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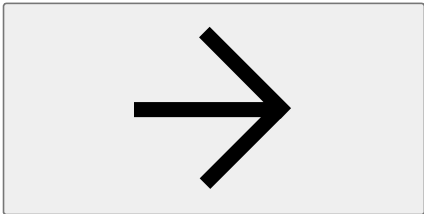
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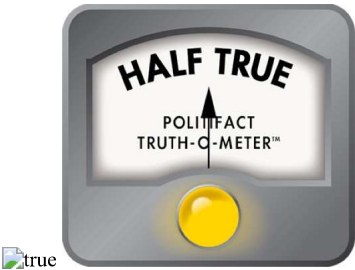
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[Will Kraus](#)

stated on August 30, 2015 in an episode of "This Week in Missouri Politics":

Says Missouri needs a voter I.D. law because "there's over 16 people in the state of Missouri who have been convicted of some type of voter fraud."



 true

- [Elections](#)
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[Will Kraus](#)



Missouri state Sen. Will Kraus, a Republican, discussed voter ID requirements on "This Week in Missouri Politics."



By [Adam Aton](#) January 4, 2016

Numbers don't support Will Kraus' statement on voter fraud

For nearly a decade, Missouri Republicans have pushed to require a photo I.D. to vote. Those efforts have all fallen short — either in the [General Assembly](#), at the [governor's desk](#) or in the courts. In the upcoming legislative session, lawmakers will try again.

Their 2016 plan is a [referendum](#) on amending the Missouri Constitution to give the Secretary of State, whose office oversees elections, the power to require that would-be voters present government-issued photo identification. Along with the amendment, lawmakers are pushing a [bill](#) that would write photo ID requirements into law.

Both measures were pre-filed Dec. 1 by Sen. Will Kraus, R-Lee's Summit. Kraus has pushed similar measures in past legislative sessions, and next year he will be on the ballot for Secretary of State.

He says there are lots of things that already require a photo I.D., like driving a car or opening a bank account, and that voting should be among them. He's also presented it as a solution to voter fraud.

Speaking on the [Aug. 30 episode](#) of This Week in Missouri Politics, Kraus said: "There's over 16 people in the state of Missouri who have been convicted of some type of voter fraud. That shows people in the state of Missouri are trying to cheat elections."

That combination of specificity and vagueness piqued our interest.

Court cases

Kraus didn't give a timeframe for his statement. When reached for comment, his campaign emailed [a report from the Heritage Foundation](#) that pointed to 17 convictions since 2005.

But none of the cases involved voter impersonation, which is what voter I.D. laws are designed to combat. Instead, all 17 were convicted on false voter registrations.

Registering to vote doesn't require a photo I.D.; it can be done by [mail](#). And Kraus' proposed amendment only applies to "a voter seeking to vote in person," according to the bill summary. So none of those 17 cases would've been averted by his proposals.

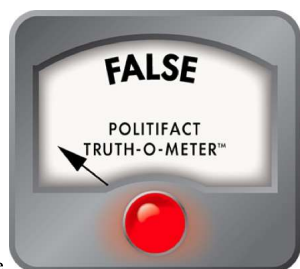
Featured Fact-check



[Donald Trump](#)

stated on September 22, 2020 in a speech

[Says Joe Biden's plan for net-zero emissions "would instantly shut down all fracking and all mining immediately in Pennsylvania."](#)



true

By Jessica Calefati • September 25, 2020

Moreover, not every person in the Heritage report was convicted of an election offense, per se. For instance, the document highlights the case of [Nonaresa Montgomery](#), who was accused in 2001 of registering fake voters in St. Louis before the mayoral election. Election workers realized that among the names Montgomery submitted was an alderman who had been dead for about a decade, and the fake registrations [never made it onto city rolls](#).

Six volunteer activists pleaded guilty to election violations, but Montgomery wasn't among them. Instead, she was found guilty of perjury for lying to a grand jury about being able to track the registration cards the volunteers had given her.

Voter Impersonation

The Secretary of State's office runs an elections integrity unit whose job is to monitor irregularities. Laura Swinford, who was the Secretary of State's spokeswoman until November, said that unit hasn't handled any cases of voter impersonation fraud.

"We don't have reported cases of voter fraud. We just don't," she said in October.

"The reality is there hasn't been a documented case" of voter impersonation, said Stephanie Fleming, who replaced Swinford as the Secretary of State's spokeswoman.

Swinford, who now is executive director of Progress Missouri, said the Secretary of State's office recently encountered fraudulent signatures on petitions, but "the reason we know that is the system is working."

Counties aren't required to report cases of election irregularities to the Secretary of State's office, although they typically do, so it's difficult to definitively say zero cases of voter impersonation have occurred, she said. But it's rare enough to conclude voter impersonation isn't a problem in Missouri, she said.

"I can't prove there's no bigfoot. There's just no bigfoot," she said.

Our ruling

Kraus said Missouri needs a voter I.D. law because there have been more than 16 cases of "some type of voter fraud" in Missouri. That number isn't wrong, but it doesn't support Kraus' assertion that photo identification would solve the problem — or that there is a problem of people impersonating voters.

Kraus' statement is partially accurate but takes things out of context. We rate his claim Half True.



Our Sources

[This Week in Missouri Politics](#), Aug. 30.

"[A sampling of election fraud cases from across the country](#)," the Heritage Foundation

Interviews with Laura Swinford, Oct. 19, Nov. 3

Interview with Stephanie Fleming, Dec. 30

"[Court strikes down proposed Missouri voter ID amendment](#)," Kansas City Star, March 29, 2012

"[Nixon vetoes Missouri photo ID legislation](#)," St. Louis Post-Dispatch, June 19, 2011

"[Missouri legislature ends session with voter ID amendment still on agenda](#)," New York Times, May 17, 2008

[Secretary of State's website](#)

"[Voter fraud decision today](#)," Gateway Pundit, Feb. 10, 2005

"[Was Mo battle over Voter ID, ACORN tied to U.S. attorney scandal?](#)" St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 22, 2007

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[The Principles of the Truth-O-Meter](#)

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More by Adam Aton



Numbers don't support Will Kraus' statement on voter fraud



• [Facebook posts](#)

stated on October 16, 2020 in a post:

[A photo shows a massive crowd at a recent Florida rally for Donald Trump.](#)



By Hayat Norimine • October 18, 2020



[Facebook posts](#)

stated on October 13, 2020 in a post on social media:

[Says Nancy Pelosi was photographed with the Manson Family.](#)



By Hayat Norimine • October 18, 2020



• [Caleb Rowden](#)

stated on September 22, 2020 in an online campaign ad:

[Says he “fully funded Missouri K-12 education for the first time in state history.”](#)



By Minh Connors • October 16, 2020



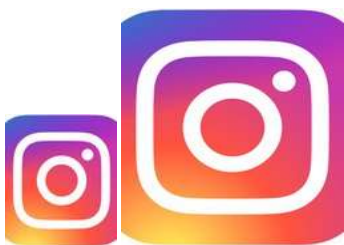
[Vicente Gonzalez](#)

stated on October 5, 2020 in a speech:

[Says the "The Rio Grande Valley is 4.7% of the entire state population, but it represents 17% of the \(coronavirus\) deaths of our state."](#)



By Brandon Mulder • October 16, 2020



• [Instagram posts](#)

stated on October 15, 2020 in an Instagram post:

[Says Kanye West got 40,000 votes in the presidential election in Kentucky.](#)



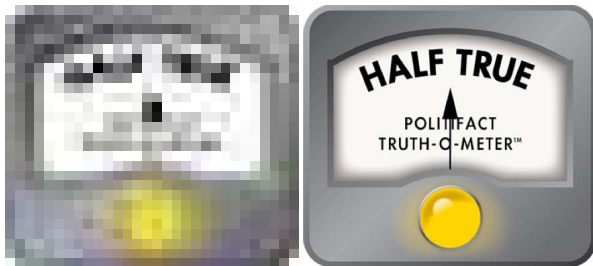
By Ciara O'Rourke • October 16, 2020



[Congressional Leadership Fund](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2016/jan/04/will-kraus/numbers-dont-support-will-kraus-statement-voter-fr/)

stated on October 7, 2020 in an ad:

[Says Debbie Mucarsel-Powell's family received \\$700,000 from the firm of "violent warlord Ihor Kolomoisky," who is compared to Fidel Castro and Nicolás Maduro.](#)



By Tom Kertscher • October 16, 2020



[Facebook posts](#)

stated on October 13, 2020 in a Facebook post:

["Jaime Harrison is being left off of South Carolina ballots"](#)



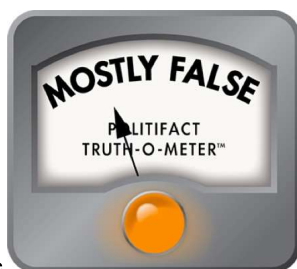
By Amy Sherman • October 16, 2020




[Andrew Cuomo](#)

stated on September 30, 2020 in a press call:

["We're No. 46 out of 50 states... we're 46th in terms of percentage of deaths in nursing homes."](#)



barely-true

By Jill Terreri Ramos • October 16, 2020



[Viral image](#)

stated on September 25, 2020 in a Facebook post:

[Says Joe Biden calls Donald Trump's supporters the dregs of society.](#)



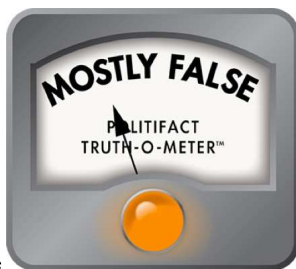
By Ciara O'Rourke • October 16, 2020



• [Facebook posts](#)

stated on October 12, 2020 in a text post:

[Says Joe Biden's "capital gains tax means that when you sell your home you'll owe taxes of 40% of your profit!"](#)



barely-true

By Daniel Funke • October 16, 2020

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Donald Trump's claim that US tested more than all countries combined is

Trump falsely claim illegally sent ballot

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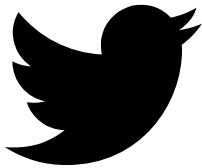
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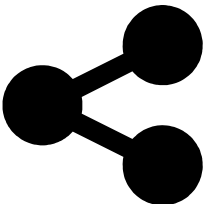
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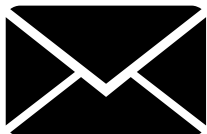




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