



Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Summary



Print Date/Time: 04/12/2023 16:16
 Login ID: sheidmil
 Case Number: 2022-00027859

ORI Number:

Yuma County Sheriff's Office
 AZ0140000

Case

Case Number: 2022-00027859
 Location: [REDACTED]
 YUMA, AZ 85367
 Reporting Officer ID: 1362 - Hemstreet

Incident Type: Fraud Business Commercial
 Occurred From: 11/03/2020 08:00
 Occurred Thru: 11/03/2020 08:00
 Disposition: Open
 Disposition Date: 03/31/2022
 Reported Date: 03/30/2022 20:46 Wednesday

Offenses

No.	Group/ORI	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Counts
1	State	90Z	16-1005A (F)	Person Knowingly Marks Voted/Unvoted Ballot w/Intent To Fix Election, Is Class 5 Felony	1
2	State	90Z	16-1016.2 (F)	Voting - More than Once	1
3	State	90Z	16-1016.4 (F)	Voting - Change/Destroy Ballot in Box	1

Subjects

Type	No.	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB/Age
Suspect	1	HINCHMAN, Michael Emery	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Victim	1	STATE OF ARIZONA					68

Arrests

Arrest No.	Name	Address	Date/Time	Type	Age
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Property

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.
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Vehicles

No.	Role	Vehicle Type	Year Make	Model	Color	License Plate	State
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OfficerID: jahe, Narrative

SYNOPSIS: This is a voter fraud case reported by the Yuma County Recorder's Office. I was advised that a subject had voted in the November 2020 general election in Yuma County and in Colorado.

NARRATIVE: On 03-10-2022, at approximately 1400 hours, I met with officials from the Yuma County Recorders Office in reference to multiple different voter fraud cases that were occurring. Information was gathered and this case is pending extensive follow up.

ATTACHMENTS: None at this time.

SCENE: N/A

PROPERTY LOSS: N/A

EVIDENCE: Evidence gathered is in the form of copies of ballots and voter registration information that will later be added as attachments. The originals are locked in a vault at this time at the Yuma County Recorder's Office.

WITNESSES: N/A.

OFFICERS: N/A.

Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362
Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Supplement 1

**Yuma County Sheriff's Department
Patrol Division
Supplemental Report**

2022-27859

Case Title: Voter Fraud

Date: 03/30/2022

Time: 2046

Case Agent: Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362

Supplemental Report by: Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362

Attachments:

1. Signatures provided by the Yuma County Recorder's Office that were sent to the DPS Crime Lab for analysis and comparison.
2. Search warrant, affidavit and return, for the ballot envelopes with signatures
3. Registration and voter information provided by the Yuma County Recorder's Office.

Narrative:

Case Background

Michael Emery HINCHMAN voted two times in the November 3rd, 2020 general election by completing a Colorado absentee ballot on 10-19-2020 that was accepted on 11-03-2020. Michael Emery HINCHMAN is on the permanent early voting list (PEVL), in Arizona, and a ballot was automatically loaded into his record on 09-28-2020, it was sent on 10-07-2020 and returned completed on 10-23-2020. The ballot number is 024G01, the ballot ID is B-39978967 and is from batch ID 5043.

All of the case numbers taken with this investigation are as follows: 2022-22045, 22046, 22048, 22050, 22051, 22053, 22055, 22056, 22057, 22058, 27859, 27860, 27861, 27862, 27863, 27864, 49812.

Investigation

On 6-14-2022 I began reviewing the documents provided to me by the Yuma County Recorder's Office in reference to this case. Among the documents are voter registrations from the States of Colorado and Arizona with the alleged signatures of Mr. Michael HINCHMAN. The signatures appear to match however a scientific examination of them will need to be made to confirm that. Also among the documents is a ballot envelope from the State of Colorado with the alleged signature of Mr. Michael HINCHMAN that also appears to be the same as the registrations from both states.

The documentation also shows that Michael HINCHMAN voted an early ballot, in the State of Arizona, in the 2020 general election and then voted an absentee ballot in the State of Colorado on 10-19-2020 .

**Yuma County Sheriff's Department
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2022-27859

Currently the Arizona ballot envelopes, from the 2020 general elections, are locked in the vault at the Yuma County Treasurer's Office and a court order is required to access them for signature comparisons.

On 06-21-2022 a search warrant was drafted for the ballot envelope at the Yuma County Treasurers Office and signed by Judge Mark Wayne REEVES. On 06-22-2022 the search warrant was served and the ballot envelope was obtained. Copies of the signatures provided by the Yuma County Recorder's Office were sent with the ballot envelopes to the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory for analysis and comparison. I am currently awaiting the results. On 06-23-2022 the search warrant was returned to Judge Kathryn STOCKING-TATE.



Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362
Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Patrol Division

OfficerID: jahe, Supplement Narrative**Case Title: Voter Fraud****Date: 03/30/2022****Time: 2046****Case Agent: Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362****Supplemental Report by: Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362****Attachments:**

None.

Narrative:

On 06-27-2022 I went to the listed address for Mr. Michael HINCHMAN, [REDACTED], and found that he had left for the season. A gray 1999 Toyota 4 Runner was parked on the front yard up on blocks and everything else was locked up. The vehicle is registered to Mr. HINCHMAN with a Colorado license plate of [REDACTED].

I was unable to locate any neighbors that knew him so I will attempt to make contact with him via telephone.

On 06-29-2022, at approximately 1000 hours, I called the phone number listed for Mr. Michael HINCHMAN, [REDACTED], and he answered. I explained to him that I was investigating issues with the 2020 general election and asked if he had time to speak with me to which he stated that he did.

The following is a general summary of the telephone conversation.

I asked if he had dual residency in Yuma and Colorado and he stated that he did. I asked if he was registered to vote in both states that he stated that he was. I asked where he voted in the 2020 general election and if it was in Yuma or Colorado or both and he stated "both". I confirmed that he voted in both and he stated that this year he voted in Colorado and he stated he just sent it in. I told him I was talking about the November 3rd 2020 general election and he stated that they had been in Arizona at that time so he voted in Arizona. I asked if he went to a polling station or if he sent an early ballot and he stated that he sent an early ballot.

I told him that I saw he was on the permanent early voting list for Arizona so his ballot was sent to him on October 7th and he sent it back October 23rd. He stated that it sounds about right. I asked when he last voted in Colorado for a general election. He stated that he did not remember and they have been coming to Yuma for about the last 8 years now. I asked if he was back in Colorado now and he stated that he was.

I told him that I had a record of a ballot being sent to [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. He stated that was correct. I told him that was for the November 3rd 2020 general election but he was in Yuma at that time. He stated that was correct.

He advised they come down in September and they leave around May. He added that he drives a school bus down here in Yuma. I asked if he had a mail box in front of his house and he stated that it was a regular mail box. I asked if he had a P.O. Box and he stated "no". I asked how he normally gets his ballot in Colorado and he stated that they mail it. I asked if anyone else has access to his mail in Colorado and he stated "not that I know of". I asked when he is down here for the winter months how he gets his Colorado mail and he stated that he has it forwarded. I confirmed that he has it forwarded to Yuma. I confirmed that he is saying he voted in Yuma in the elections and not in Colorado and he stated "yes, to the best of my knowledge".

I told him that it appears someone, either him or someone using his information, voted in both Arizona and Colorado. I told him that I had all of the signatures from Arizona and Colorado and sent them to the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Lab for a comparison and that I wanted to get his side of the story before I went any further.

I asked if he had any questions for me and he stated that one of the problems he has been having in Colorado, and hopefully it is done now, they had some neighbors that have finally moved but they had a lot of problems with them. He stated that they came back to Colorado and were going to sell their home of 42 years but the neighbors have left. He stated that the year prior he put up a camera but the neighbor kids would walk by and "monkey" with the mailbox. He stated that he had it on camera. I confirmed he had that on video and he stated "yep". I asked if he reported it to his local law enforcement and he stated that he did. I asked if he had a case number and he stated "I won't get into that". I told him that it would be beneficial and he stated that the police essentially did not do anything with it. I told him that there are always different versions of what happened. I asked if he still had the video of them messing with his mailbox and he stated that he did and leaves it running all of the time. I asked him if he was able to e mail me a clip of that video and he stated that he would have to go back and find it. He stated that he used to have it set to alarm him whenever something happened but he was getting too many alerts so he turned that function off. I found that his e mail address is [REDACTED] so I sent him an e mail requesting that video. He continued to tell me that the kids would cut across his property to get to their house but they finally moved. I confirmed that it was possible that someone got a hold of his mail and sent his ballot. He stated that he did not know and that he just saw them "monkey" with the mailbox.

I told him that I thought I had everything I needed and asked if he had any questions to which he did not. I advised him that the e mail I sent him had my contact information if he had any questions later for me.

I am currently awaiting the signature comparison from the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime lab.

As of 07-05-2022 I have not yet received anything from Mr. HINCHMAN via e mail.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Hemstreet', written in a cursive style.

Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362
Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Patrol Division

Supplement 3

**Yuma County Sheriff's Department
Patrol Division
Supplemental Report**

2022-27859

Case Title: Voter Fraud

Date: 03/30/2022

Time: 2046

Case Agent: Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362

Supplemental Report by: Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362

Attachments:

Results of the scientific examination request, regarding the signature comparison, sent to the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Narrative:

On 10-14-2022 I received the Scientific Examination Report from the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Lab. The report is attached to this supplement. The following is a summary of the report.

A1. An original Arizona mail in ballot envelope bearing a questioned Michael HINCHMAN signature dated 10-09-2020.

1. Copies of 5 known signatures of Michael HINCHMAN.

An examination and comparison of questioned item #A1 with known item #1 resulted in the following opinion:

-The questioned signature on item #A1 was executed by the writer of #1, Michael HINCHMAN.

This case is being forwarded to the Yuma County Attorney's Office for review of possible charges.



Sergeant J. Hemstreet #1362
Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Patrol Division

OfficerID: jahe, Supplement Narrative

The Yuma County Attorney's Office declined to pursue charges in reference to this case. The declination is attached to this supplement.

No further,

Sgt. J. Hemstreet, S-95