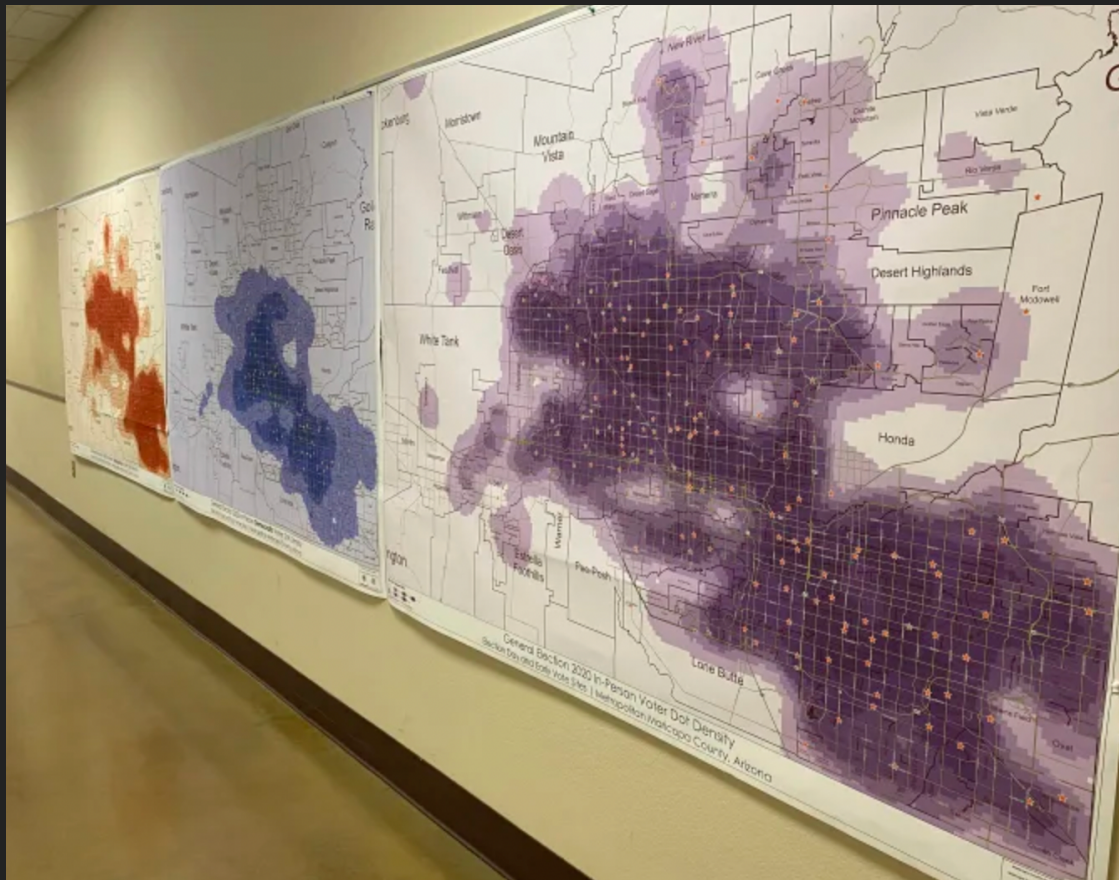


New Testimony Confirms Ballot Tampering in Maricopa's 2022 Election

By **Wendi Strauch Mahoney** - April 3, 2023



Heat Maps/Election Day/Maricopa County Elections Department via AP

New testimony from Bob Hughes confirms ballot tampering in Maricopa County's 2022 election. Hughes states in his [affidavit](#) that *"an intentional change was made to the printers affecting the DAY OF Election ballots"* in the 2022 Maricopa County midterm election. Hughes' affidavit in Exhibit K of a newly filed [Motion to Reconsider](#) in Mark Finchem's dismissed 2022 election lawsuit confirms previous testimony from Clay Parikh. Parikh was one of several expert witnesses in the Kari Lake lawsuit.

Parikh [testified](#) there are *"only two ways the printing of a 19-inch image on a 20-inch paper happened, and they are both intentional."* He [explained](#), *"One way is by changing the printer adjustments. That would make the printer adjustments, and settings override the image file that was set. The other is from the application side or the operating system side."*

Hughes has 50 years of experience in the printing industry—16 of which have been in *"printing ballots for Maricopa County Elections,"* according to his affidavit. He also helped *"establish the auditing criteria for the printing and paper portion of the 2020 Maricopa County ballot audit and helped select and set up the equipment used during the audit to do the ballot counting."*

On Mar. 6, 2023, he and his team reviewed the Logic and Accuracy reports (L&A) for the 2022 Maricopa County Election. Hughes and his team *"physically inspected the ballots at MCTEC that were*

used in the testing of the election tabulators.” They also reviewed each of the Maricopa County Voting Center certification reports and the Tabulator reports that were *“printed during their testing.”* His affidavit clarifies explicitly that *“[t]he most important and notable finding is that every machine and every voting center report show that every test was passed without any failures.”*

Personalized ballots were required in the Maricopa County election because of various local elections, such as school district races. Therefore “ballot styles” are created for each precinct and *“are prepared for each election at MCTEC,”* not at the Voting Centers. When a voter arrives at a Voting Center, his identity is verified by the poll worker. The poll worker then uses the County’s e-poll book system to “verify they have not returned a mail-in ballot.” However, on election day, mail-in ballots were also turned in to the Voting Centers, and thus, the e-poll book may not be up-to-date on the status of a given voter’s mail-in ballot.

Contrary to what many want us to believe, Hughes testified that the equipment to carry out the voter verification process and the printing of ballots *“need to be networked and online at the same time.”*

DAY OF VOTING

When a voter arrives at a Voting Center their identity is verified by a poll worker using their Driver’s License or other acceptable form of ID. The County’s e-poll book system is then used to verify they have not returned a mail-in ballot. Once their eligibility to vote is determined a ballot style is sent to the Print On-Demand printer at the Voting Center. This requires that the E-poll book is online to MCTEC while the printer is networked with the E-poll book.

Because mail-in ballots can be dropped off at a polling center, it is possible that the e-poll book system would not be aware of the return of a mail-in ballot at the time of log-in at the Voting Center.

Two required pieces of equipment are needed to make Voting Centers possible: Electronic poll books and ON-DEMAND ballot printers. Both need to be networked and online at the same time.

E-Poll Books are tablet computers that must connect to a Wi-Fi for access to an up-to-date copy of the County Records and MCTEC records. This is required to allow the e-poll book to verify that a mail-in ballot was not returned prior to issuing a new Day of Ballot.

Bob Hughes Declaration/03-29-2023

Additionally, and very importantly, is that “ballot STYLES” are “stored PDFs.” They are *“locked style formats that cannot be revised on the fly,”* according to Hughes. They are “built ahead of each election and stored.” As such, Hughes confidently asserts that the 19-inch format seen in the 2022 Maricopa County election “was incorrectly used by mistake.” Furthermore, Hughes “was told” during his team’s review at MCTEC that “only 20-inch formats were created and no 19-inch formats were created for the 2022 election.” The use of the 19-inch ballot was NOT accidental, according to Hughes. He posits the 19-inch ballots either represent *“interference...from someone at MCTEC”* or *“someone hacking into the MCTEC system.”*

This indicates that it was not possible that a BALLOT STYLE other than a 20" PDF could have been used, even by accident for the 2022 Election. Yet, on Election Day a substantial number of wrong sized ballots were printed. This clearly indicates that the interference caused by 19" ballots had to have been by someone from MCTEC or by someone hacking into the MCTEC system. Since no failures occurred during even one test of the system and since all the machines were made tamperproof and held in security until used, no other possible reason is plausible. The assertion that random accidents occurred on Election Day is impossible. A large number of printers, all printing ballots of the wrong 19 inch size on Election Day, is not a random accident.

This also indicates that since many ballots failed the scanning by the tabulators due to size, the issue was with the Voting Center on-demand printers. It is also not plausible that the exact same random accident occurred multiple times with independent printers in different locations.

Bob Hughes Affidavit/Exhibit K/Finchem Motion to Reconsider

Logically, Hughes concludes that the shenanigans must have been introduced after testing because the "L&A tests showed no errors." And, since poll workers have no access to the printer command module, the *"interference had to come through the online E-poll book and then to the printers."* Many printers at multiple locations—with a *"high correlation of those within Republican precincts,"* leaving Hughes with the impression it was *"not happenstance but an orchestrated attack on the election."*

Hughes speculates there are a number of ways ballots came to be unreadable because of the "larger margin at the top and the bottom of the page," as captured in the screenshot below,

A few of the possible ways this could have occurred would be:

- a. A command changing the printer to "print to fit" with a ½" top and bottom margins.
- b. A change in paper settings to 19" paper resulting in a reduced image.
- c. A change in the paper tray to smaller paper resulting in a reduced image.

Bob Hughes/Exhibit K/Finchem Motion to Reconsider/ Why the margins?

L & A testing is performed before election day with a test set of ballots. The tests are required to *"perform at 100% accuracy rate,"* according to Hughes. Hughes was told the Oct. 11 test decks were printed at MCTEC. However, Hughes concludes that *"DAY OF Election test decks were printed at each voting center"* because of several "clear factors."

I was told that the October 11, 2022 test decks were printed at MCTEC.

Though I was not told this, it is assumed the DAY OF Election test decks were printed at each voting center. Several factors make that clear.

- A. Testing preprinted ballots would invalidate testing because the actual equipment is not tested.
- B. Attached to each tabulator test tape is a completed form. These show voting location and are signed by precinct workers along with questions to be completed on the DAY OF Election. The sheet instructs the precinct workers to immediately notify officials of failed tests.

Bob Hughes Affidavit/Finchem Motion to Reconsider

This assumption led Hughes to conclude that an *"intentional change was made to the printers"* for Election Day ballots leading to what he believed was *"a perfect opportunity for interference in the election."*

An intentional change was made to the printers affecting the DAY OF Election ballots.

1. It was not coincidental that so many printers failed to print readable ballots
2. It occurred too many times to be random or accidental.
3. The actual cause of the problem has not been addressed by MCTEC.
4. It occurred at voting centers that corresponded to a high concentration of Republican voters.
5. Due to past elections widespread reports of irregularities with early voting, most people recognize and accept the likelihood more Republican voters would wait to vote in person than Democrat voters who were more likely to mail-in their ballots.
6. Unreadable ballots provide a perfect opportunity for interference in the election.
 - a. Large numbers of ballots could be adjudicated electronically and potentially corrupted by being assigned to any particular candidate.
 - b. Large numbers of ballots could be removed and replaced with any "readable" pre-printed ballot that had been electronically voted.
 - c. Large numbers of ballots could be taken from Drawer 3 and never tabulated. It is possible and even likely poll workers pulled the separator for Drawer 3 and comingled them with tabulated ballots.
 - d. Because ballots were run through tabulators multiple times, reportedly as many as a half-dozen times, the tabulator counter varies widely from the number of actual ballots voted.

Bob Hughes/Affidavit/Exhibit K/Finchem Motion to Reconsider

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