

Press Release
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County Blocks Public Viewing of Election Ballots & Images

LAWRENCEVILLE GA –Gwinnett County has blocked public viewing of sample election ballots and images requested by VoterGA. VoterGA [requested](#) to view specific precinct election records on August 14th and 17th **before certification**. The August 11th runoff was certified by the Gwinnett Board of Elections on August 18th. The requests were made according to Georgia law. [[O.C.G.A. § 21-2-72](#) and [§ 50-18-70 et seq.](#)]

The county denied the right to view sample ballot images on grounds they may be considered “*voting machine contents*” exempted from public inspection. However, sample ballot images VoterGA seeks, are stored on media held **externally** from any machines used to cast ballots and are not covered by the exemption. Moreover, the exempted “*voting machines*” as defined by Georgia law include only Georgia’s antiquated lever machines that were not used in the August 11 runoff.

VoterGA also requested to inspect actual ballots, however, the County failed to accommodate this prior to certification. Then, after the election was certified, the County shifted the basis for its denial to the fact that the results were now sealed.

[[O.C.G.A. § 21-2-491](#)]

VoterGA sought to investigate inexplicable results in a non-partisan judicial race. Gwinnett Superior Court Judge Kathy Schrader [won](#) a landslide plurality of votes in a five candidate June 9th primary with a 37% share to 20% for 2nd place Deborah Fluker. But the system [recorded](#) an **opposite** 60% to 40% landslide in the runoff!

Judge Schrader received 60,000 votes in the primary and only 19,000 in the runoff **No major event occurred between the primary and the runoff that could have explained this radical shift in vote tallies.**

A [VoterGA results analysis](#) shows trends of **severe anomalies**. In some precincts, Schrader received 55-61% of verifiable mail-in absentee votes despite Fluker’s stronger mail-in campaign. But **in the same precincts**, Schrader received only 15-22% of early votes cast concurrently on Georgia’s new bar coded Ballot Marking Device (BMD) system. Such a huge precinct voting method difference and primary to runoff result shift are **unprecedented in Georgia electronic voting history**.

No audits were performed on any Georgia primary or runoff races and none are [planned](#) for future non-partisan, county or General Assembly races. Now Gwinnett County has rebuffed VoterGA’s attempt to fill the oversight and audit void.