 ED Ballot Bags.xlsx (Total 166 Lines compared to 176 sites)

0521EV Ballot Bags.xlsx (Total 77 Lines compared to 43 sites)

First, is there a way to reconcile the difference in the reporting lines and the number of sites that there were?

Second:

FOR ED Bags: Do we have a "key" to the codes used in the sheets for Column G (Location (BTB, PB Rack, Rack #'s, Zone 3)).

Does this report list the bag seal number? I saw columns J & K that give asset serial and serial, but I was not sure that this was the same information.

FOR EV Bags: Do we have a key to the codes in columns E (Document type (PK)), G (Location Zone 2BB), J (Asset Serial), K (Serial), and M (Scanned Serial)?

Where do we file all the filled-out Election Day chain of custody forms? I didn't see them on the S: drive in the archives. I know they are called something different during Early Voting but we also are looking for the filled out forms transferring ballots from the lead clerk to the technician and the custody coming back.

We also had a JBC Cart Seal form and instruction that was supplied to the requestor. The form had an error in the 3^d paragraph and Donna's recollection was that it was now fixed, and Melinda had a copy of the new form. If you can provide the revision and date, that would be helpful.

If we were not scanning that paperwork in 2021 let me know. Heider had started having us do that in subsequent elections so if you know when that was, please make a note.

Thanks for your help.

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

Submit your Public Information Requests online now at <https://tarrantcountytx.justfoia.com/publicportal/home/newrequest>. Consider creating an account to help facilitate your requests!

From: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 10:48 AM EDT
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: FW: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2023-438 Clarification Requested
FYI/A.

Have a blessed day!



Troy Havard
Assistant Elections Administrator, CERA
Tarrant County
CWO4 (ret) USMC



Office: 817-831-6463
Business Cell: 682-305-4568

"Direction, not intention, determines destination" – Andy Stanley

I would rather live my life as if there is a God and die to find out there isn't,
Than to live my life as if there isn't a God and die to find out there IS

From: EL - Public Information Request
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 9:48 AM
To: Beth DiPaolo <ELDipaolo@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: FW: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2023-438 Clarification Requested

Beth,

Going to forward this one to you in JF.

Have a blessed day!



Troy Havard
Assistant Elections Administrator, CERA
Tarrant County
CWO4 (ret) USMC



Office: 817-831-6463
Business Cell: 682-305-4568

"Direction, not intention, determines destination" – Andy Stanley

I would rather live my life as if there is a God and die to find out there isn't,
Than to live my life as if there isn't a God and die to find out there IS

From: Puente, Veronica <vpuente@eisd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:01 AM
To: EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Re: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2023-438 Clarification Requested

You don't often get email from vpuente@eisd.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good morning,

Please click on our website: <https://www.eisd.org/board-of-trustees/board-elections>

On the bottom of this page is the Voter Resources, If you click on the Everman ISD Map link, the page is not found. Do you

have an updated link?

Thank you!
Veronica Puente
Administrative Assistant
Everman ISD
817-568-3500 ext. 4002
vpuente@eisd.org

On Tue, Sep 12, 2023 at 7:57 AM Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@justfoia.com> wrote:



RE: Request Number [Request Number: EL-2023-438](#) Submitted on: 9/12/2023 at 7:54:11 am

Dear Veronica Puente,

For the County to continue to process your request for records, we require additional information. Please provide the following:

Are you looking for an electronic document you can download or are you looking for a printed map?

Per Texas Government Code section 552.222, if a written response to this request for clarification or narrowing is not received within 61 days, your request is considered withdrawn.

Description of records requested:

I hope all is well. Can you provide the link for the Everman ISD elections map?

Thank you,
Tarrant County Elections Office
2700 Premier St.
Fort Worth, Texas 76111
(817) 884-8683
ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov

Powered by
JustFOIA

From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2023 5:49 PM EDT

To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: New JustFOIA Records Request for Tarrant County Elections Office - Elections Administration Public Information Request EL-2023-424

Mary Dane,

A new records request has been submitted. Please log into JustFOIA and begin processing this request.

The request was entered on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 4:49 PM (Central Standard Time) and has 10 days left until it is due. The request is due on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

[Request Number: EL-2023-424](#)

Field Name	Response
Zip	76244
ElectionsElection	May
City	Fort Worth
ElectionsVoterHistoryJurisdiction	
Name	Kenya Alu
Email	kalu@ccdfusa.com
ElectionsCountywideNo	
ElectionVoterRegJurisdiction	
TXElectionCode	
Phone	8174717807
Address	12624 Steadman Farms Dr.
ElectionType	
ElectionsMapsJurisdiction	
State	TX
ElectionsYear	2023
ElectionResultsDescription	
ElectionsEmailArea	
Description	Please consider this an open records request pursuant to House Bill 5180 effective September 1, 2023. Provide all early voting ballot images for the May 2023 Election from early voting location: Southwest Sub Courthouse, 6551 Granbury Rd Fort Worth TX 76133.
ElectionsOther	
ElectionsTypeOfRecord	ElectionSpecificRecords
ElectionsCountywide	Blank
RequestType	Electronic

This is an auto-generated email and has originated from an unmonitored email account. Please DO NOT REPLY.

Powered by

From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>
Subject: New JustFOIA Records Request for Tarrant County Elections Office - Elections Administration Public Information Request EL-2023-424
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: September 5, 2023 5:49 PM (UTC-04:00)



Mary Dane,
A new records request has been submitted. Please log into JustFOIA and begin processing this request.

The request was entered on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 4:49 PM (Central Standard Time) and has 10 days left until it is due. The request is due on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

[Request Number: EL-2023-424](#)

Field Name	Response
Zip	76244
ElectionsElection	May
City	Fort Worth
ElectionsVoterHistoryJurisdiction	
Name	Kenya Alu
Email	[REDACTED]
ElectionsCountywideNo	
ElectionVoterRegJurisdiction	
TXElectionCode	
Phone	[REDACTED]
Address	12624 Steadman Farms Dr.
ElectionType	
ElectionsMapsJurisdiction	
State	TX
ElectionsYear	2023
ElectionResultsDescription	
ElectionsEmailArea	
Description	Please consider this an open records request pursuant to House Bill 5180 effective September 1, 2023. Provide all early voting ballot images for the May 2023 Election from early voting location: Southwest Sub Courthouse, 6551 Granbury Rd Fort Worth TX 76133.
ElectionsOther	
ElectionsTypeOfRecord	ElectionSpecificRecords
ElectionsCountywide	Blank
RequestType	Electronic

This is an auto-generated email and has originated from an unmonitored email account. Please DO NOT REPLY.

Powered by



From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>
Subject: New JustFOIA Records Request for Tarrant County Elections Office - Elections Administration Public Information Request EL-2023-597
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: December 22, 2023 5:27 PM (UTC-05:00)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!



Mary Dane,
A new records request has been submitted. Please log into JustFOIA and begin processing this request.

The request was entered on Friday, December 22, 2023 at 4:27 PM (Central Standard Time) and has 10 days left until it is due. The request is due on Friday, January 5, 2024.

[Request Number: EL-2023-597](#)

Field Name	Response
Zip	
ElectionsElection	
City	
ElectionsVoterHistoryJurisdiction	
Name	Will
Email	[REDACTED]
ElectionsCountywideNo	
ElectionVoterRegJurisdiction	
TXElectionCode	
Phone	
Address	
ElectionType	
ElectionsMapsJurisdiction	
State	
ElectionsYear	
ElectionResultsDescription	
ElectionsEmailArea	

Description

Reply to Tarrant County District Attorney and Election Administrator Clint Ludwig: On November 17, 2023 I submitted the attached request for records and data pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act. The request sought "The SQL database for the November 8, 2022 election." You responded as follows: "After a review of our records, we have determined that there are no records responsive to your request as the Elections Administration does not have that level of access to the Hart system. The Criminal District Attorney's Office considers this request closed." This response fails to adequately and properly address my request for records and data. Specifically, records and data sought are "election records" as defined by the Texas Election Code and it is a State of Texas and Federal statutory responsibility of the Tarrant County Election Administrator to maintain possession and control of these records and data. The database sought is an "election record" created from information and data generated in the November 8, 2022 election. This fact is acknowledged by the Tarrant County Election Administrator. Legal exception to the production of this election record does not exist and legal exception has not been claimed. The basis claimed for failing to provide this "election record" is that Tarrant County does not have "access". Tarrant County is legally required to have "access" to its election records. Governmental bodies and private entities may not waive or rescind the public right to election data and records. The Tarrant County contract for the purchase of election equipment and services from Hart InterCivic acknowledges and incorporates this legal doctrine in paragraph 18.6. The Hart contract states "that County and Hart shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws in the performance of this Agreement " It is the statutory responsibility of the Election Administrator as custodian of election records and the Tarrant County Chief Administrative Officer to obtain and provide these records. If Mr. Ludwig and the Tarrant County Chief Administrative Officer do not currently have access to these election records then they are in breach of their statutory responsibilities and must promptly rectify this situation and provide documents, data and records responsive.

ElectionsOther

See attache

ElectionsTypeOfRecord

Other

ElectionsCountywide

Blank

RequestType

Electronic

This is an auto-generated email and has originated from an unmonitored email account. Please DO NOT REPLY.

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From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>
Subject: New JustFOIA Records Request for Tarrant County Elections Office - Elections Administration Public Information Request EL-2024-49
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: January 26, 2024 9:21 AM (UTC-05:00)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!



Mary Dane,

A new records request has been submitted. Please log into JustFOIA and begin processing this request.

The request was entered on Friday, January 26, 2024 at 8:20 AM (Central Standard Time) and has 10 days left until it is due. The request is due on Friday, February 9, 2024.

[Request Number: EL-2024-49](#)

Field Name	Response
ElectionsCountywideNo	
ElectionVoterRegJurisdiction	
Zip	76182
ElectionsElection	Nov. 2020
City	North Richland Hills
ElectionsVoterHistoryJurisdiction	
Name	Noag Fugg
Email	[REDACTED]
TXElectionCode	
Phone	[REDACTED]
State	TX
Address	6921 Lincolnshire Ln
ElectionType	
ElectionsMapsJurisdiction	
ElectionsYear	2020
ElectionResultsDescription	
ElectionsEmailArea	

Description

Please provide the following information for the November 3rd, 2020 in Tarrant County for Early Voting in Person period and Election Day in Person period pursuant to Texas Election Code 1.012: 1. Logic and Accuracy Testing Records for voting machines: • All test ballots voted • Test deck records • Testing media 2. Early Voting and Election Day Materials: • Qualified Voter File • Daily Early Voting Rosters for in-person voting • Chain of Custody forms that document the seals on the Ballot Boxes • Chain of Custody delivery and pick up of equipment at voting sites • Statements of Residence • Reasonable Impediment Declarations • Limited Ballot Applications • Audit Logs from applicable Voting System Devices • List of Rejected Provisional Ballots and reason for rejection • Ballot and Seal Certificates • Register of Ballot Forms for Early Voting with Tally sheets and Election Day in Person • Hand delivery of a Ballot by Mail Roster and Forms • Receipts of sealed Early Voting Ballot Boxes • Poll List of Ballot By Mail Voters • Notice of rejected carriers and reasons for Ballot by Mail 3. Central Counting Station Plan 4. All Training materials, poll worker and poll watcher handbooks 5. All Incident Management logs, tech support hotline logs, error logs, or reports 6. All Contracts between County and Voting system companies 7. E pollbook Check in logs 8. All Central Counting station equipment logs for central tabulators, election management systems, and users logs 9. All Standard Affidavit Forms filled out during the Early Voting in Person and Election Day in person period. 10. Mandatory Precinct by Precinct level report for Early Voting in Person and Election Day in Person Please fulfill this request quickly and if you have any questions, or I may be of assistance, please contact me above. Thank you for your time and assistance in fulfilling my request for information. For Texas, Noah Figg [REDACTED]

ElectionsOther

RequestType

Electronic

ElectionsTypeOfRecord

ElectionSpecificRecords

ElectionsCountywide

Blank

This is an auto-generated email and has originated from an unmonitored email account. Please DO NOT REPLY.

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From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>
Subject: New JustFOIA Records Request for Tarrant County Elections Office - Elections Administration Public Information Request EL-2024-8
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: January 4, 2024 2:23 PM (UTC-05:00)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!



Mary Dane,

A new records request has been submitted. Please log into JustFOIA and begin processing this request.

The request was entered on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 1:22 PM (Central Standard Time) and has 10 days left until it is due. The request is due on Thursday, January 18, 2024.

[Request Number: EL-2024-8](#)

Field Name	Response
Zip	20016
ElectionsElection	
City	Washington,
ElectionsVoterHistoryJurisdiction	
Name	Kathleen Casey c/o Strategic Records Research
Email	[REDACTED]
ElectionsCountywideNo	Voter Records for 2 individuals
ElectionVoterRegJurisdiction	
TXElectionCode	
Phone	[REDACTED]
Address	600 Pennsylvania Ave. SE #15476
ElectionType	
ElectionsMapsJurisdiction	
State	DC
ElectionsYear	
ElectionResultsDescription	
ElectionsEmailArea	

Description

The following request is being made in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act (Tex. Govt Code §552.001 et seq.). I am requesting copies of the following records: Voter Record(s) For The Individual(s) Listed below. I am requesting copies of the following records maintained by the office for the individual(s) listed below. The office should search their office for voter registration/affidavits, current/past voter profiles, current/past voter history, change-of-address and/or change-of-status form/request, and absentee ballot requests related to these individual(s). Richard Lynn Scott, Born: [REDACTED] Frances Annette Scott/Holland, Born: [REDACTED] I acknowledge that there may be fees associated with my request, if the fees/cost are over \$25 please let me know so that I can authorize proceeding with the request. We are only requesting public records which are subject to public inspection. If any portion of the requested documents must be withheld due to legal and/or factual grounds, please provide the specific legal grounds for withholding any portion of the requested documents and/or request. I ask that you release any public record with any necessary redactions. If the requested documents are not maintained by your office, please refer my request to the proper office and/or bureau. I prefer to receive the requested documents in an electronic format and via email, but if that is not possible then I prefer to have the records mailed to me at the address listed at the bottom of my request. You may email your response to [REDACTED] If you wish to speak with me, please call [REDACTED] between 9am and 6pm (EST).

ElectionsOther

ElectionsTypeOfRecord

ElectionsCountywide

RequestType

Other

No

Electronic

This is an auto-generated email and has originated from an unmonitored email account. Please DO NOT REPLY.

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From: Office of TX Attorney General <TXAttorneyGeneral@public.govdelivery.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 5:50 PM EST

To: Clinton A. Ludwig <CALudwig@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: Notification of Request for Opinion (RQ-0520-KP)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

OAG Horizontal Seal

Request for Opinion

[RQ-0520-KP](#)

Received: November 3, 2023

RE: Whether a member of the public may obtain copies of spoiled ballots on the 61st day following election day

Requested by:

Williamson County Attorney

You are subscribed to Office of Texas Attorney General. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

Stay Connected with Office of Texas Attorney General on

[Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Instagram](#) - [Email](#)

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please visit subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com.

This email was sent to caludwig@tarrantcounty.com using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Office of Texas Attorney General · 300 W. 15th Street · Austin, TX 78701



Subject: Public Inspection of Ballots (2023-05)

Location: EL – Quorum Training Room 1 (ELQuorumTrainingRoom1@tarrantcountytx.gov)

Start: Monday, November 27, 2023 1:00 AM EST

End: Saturday, December 02, 2023 1:00 AM EST

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: None

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Mary F. Dane </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=acf8422d2a924ca8b0320502585fa5ee-65340902-e0>

Required Attendees: EL – Quorum Training Room 2 (ELQuorumTrainingRoom2@tarrantcountytx.gov)

Subject: Public Inspection of Ballots (2023-05)

Location: EL – Quorum Training Room 1 (ELQuorumTrainingRoom1@tarrantcountytx.gov)

Start: Monday, November 27, 2023 1:00 AM EST

End: Saturday, December 09, 2023 1:00 AM EST

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: None

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Mary F. Dane </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=acf8422d2a924ca8b0320502585fa5ee-65340902-e0>

Required Attendees: EL – Quorum Training Room 2 (ELQuorumTrainingRoom2@tarrantcountytx.gov)

Optional Attendees: EL – Quorum Training Room 1 (ELQuorumTrainingRoom1@tarrantcountytx.gov)

<ELQuorumTrainingRoom1@tarrantcountytx.gov>

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@request.justfoia.com>
Subject: FWD: RE: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2024-265
Clarification Requested
To: Jaye M. Lowe <JMLowe@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Cc: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: April 11, 2024 2:47 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: image001.png

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

Here are your answers.

On Thu, Apr 11, 2024 at 1:36 pm, Venera Flores-Stafford wrote:

1. Do you mean the polling locations that will be used for the upcoming elections? Some locations are no longer active. I just need the polling locations in the City of Arlington associated with the Parks and Recreation Department (Cliff Nelson Recreation Center, Elzie Odom Athletic Center, Meadowbrook Recreation Center, Bob Duncan Center, and EAST Library and Recreation Center. I oversee most of those locations and know they are all still active.
2. If not, what time period/election are you specifying? Sites are inspected once every 5 years or as needed to insure compliance. I just need the last inspection.
3. There may be a cost associated with this request. How much will it be? We are using the information in a City report.

Thanks,

Dr. Venera Flores-Stafford

Assistant Director

817.575.8350 | venera.flores-stafford@arlingtontx.gov

Arlington Parks and Recreation
717 W. Main St. | Arlington, TX 76013

naturallyfun.org • arlingtongolf.com

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX)

External Email: Stop, Look, Think before clicking attachment or link. Report Phishing.



RE: Request Number [Request Number: EL-2024-265](#) Submitted on: 4/11/2024 at 11:35:02 am

Dear Venera Flores-Stafford,

For the County to continue to process your request for records, we require additional information. Please provide the following:

1. Do you mean the polling locations that will be used for the upcoming elections? Some locations are no longer active.
2. If not, what time period/election are you specifying? Sites are inspected once every 5 years or as needed to insure compliance.
3. There may be a cost associated with this request.

Per Texas Government Code section 552.222, if a written response to this request for clarification or narrowing is not received within 61 days, your request is considered withdrawn.

Description of records requested:

I want all of the most recent ADA evaluations for all my voting locations in the City of Arlington specifically the City of Arlington Parks and Recreation Buildings (Cliff Nelson Recreation Center, EAST Library and Recreation Center, Bob Duncan Center, Elzie Odom Athletic Center, and Meadowbrook Recreation Center.

Thank you,

Tarrant County Elections Office

2700 Premier St.
Fort Worth, Texas 76111

(817) 884-8683

ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov

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100 *years*
1924 - 2024

254-A-000045

ARLINGTONSM

AMERICAN
OVERSIGHT

PARKS AND RECREATION

From: Mary F. Dane </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ACF8422D2A924CA8B0320502585FA5EE-65340902-E0> on behalf of Mary F. Dane

Sent: Tuesday, November 07, 2023 2:58 PM EST

To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Todd

Here is a listing of the boxes that will be looked at.

I will have more information on the where and how in about a week.

23/502
23/503
23/504
23/505
23/506
23/507
23/508
23/509
23/510
23/511
23/512
23/513
23/514
23/515
23/516
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23/540
23/541
23/542
23/543
23/544
23/545
23/546
23/560
23/561
23/562
23/563
23/564
23/565

23/566
23/567
23/568
23/569
23/570
23/571
23/572
23/573
23/574
23/575
23/576
23/606

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

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From: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:52 AM
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Mary,
I don't think I was in on that meeting. Can you send a list of boxes that they need?
Thanks,
Todd

From: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:46 AM
To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Great news! Hopefully, I can keep that spot open for a while. I think you are delivering a bunch of boxes over to the new classroom for a public inspection. Troy said he originally scheduled it for the week of the 17th. That group is now coming the week of 11/27 so, we need to move it to 11/22. If you have no idea what I am talking about, let me know!

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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From: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:42 AM
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Mary,
We'll pick those up this afternoon.
Thanks,
Todd

From: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:41 AM
To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Happy Election Day!
We have finally finished with the boxes delivered in September.
23/493
23/494
23/495
23/496
23/497
23/498

Please schedule us for a pickup when convenient. They are located outside Troy's office.
Thanks!
Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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From: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:34 AM
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections

Mary,
We'll send those this afternoon.
Thanks,
Todd

From: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:02 AM
To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Boxes for Elections

Hi Todd
Can you please send the following boxes over?
23/493
23/494
23/495
23/496
23/497
23/498

Wednesday is my usual day off so I will leave the blue pallet outside Troy's window so your team can leave them there....or you can wait till I get back on Thursday.

I will log 2 hours in for set up and delivery of these boxes. If it takes more than that, let me know as we are gathering data for benchmarking.

As always, I appreciate the Records Team's help!
Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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Sent: Tuesday, November 07, 2023 11:57 AM EST

To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Yes, will do. I will get it sent later today or in the morning.

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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From: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:42 AM

To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Mary,

We'll pick those up this afternoon.

Thanks,

Todd

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Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:41 AM

To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

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23/493

23/494

23/495

23/496

23/497

23/498

Please schedule us for a pickup when convenient. They are located outside Troy's office.

Thanks!

Mary



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Public Information Requests



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Subject: Boxes for Elections

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23/495

23/496

23/497

23/498

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Public Information Requests



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From: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 07, 2023 11:51 AM EST
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Boxes for Elections (Time for pickup!)

Mary,
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Thanks,
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Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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Public Information Requests



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Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



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Mary,
We'll send those this afternoon.
Thanks,
Todd

From: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:02 AM
To: Todd Powell <rtpowell@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Boxes for Elections

Hi Todd
Can you please send the following boxes over?
23/493
23/494
23/495
23/496
23/497
23/498

Wednesday is my usual day off so I will leave the blue pallet outside Troy's window so your team can leave them there....or you can wait till I get back on Thursday.

I will log 2 hours in for set up and delivery of these boxes. If it takes more than that, let me know as we are gathering data for benchmarking.

As always, I appreciate the Records Team's help!
Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

Submit your Public Information Requests online now at <https://tarrantcountytx.justfoia.com/publicportal/home/newrequest>.
Consider creating an account to help facilitate your requests!

From: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2023 5:01 PM EDT

To: 501c587a-4546-4e93-ae0d-95778a92bac8.TarrantCountyTX@request.justfoia.com <501c587a-4546-4e93-ae0d-95778a92bac8.TarrantCountyTX@request.justfoia.com>; Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: EL-2023-335 Discussion started: Proposed Language

Mary,

I like what you've put here – my recommendation would be to provide the following as the standard answer:

House Bill 5180 became law on September 1, 2023. This law allows access to voted ballots beginning the 61st day after Election Day – this access timeline also applies to the custodian of election records. However, that same law requires that we redact any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) before making them available for public inspection. As this process requires the inspection of each ballot, the time required to ensure compliance with the law varies, depending on how many ballots were cast in the election and we cannot begin the inspection process until the 61st day after Election Day. We will notify you as soon as this is completed for the election records you have requested so we can schedule a day and time for you to come in.

Have a blessed day!



Troy Havard
Assistant Elections Administrator, CERA
Tarrant County
CWO4 (ret) USMC



Office: 817-831-6463
Business Cell: 682-305-4568

"Direction, not intention, determines destination" – Andy Stanley

I would rather live my life as if there is a God and die to find out there isn't,
Than to live my life as if there isn't a God and die to find out there IS

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@justfoia.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:04 PM

To: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: EL-2023-335 Discussion started: Proposed Language

Write ABOVE THIS LINE to post a reply

Request Number EL-2023-335

Tarrant County, TX

Troy, this is a great opportunity to determine how to notify a requestor of availability of the ballots. Will we be finalizing the Confluence document or will we be using a shorter blurb like this via the generic email template?

"Pursuant to House Bill 5180 effective September 1, 2023, access to Voted Ballots 61 days after the election is allowed. However, we still must review and redact them before making available for public inspection. We will notify you as soon as this step has been completed."

In the case of the May 2023 there is another requestor seeking access so I would do the same in that case.

Thoughts?

From: Stacey M. Behymer <smbehymmer@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2023 4:31 PM EDT
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Melinda G. Lopez <MLopez3@tarrantcountytx.gov>
CC: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Re: Follow up Clarification on 0521 Election Paperwork (EL-2023-486/-487)

First, is there a way to reconcile the difference in the reporting lines and the number of sites that there were? – sounds like an export from the old inventory system. We could do a new export from the new and see what is going on.

Second:

FOR ED Bags: Do we have a “key” to the codes used in the sheets for Column G (Location (BTB, PB Rack, Rack #'s, Zone 3)). again an export from the old system. I would need to see the codes to provide a key.

Does this report list the bag seal number? I saw columns J & K that give asset serial and serial, but I was not sure that this was the same information. – the register of official ballots has that information

FOR EV Bags: Do we have a key to the codes in columns E (Document type (PK)), G (Location Zone 2BB), J (Asset Serial), K (Serial), and M (Scanned Serial)? PK means it is a pickable location in the inventory. Zone 2BB is the ballot board room, J, K and M are the item serial number; some items have more than 1 so the system notates which barcode was actually scanned.

Where do we file all the filled-out Election Day chain of custody forms? I didn't see them on the S: drive in the archives. I know they are called something different during Early Voting but we also are looking for the filled out forms transferring ballots from the lead clerk to the technician and the custody coming back. –Back then, ED ballot bags are documented on the rally checklist that Susan has but without the seal information and then scanned into the inventory once they are back at the warehouse.

We also had a JBC Cart Seal form and instruction that was supplied to the requestor. The form had an error in the 3^d paragraph and Donna's recollection was that it was now fixed, and Melinda had a copy of the new form. If you can provide the revision and date, that would be helpful. – no idea when it was changed. It is a crystal report so it could have been Beth or I that changed it. There is no way to know when.

If we were not scanning that paperwork in 2021 let me know. Heider had started having us do that in subsequent elections so if you know when that was, please make a note. – none of what you are asking about is paper based, except the rally check in sheet that Susan has.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S20 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 2:36:14 PM
To: Stacey M. Behymer <smbehymmer@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Melinda G. Lopez <MLopez3@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Cc: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Follow up Clarification on 0521 Election Paperwork (EL-2023-486/-487)

Good afternoon, ladies.

I'm not sure if these are Stacey or Melinda questions but let me know if you can direct me to where I can find the answers to these questions/clarifications to finish a Public Records Request.

We have a request for information regarding the Public Inspection of the Ballots that was done earlier this year from the May 2021 election (Ref. EL-2023-372). We provided two specific reports to them:
0521 ED Ballot Bags.xlsx (Total 166 Lines compared to 176 sites)
0521EV Ballot Bags.xlsx (Total 77 Lines compared to 43 sites)

First, is there a way to reconcile the difference in the reporting lines and the number of sites that there were?

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FOR ED Bags: Do we have a “key” to the codes used in the sheets for Column G (Location (BTB, PB Rack, Rack #'s, Zone 3)). Does this report list the bag seal number? I saw columns J & K that give asset serial and serial, but I was not sure that this was the same information.

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We also had a JBC Cart Seal form and instruction that was supplied to the requestor. The form had an error in the 3^d paragraph
TX-TARRANT-24-0254-A-000058

and Donna's recollection was that it was now fixed, and Melinda had a copy of the new form. If you can provide the revision and date, that would be helpful.

If we were not scanning that paperwork in 2021 let me know. Heider had started having us do that in subsequent elections so if you know when that was, please make a note.

Thanks for your help.

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

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Consider creating an account to help facilitate your requests!

From: Mary F. Dane </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ACF8422D2A924CA8B0320502585FA5EE-65340902-E0> on behalf of Mary F. Dane

Sent: Monday, October 09, 2023 8:41 AM EDT

To: Stacey M. Behymer <smbehymmer@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Melinda G. Lopez <MLopez3@tarrantcountytx.gov>

CC: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: Follow up Clarification on 0521 Election Paperwork (EL-2023-486/-487)

Thanks for the information!

I will ask Troy how we should proceed with finding the filled out forms from the Lock Kit and the reconciliation reports that you refer to. The request is centered on our ability to prove chain of custody. It sounds as if there might be some billable time on this request so we may have to get an estimate from you to follow up.

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

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From: Stacey M. Behymer <smbehymmer@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 3:31 PM

To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Melinda G. Lopez <MLopez3@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Cc: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: Re: Follow up Clarification on 0521 Election Paperwork (EL-2023-486/-487)

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Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S20 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 2:36:14 PM

To: Stacey M. Behymer <smbeymer@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Melinda G. Lopez <MLopez3@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Cc: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: Follow up Clarification on 0521 Election Paperwork (EL-2023-486/-487)

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If we were not scanning that paperwork in 2021 let me know. Heider had started having us do that in subsequent elections so if you know when that was, please make a note.

Thanks for your help.

Mary



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

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Consider creating an account to help facilitate your requests!

From: Mary F. Dane </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ACF8422D2A924CA8B0320502585FA5EE-65340902-E0> on behalf of Mary F. Dane

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 9:39 AM EST

To: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: RE: MASS EMAIL (CEO/PARTY CHAIRS/CSO): Advisory No. 2024-05: Public Inspection of Ballot Images and Cast Vote Records and Ballot Security, Public Information Outline

Thanks.

This is really going to throw a wrench in my redacting on camera schedule. BTW, I lost all of yesterday afternoon's work. I got in a little early to work with IT but it was a no save.

Mary Dane



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

Direct Line: 817-838-4678

Cell: 682-361-2155

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From: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 2:46 PM

To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: FW: MASS EMAIL (CEO/PARTY CHAIRS/CSO): Advisory No. 2024-05: Public Inspection of Ballot Images and Cast Vote Records and Ballot Security, Public Information Outline

Mary,

You might want to review, in case you haven't seen these.

Have a blessed day!



Troy Havard
Assistant Elections Administrator, CERA
Tarrant County
CWO4 (ret) USMC



Office: 817-831-6463

Business Cell: 682-305-4568

"Direction, not intention, determines destination" – Andy Stanley

I would rather live my life as if there is a God and die to find out there isn't,
Than to live my life as if there isn't a God and die to find out there IS

From: Texas Secretary of State Elections Division <TXSoSAgency@public.govdelivery.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 1:57 PM

To: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: MASS EMAIL (CEO/PARTY CHAIRS/CSO): Advisory No. 2024-05: Public Inspection of Ballot Images and Cast Vote Records and Ballot Security, Public Information Outline

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

SoS Header - General

ELECTIONS DIVISION

TO: Texas Election Officials and Party Chairs

FROM: Elections Division, Texas Secretary of State

SUBJECT: Advisory No. 2024-05: Public Inspection of Ballot Images and Cast Vote Records and Ballot Security, Public Information Outline

DATE: January 24, 2024

Dear Election Officials and Party Chairs,

Our office has issued [Advisory No. 2024-05: Public Inspection of Ballot Images and Cast Vote Records and Ballot Security \(HB 5180\)](#). When posted, this advisory will be located on your [Conducting Elections](#) pages.

Our office has also issued an [Elections Public Information Law](#) outline.

In general, when responding to a public information request, you will need to work with your attorney or your public information officer for guidance on responding to that request. Our office cannot provide advice on requests that are specific to your individual local political subdivision, but we can typically direct you toward relevant provisions of the Texas Election Code.

For additional guidance on responding to public information requests, you may also wish to contact the Texas Attorney General's Office, as they have an Open Government Hotline that specializes in these issues. They can be reached at 877-673-6839.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heidi Martinez

Managing Attorney – Elections Division

Office of the Texas Secretary of State

1019 Brazos Street | Rudder Building, 2nd Floor | Austin, Texas 78701 1.800.252.VOTE (8683)

elections@sos.texas.gov | www.sos.state.tx.us/elections

The information contained in this email is intended to provide advice and assistance in election matters per §31.004 of the Texas Election Code. It is not intended to serve as a legal opinion for any matter. Please review the law yourself, and consult with an attorney when your legal rights are involved.

If you have any questions regarding this e-mail, please e-mail elections@sos.texas.gov



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This email was sent to tchavard@tarrantcountytx.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Texas Secretary of State · 707 17th St, Suite 4000 · Denver, CO 80202

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@justfoia.com>
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2023 8:55 AM EDT
To: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>; Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Re: Proposed Language

Write ABOVE THIS LINE to post a reply

Request Number EL-2023-335

Tarrant County, TX



mfdane posted a comment about this discussion on JustFOIA
Re: Proposed Language

Thanks. I think I will be using whatever we come up with a lot!

Conversation history:

"Troy C. Havard" at 9/7/2023 4:01:54 PM
Mary,

I like what you've put here – my recommendation would be to provide the following as the standard answer:

House Bill 5180 became law on September 1, 2023. This law allows access to voted ballots beginning the 61st day after Election Day – this access timeline also applies to the custodian of election records. However, that same law requires that we redact any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) before making them available for public inspection. As this process requires the inspection of each ballot, the time required to ensure compliance with the law varies, depending on how many ballots were cast in the election and we cannot begin the inspection process until the 61st day after Election Day. We will notify you as soon as this is completed for the election records you have requested so we can schedule a day and time for you to come in.

Have a blessed day!



Troy Havard
Assistant Elections Administrator, CERA
Tarrant County
CWO4 (ret) USMC



Office: 817-831-6463
Business Cell: 682-305-4568

"Direction, not intention, determines destination" – Andy Stanley

I would rather live my life as if there is a God and die to find out there isn't,
Than to live my life as if there isn't a God and die to find out there IS

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX)
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:04 PM
To: Troy C. Havard ; Mary F. Dane
Subject: EL-2023-335 Discussion started: Proposed Language



mfdane at 9/8/2023 7:55:03 AM

Thanks. I think I will be using whatever we come up with a lot!

From: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: RE: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2023-600 Fee Issued
To: Tammy Lehman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: January 16, 2024 10:51 AM (UTC-05:00)

Good morning, Ms. Lehman.

I'm sorry I didn't get back to you before now. What we discussed is basically the issue. There is the time to conduct the search plus the time to review any results and redact as necessary.

Have a blessed day!



Troy Havard
Assistant Elections Administrator, CERA
Tarrant County
CWO4 (ret) USMC



Office: 817-831-6463
Business Cell: 682-305-4568

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Than to live my life as if there isn't a God and die to find out there IS

From: Tammy Lehman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 8:51 PM
To: Troy C. Havard <TCHavard@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Subject: Fw: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2023-600 Fee Issued

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

Hi Troy-

This is the PIR with a fee issued.

Thanks for checking on why, although it is probably because there will be a review to redact.

Tammy

From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@request.justfoia.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 9:28 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2023-600 Fee Issued



Dear Requestor:

On 12/27/2023 at 2:48:10 pm, we received your request submitted under the Public Information Act (PIA) seeking information maintained by the Tarrant County Elections Department.

Please be advised that there are costs involved in fulfilling a portion of your (PIA) request. PIA authorizes the Elections Department to charge \$.10 per page, \$15.00 per hour for personnel costs associated with fulfilling a request, and 20% of personnel costs for overhead. Other costs may apply depending on what is being requested. These cost rules are set out in Title 1, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 70 and Texas Election Code, Section 1.012.

If you are still interested in obtaining the information in possession of the Tarrant County Elections Department, please see the attached itemized *Departmental Cost Estimate*.

The attached is an estimate only. If the estimated cost is more than the actual cost incurred by the Elections Department, you will be refunded accordingly. There may be less costly methods of viewing the records. Please feel free to contact me anytime if you wish to discuss alternative methods; or, if you would like to discuss how the Elections Department may lower its cost estimate; or if you believe that the Elections Department has made an error or misunderstood your request, please give me a call.

If the Elections Department later determines that the estimated charges will exceed the charges detailed in their attached itemized cost estimate by twenty (20) percent or more, the Elections Department will send you an updated statement that details all estimated charges that will be imposed, including any allowable charges for labor or personnel costs as required by Section 552.2615(b) Texas Government Code.

Please respond to this itemized cost estimate from the Elections Department within ten (10) business days and include the following information:

- (1) your choice of your mailing, facsimile transmission, or electronic mail address; and
- (2) that you either accept the estimated charges; or you are modifying your request; or, you have sent a complaint to the Texas Attorney General alleging that you are being overcharged. See Section 552.2615(a)(3) and (b) Texas Government Code.

If you do not respond in writing within ten (10) business days from the date of this itemized cost estimate as outlined, your request will be considered automatically withdrawn, Section 552.2615(b) Texas Gov Code.

For your convenience, complaints regarding overcharges may be made to the following:

Office of the Attorney General
Cost Hotline at (512) 475-2497
Toll-Free at 1-888-672-6787

If you agree to the charges set forth herein, please forward your firm check, cashier's check or money order payable

and delivered to as follows:

Tarrant County Elections
c/o Clint Ludwig, Elections Administrator
2700 Premier St.
Fort Worth, Texas 76111-0011

If paying in cash, exact change must be submitted. Debit or credit card payments are not accepted.

Your written response to this itemized cost estimate may be sent by regular U.S. mail, electronic mail, facsimile or in person through any of the following points of contact:

Tarrant County Elections Department
2700 Premier St.
Fort Worth, Texas 76111-0011
Facsimile (817) 850-2344
E-MAIL- electionsPIR@tarrantcountytx.gov

If you have any questions or comments concerning the attached itemized cost estimate from the Tarrant County Elections Department, please call us at 817.831-8683.

Powered by



From: EL - Public Information Request </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E39B9958EE024E4FAFE593FDEE114060-E3421DE5-EF> on behalf of EL - Public Information Request

Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2024 4:27 PM EDT

To: Vera Roberts <electionjudges@tarrantdemocrats.org>

Subject: RE: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2024-221 Clarification Requested

We have updated all requests and will let you know when the maps are ready. I have been advised that there is no charge for these maps.

Mary Dane



Tarrant County Elections
Public Information Requests



Office: 817-831-8683

Direct Line: 817-838-4678

Cell: 682-361-2155

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From: Vera Roberts <electionjudges@tarrantdemocrats.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 2:02 PM

To: ee161609-2a75-458e-a7b9-d796993d917f.TarrantCountyTX@request.justfoia.com

Cc: EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>

Subject: Re: Tarrant County Elections Office - Records Request EL-2024-221 Clarification Requested

You don't often get email from electionjudges@tarrantdemocrats.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!

One map that is 36"x48".

Vera Roberts, Office Manager
Tarrant County Democratic Party
(817) 335-8683 - Office
electionjudges@tarrantdemocrats.org

On Tue, Apr 2, 2024 at 8:42 AM Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@request.justfoia.com> wrote:



RE: Request Number [Request Number: EL-2024-221](#) Submitted on: 4/1/2024 at 5:16:34 pm

Dear Vera Roberts, Tarrant County Democratic Party,

For the County to continue to process your request for records, we require additional information. Please provide the following:

What size of maps are you looking for? Our usual sizes are 8.5"x11" (letter), 11"x17", and 36"x48". Because of the nature of our printers, we can handle any page size a customer requests, so long as one edge is no more than 36". (We may have an issue if they request an extremely long map, such as 36"x500", I can't guarantee the roll is quite that long.)

Many of our maps are already available on line for download. If you wish a bigger size, anything that is 11"x17" or less costs \$5. Anything that is bigger than that costs \$20.

Per Texas Government Code section 552.222, if a written response to this request for clarification or narrowing is not received within 61 days, your request is considered withdrawn.

Description of records requested:

Tarrant County Map

Thank you,
Tarrant County Elections Office
2700 Premier St.
Fort Worth, Texas 76111
(817) 884-8683
ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov

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From: Mary Dane (Tarrant County, TX) <TarrantCountyTX@justfoia.com>
Subject: Tarrant County Elections Office - EL-2023-335
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EL - Public Information Request <ElectionsPIR@Tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: September 8, 2023 9:44 AM (UTC-04:00)

Dear Mrs. Lehman

House Bill 5180 became law on September 1, 2023. This law allows access to voted ballots beginning the 61st day after Election Day – this access timeline also applies to the custodian of election records. However, that same law requires that we redact any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) before making them available for public inspection. As this process requires the inspection of each ballot, the time required to ensure compliance with the law varies, depending on how many ballots were cast in the election and we cannot begin the inspection process until the 61st day after Election Day. We will notify you as soon as this is completed for the election records you have requested so we can schedule a day and time for you to come in.

Sincerely,



Tarrant County Elections

Public Information Requests

Office: 817-831-8683

Submit your Public Information Requests online now at
<https://tarrantcountytx.justfoia.com/publicportal/home/newrequest>.

Consider creating an account to help facilitate your requests!

From: JustFOIA Notification <donotreply@request.justfoia.com>
Subject: Workflow Start Notification for Request EL-2024-49
To: Mary F. Dane <MFDane@tarrantcountytx.gov>
Sent: February 23, 2024 9:54 AM (UTC-05:00)

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT! Think Before You Click!



Dear mfdane,

A workflow process for [Request Number: EL-2024-49](#) has started and is assigned to you.

Field Name	Response
ElectionsCountywideNo	
ElectionVoterRegJurisdiction	
Zip	76182
ElectionsElection	Nov. 2020
City	North Richland Hills
ElectionsVoterHistoryJurisdiction	
Name	Noah Figg
Email	[REDACTED]
TXElectionCode	
Phone	[REDACTED]
State	TX
Address	6921 Lincolnshire Ln
ElectionType	
ElectionsMapsJurisdiction	
ElectionsYear	2020
ElectionResultsDescription	
ElectionsEmailArea	

Description

Please provide the following information for the November 3rd, 2020 in Tarrant County for Early Voting in Person period and Election Day in Person period pursuant to Texas Election Code 1.012: 1. Logic and Accuracy Testing Records for voting machines: • All test ballots voted • Test deck records • Testing media 2. Early Voting and Election Day Materials: • Qualified Voter File • Daily Early Voting Rosters for in-person voting • Chain of Custody forms that document the seals on the Ballot Boxes • Chain of Custody delivery and pick up of equipment at voting sites • Statements of Residence • Reasonable Impediment Declarations • Limited Ballot Applications • Audit Logs from applicable Voting System Devices • List of Rejected Provisional Ballots and reason for rejection • Ballot and Seal Certificates • Register of Ballot Forms for Early Voting with Tally sheets and Election Day in Person • Hand delivery of a Ballot by Mail Roster and Forms • Receipts of sealed Early Voting Ballot Boxes • Poll List of Ballot By Mail Voters • Notice of rejected carriers and reasons for Ballot by Mail 3. Central Counting Station Plan 4. All Training materials, poll worker and poll watcher handbooks 5. All Incident Management logs, tech support hotline logs, error logs, or reports 6. All Contracts between County and Voting system companies 7. E pollbook Check in logs 8. All Central Counting station equipment logs for central tabulators, election management systems, and users logs 9. All Standard Affidavit Forms filled out during the Early Voting in Person and Election Day in person period. 10. Mandatory Precinct by Precinct level report for Early Voting in Person and Election Day in Person Please fulfill this request quickly and if you have any questions, or I may be of assistance, please contact me above. Thank you for your time and assistance in fulfilling my request for information. For Texas, Noah Figg [REDACTED]

ElectionsOther

RequestType

Electronic

ElectionsTypeOfRecord

ElectionSpecificRecords

ElectionsCountywide

Blank

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