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DEVELOPING

Felony voter fraud charge filed in Asotin County

Nov 30, 2016

ASOTIN - A felony charge alleging voter fraud was filed this morning in Asotin County against Christopher P. Billups of Lapwai.

According to 29 pages of court documents, Billups attempted to vote in Washington and Idaho during the Nov. 8 election. The 62-year-old man is facing a Class C felony and will be arraigned Dec. 19 in Asotin County Superior Court.

Prosecutor Ben Nichols filed the charges after auditors in Nez Perce and Asotin counties discovered a discrepancy involving Billups. The Nez Perce County resident allegedly returned an Asotin County ballot and later voted at a precinct in Lapwai during the General Election.

The maximum sentence for a Class C felony is five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

The prosecutor is reviewing documents related to another possible case of voter fraud. A Clarkston man may have signed his deceased wife's name on a ballot, according to the canvassing report issued Monday by the auditor's office.

More information on this developing story will appear in Thursday's Tribune.