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## Democrat Concerns about Ballot Integrity Task Force [Inbox](#)

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★ David Reeve <reeve@tcrp.org> 2:25 pm (1½ hours ago)

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Date: Nov 1, 2006 2:25 PM  
 Subject: Democrat Concerns about Ballot Integrity Task Force

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Dear Election Judges;

This forwarded email originated from Chris Elliot, Chair, Travis County Democrat Party. In it, he has expressed some concerns regarding our Ballot Integrity Task Force Guide 2006. After due consideration and desiring fairness and full transparency, I have decided the best thing would be to forward his comments direct to you and let you consider them. Please review them carefully and act accordingly.

Should you have any comments, please feel free to respond to this email.

FYI: To see Chairman Alan Sager's response, watch Fox 7 News tonight.

Dave Reeve

Travis County Republican Party

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Chris Elliott [mailto:[elliott@crewselliott.com](mailto:elliott@crewselliott.com)]

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2006 3:19 PM

**To:** [sager@tcrp.org](mailto:sager@tcrp.org); [dlreev@aol.com](mailto:dlreev@aol.com)

**Cc:** [elizabeth@traviscountymocrats.org](mailto:elizabeth@traviscountymocrats.org); Dana Debeauvoir;  
Gail Fisher

**Subject:** TCRP "Ballot Integrity Task Force Guide"

Alan and Dave:

I have been provided a copy of the materials provided to your election judges in preparation for next week's elections. I believe there are some factual inaccuracies in some of the material that could result in problems on election day. I will address them in the order they appear in the material that I was provided (I am counting the cover sheet as page 1):

1. On the third page, under the bold heading "Provisional Voting (TAC 81.172)

This section purports to deal with situations where a voter "must" cast a provisional ballot. The fourth bullet point states that if a registered voter shows up at a precinct different from the one where they are registered, they must vote a provisional ballot. This is not true. Election judges are supposed to make an effort to direct such a voter to the proper precinct. It may be that the voter decides not to go to a different precinct and would prefer to vote a provisional ballot where he or she is, but the voter is not required to vote a provisional ballot, as the language herein suggests, just by virtue of appearing at the wrong precinct.

2. On the fifth page, under the bold heading "Quick Summary of the Provisional Voter Process"

The second bullet point under that heading states that if a voter does not (sic) personal identification or refuses to produce it, the voter "is permitted to vote, but the vote is not counted."

This is factually inaccurate. If this scenario arises, the voter is allowed to vote a provisional ballot. Whether or not the vote is counted is up to the ballot board. If an election judge were to follow your advice here and tell a potential voter that his or her vote "will not be counted," this may very well discourage the potential voter from casting a provisional ballot.

3. On the seventh page, under the bold heading "Voting

## Irregularities to look for”

The sixth paragraph down suggests that a voter appearing at a polling location “without photographic identification” constitutes a voting irregularity. This is, once again, factually inaccurate. Many voters appear at the voting location without photographic identification and, as you well know, are not required to produce photographic identification if they have another accepted form of i.d. or if they have their voter reg card.

4. On your flow chart, which is the next to the last page in the materials that I have:

If a voter does as you suggest at the top of the left hand column of your chart and he or she presents a voter registration card with a date that is not current, your flow chart, by following it to the right, suggests that the voter must then present a different form of “valid ID” in order to vote. Again, factually inaccurate. A voter reg card with an expired date is considered by the County to be a valid form of ID in and of itself so that if that voter’s name appears on the voter list, he or she is allowed to vote, period. No provisional ballot required.

I am sure that these were innocent mistakes and I am merely asking that you guys correct these inaccuracies and inform those that attended your training class and those judges who may not have attended but to whom this material will be provided for reference on election day. I am hoping that we can avoid problems on election day that these erroneous instructions may create.

I have already spoken to Dana DeBeauvoir about this and, as you can see, I am copying her and Gail Fisher so they will be fully informed of my position. I hope that they will review these matters and weigh in. I believe these to be important issues. Please let me know TCRP’s position on this, Alan, and whether you intend to take any action.

Thank you.

Chris Elliott

Chair, Travis County Democratic Party

[Christopher L. Elliott](#)

[Crews & Elliott, P.C.](#)

[Building 3, Suite 200](#)

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Austin, TX 78759

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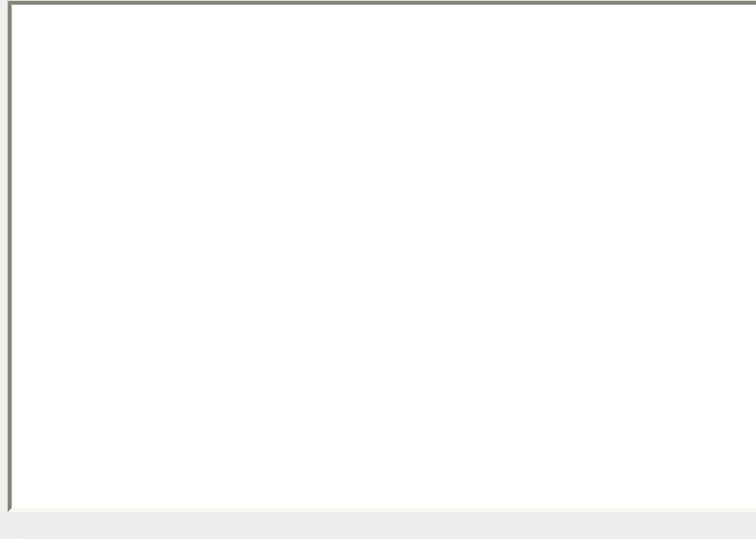
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