

**STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION
REPORT**

DATE SUBMITTED TO SUPERVISOR: May 10, 2021

CASE NUMBER: SIS-2020-0323

DATE APPROVED BY SUPERVISOR: May 12, 2021

CASE NAME: Guillermina Fuentes

REPORT TYPE: Case Interviews - Supplement #22

AUTHOR: Geisler, Roger

SUPERVISOR: Supervising Special Agent Travis Williams

A request was made for information pertaining to a video obtained by YCSO Officer Duarte on a cell phone provided to him by Yuma County Director of Economic Security, Paul Melcher. Duarte had reported he did not possess a copy of the video.

On May 5th, 2021 Paul Melcher was contacted by phone to ascertain whether he still possessed a video recording taken with his phone of the Ballot count which occurred on August 4th, 2020. This contact was digitally recorded and is attached to this report. Paul reported the following.

Paul Melcher stated he recalls the election incident from last August 2020. Paul confirmed he obtained a video with his cell phone. Paul stated he is no longer employed with Yuma County and works for Oro Valley. Paul stated he had turned his phone in prior to leaving. Paul is unsure if the video was still on his phone or not. Paul said the video may have been uploaded to the cloud.

Paul stated he believes the video was taken because they were trying to recount or validate the ballots. Paul believes there may have been a complaint about ballot harvesting. Paul stated the ballots were going to be obtained by the police.

Paul stated the video taken was to document the ballot process and ensure the integrity of the count. Paul said this was in case questions arose at a later time. Paul stated they wanted to be transparent as possible.

The call with Paul was ended.

On May 10th, 2020 Yuma County Recorder Robyn Stallworth Pouquette was contacted by phone. This contact was digitally recorded and attached to this report. Robyn stated the following.

Robyn said she had contacted Desiray Doten Executive County Administrator and learned that Paul's cell phone has been reset and no longer has any photos or videos. Robyn is waiting a reply from Desiray on whether any photos or videos have been uploaded to the cloud. Robyn stated she will contact the Arizona Attorney General's office in the event a video is discovered.

Robyn stated the video was obtained at the time to ensure the integrity of the vote. Robyn said Officer Duarte told her he had his body camera on at the time. Robyn stated she wanted the ballots audited before they left the center.

The call with Robyn was ended.

RELATED PERSONS

