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Poll Workers Plead Guilty to Election Fraud (Shelby County, TN)

[MyMemphis43](#) ^ | 5/10/07 | April Norris

Posted on 5/10/2007, 10:08:04 PM by [LdSentinal](#)

Three former Shelby County poll workers pleaded guilty Thursday to several election fraud charges. The women got caught up in the 2005 shake up of the District 29 special election where convicted felons and dead people voted.

This case has dragged on for years and their attorneys said their clients just wanted it over.

Verline Mayo, Mary McClatcher and Gertrude Otteridge, in their 60's and 70's, were charged with felonies ranging from signing off on illegal registrations to official misconduct while serving as poll workers in the infamous District 29 election.

If they went to trial, McClatcher and Otteridge could have gotten more than two years in jail, but got two years probation. Mayo, the precinct officer at the time, faced 30 to 40 years. She walked with two years probation.

"She really....wanted to clear her name and fight this, but after we counseled with her and her family, she thought this was the best alternative for her," said defense attorney Arthur Horne.

Mayo's attorney said she issued an Alford plea, meaning she pled guilty, while at the same time asserting her innocence.

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KEYWORDS: [democrats](#); [guilty](#); [tennessee](#); [voterfraud](#)

1 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:08:11 PM by [LdSentinal](#)

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To: [LdSentinal](#)

I guess whoever wrote the article didn't think party affiliation mattered.

2 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:11:10 PM by [visualops](#) (artlife.us)

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To: [LdSentinal](#)

I'll assume since no party is mentioned that it was the Democrats who were the recipients of this fraud? Assumptions can be wrong, however.

3 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:11:49 PM by [Carling](#) (It's Danny, Sir)

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To: [Carling](#)

Shelby County is dominated and controlled by filthy, corrupt Democrats.

4 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:12:55 PM by LdSentinal
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To: LdSentinal

Mayo, the precinct officer at the time, faced 30 to 40 years. She walked with two years probation.

That's a sweetheart deal!

5 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:14:34 PM by Tai_Chung
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To: LdSentinal

I assumed correctly. Just when you think the media can't become more biased, it does.

6 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:21:04 PM by Carling (It's Danny, Sir)
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To: Tai_Chung

Nobody does serious time for election fraud.

That's why criminals like these are willing to take the risk of getting caught.

Disenfranchising others and enforcing their will on other Americans is all they care about.

7 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:21:16 PM by Bonaparte
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To: LdSentinal

Shelby County is dominated and controlled by filthy, corrupt Democrats.

Yes we are. But those of us that are not filthy, corrupt Democrats are beginning to find ways to fight back... baby steps at first, but it is better than yielding them total control.

8 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:22:40 PM by Ingтар (...right wing conservatives are growing tired of crawling on bloody stumps looking for scraps - JRob)
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To: Carling

[Right here...](#)

Charged are Verline Mayo, 69, the officer in charge of the precinct, and fellow Democrat Party poll workers Gertrude Otteridge, 64, and Mary McClatcher, 52.

9 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:26:05 PM by Bonaparte
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To: LdSentinal

PravdABDNC covering for their masters. The only voter fraud that is ever found is Dem fraud.

Pray for W and Our Troops

10 posted on **5/10/2007, 10:27:42 PM** by **bray** (The Surge is Working against both Enemies of America)

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To: **Ingтар**

Don't worry, my friend. Yours is not the only corrupt county or precinct. Mine is too. That's why I never go to my polling place anymore. I send in an absentee ballot.

11 posted on **5/10/2007, 10:28:47 PM** by **Bonaparte**

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To: **Bonaparte**

"...and fellow Democrat Party poll workers..."

Hah! The Dems will be more irritated with the missing "ic" than with being identified in the first place...

12 posted on **5/10/2007, 10:31:51 PM** by **decal** (Mother Nature and Real Life are conservatives - the Progs have never figured this out.)

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To: **LdSentinal**

Since no one suffers any serious jail time for voter fraud, it will continue unabated by the Democrats.

13 posted on **5/10/2007, 10:33:29 PM** by **TheLion** (How about "Comprehensive Immigration Enforcement," for a change)

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To: **LdSentinal**

btt

14 posted on **5/10/2007, 10:37:10 PM** by **Ron in Acreage** (VOTE DEMOCRAT--TERRORISTS ARE COUNTING ON IT)

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To: **Ingтар**

Been reading some local Memphis blogs on this affair.

Oh, man, what maroons! Verline says some evil Republicans put her up to this. The McClatchie sisters cry their little eyes out and say Verline put them up to it. Everybody's got a finger-pointing story and Verline's excuses reportedly changed every few days for awhile.

15 posted on **5/10/2007, 10:38:17 PM** by **Bonaparte**

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To: **LdSentinal**

the last sentence in this article should be: the three were contacted by schmuckie schumer and he was quoted as saying, "after interviewing them, i hired them on the spot to work for the dnc on the 2008 presidential campaign."

16 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:47:44 PM by JohnLongIsland

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To: LdSentinal

The women got caught up in...

Not that they did anything wrong. Just got caught up in???

17 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:49:54 PM by FreePaul

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To: visualops

Actually party affiliation mattered very much to the author, ergo the omission there of. ;-)

18 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:50:00 PM by F.J. Mitchell ('Trust only those whom you have carefully scrutinized through the lenses of a maggotsfrying glass.)

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To: Tai_Chung

Did Justice Dept. let THAT U.S. Attorney go (for political reasons)?

19 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:50:49 PM by zerosix

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To: LdSentinal

Cancel the posse, Mayo's been bagged



A modern day Ma Barker? If you worry about crime in this community, start worrying a little harder. It seems the cops are even having trouble catching 69-year-old grandmothers. I am referring, of course, to the harder-than-it-should-have-been police pursuit this week of Verline Mayo, a former poll worker indicted on charges of conspiring to help Ophelia Ford win last fall's District 29 state Senate race. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office got a warrant to arrest Mayo about 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, but the deputies' quarry proved as elusive as Osama bin Laden juiced up on Geritol. Deputies first tried to apprehend Mayo at the hospital, where she was being treated in the emergency room for a minor injury. Alas, she checked out just moments before they arrived. Next, a deputy tried to call Mayo and inform her about the warrant by telephone, but she apparently hung up. Go figure. Then deputies entered her daughter's home through a window (a "Gestapo" tactic, as Mayo later described it) and conducted a fruitless search for the wily suspect. Finally, a few minutes after a Wednesday morning press conference in which Dist. Atty. Gen. Bill Gibbons announced that Mayo was on the run, she turned herself in and was bonded out of jail. Mayo stands accused of voting on behalf of dead people, but she seems pretty lively herself. Had she stayed on the lam a little longer, I wouldn't have been surprised to see her face popping up on one of those "Wanted" posters at the post office. Now, I realize these indictments are part of a serious criminal investigation, but it's hard not to laugh. The alternative is to cry.

20 posted on 5/10/2007, 10:58:32 PM by mylife (The Roar Of The Masses Could Be Farts)

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