

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Referral by Branford Town Clerk
Lisa E. Arpin, Branford

File No. 2022-104

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Branford Town Clerk Lisa E. Arpin, made this referral pursuant to General Statutes §9-7b. She alleged that Mr. Lawrence Carfora may have voted twice at the November 8, 2022 election. The allegation was based on questions raised when Mr. Carfora applied for an absentee ballot in Connecticut using his Florida driver's license. After an investigation of the Referral, the Commission makes the following findings and conclusions:

1. Branford Town Clerk Lisa E. Arpin (hereinafter "Referring Official") brought her suspicions of the occurrence of a potential double-vote to the attention of the Office of the Secretary of the State; which was in turn forwarded to the Commission by that office. Referring Official alleged that Mr. Lawrence Carfora may have voted both in Connecticut and Florida at the November 8, 2022 election.
2. Specifically, Referring Official raised questions with Mr. Carfora regarding his status as an elector in Branford and Florida when he made an application for an absentee ballot application with her office. Based on his responses regarding his status as an elector, and his use of a Florida driver's license to make his absentee ballot application in Branford, Referring official remained suspicious about his voting both in Connecticut and Florida at the November 8, 2022 election.
3. General Statutes § 9-360 provides:
Any person not legally qualified who fraudulently votes in any town meeting, primary, election or referendum in which the person is not qualified to vote, and any legally qualified person who, at such meeting, primary, election or referendum, fraudulently votes more than once at the same meeting, primary, election or referendum, shall be fined not less than three hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars and shall be imprisoned not less than one year or more than two years and shall be disfranchised. Any person who votes or attempts to vote at any election, primary, referendum or town meeting by assuming the name of another legally qualified person shall be guilty of a class D felony and shall be disfranchised.

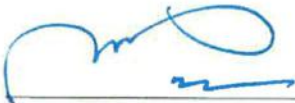
4. By preliminary investigation, a Commission investigator determined that Mr. Carfora has not registered to vote in Florida.
5. Therefore, after investigation, there is a lack of evidence to support the allegation and suspicion that Mr. Carfora voted both Connecticut and Florida at the November 8, 2022 election.
6. The Commission therefore dismisses the allegation against Mr. Carfora by Referring Official as it remained unsubstantiated after investigation and therefore this matter shall be dismissed.
7. The Commission nevertheless appreciates the vigilance and caution exercised by Referring Official based on her suspicions and her concern for the integrity of the voting process.

ORDER

The following Order is issued on the basis of the aforementioned findings:

This matter is dismissed

Adopted this 15th day of March 2023 at Hartford, Connecticut by vote of the Commission.



Stephen T. Penny, Chairman
By Order of the Commission