

https://dailyprogress.com/news/fluvanna-school-teacher-officially-indicted-in-voter-fraud/article_7f51941b-30a4-5df8-9367-20b166cff578.html

Fluvanna school teacher officially indicted in voter fraud

Daily Progress Staff Reports

Jun 25, 2012

A grand jury handed down an indictment against Feda Kidd Morton Monday morning in Fluvanna County Circuit Court, formally accusing her of making a false statement on a voter registration form, Commonwealth's Attorney Jeffery W. Haislip confirmed.

Morton, a biology teacher at Fluvanna High School, was arrested in March after a special prosecutor, Greene County Commonwealth's Attorney Ronald Morris, requested the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation's Appomattox field office look into an allegation of election fraud in Fluvanna, VSP spokeswoman Corrine Geller said in a previous interview.

Morton, 59, of Scottsville, is accused of falsifying a petition of qualified voters form, which is used to collect signatures from registered voters in order to get a candidate on the ballot in an election.

The form requires circulators personally witness signatures added by voters to the petition. A circulator must also sign an affidavit on the form swearing that each signature was personally witnessed. Several witnesses testified and said Morton was not present when they signed the form.

Michelle Martinez, a public notary, said she saw Morton sign the affidavit after asking her if she understood what she was signing.

At a preliminary hearing last month, Michael Lewis said Morton handed the form, partially filled in, over to him and asked him to collect additional signatures.

Morris will prosecute the case, Haislip said. Orange-based attorney Charles Bowman represents Morton in the matter.

In 2010, Morton sought the Republican nomination for the 5th District congressional seat.

In May, a judge suspended Morton's concealed handgun permit. The Code of Virginia disqualifies anyone with a pending felony charge from obtaining a concealed handgun permit.
