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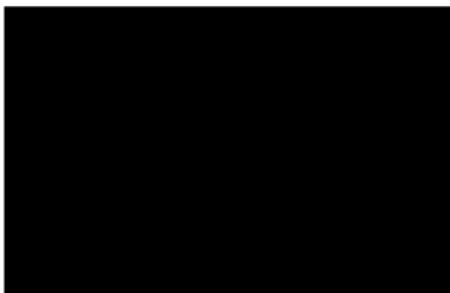


FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: (U) Opening EC

Date: 03/16/2021

CC:



From: DETROIT

DE-C3

Contact:



Approved By: SSA



Drafted By:



Case ID #: 56D-DE-3407960

(U)



STATE OF MICHIGAN;
CDPO - ELECTION LAWS
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

Synopsis: (U) To open a full investigation and notify the Public Corruption Unit of the case opening.

Administrative Notes: (U) Consultation with DOJ Public Integrity Section was completed on March 11, 2021.

Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:

1. (U) PIN consultation letter
2. (U) LHM

Details:

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I. Sensitive Investigative Matter

The above captioned matter is not a "Sensitive Investigative Matter"

II. A brief, general summary of the PC allegation.

The FBI Detroit Field Office (FBI Detroit) was informed that the Michigan State Police (MSP), Michigan Attorney General (MAG), and Muskegon Police Department (MCPD) were investigating allegations of fraudulent voter registrations being submitted to the Muskegon City Clerk's Office (MCCO). MCCO determined the bulk of applications were sent by [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] MCPD estimated [REDACTED] delivered between 8,000 to 10,000 registrations. [REDACTED] informed MCPD investigators that she worked for [REDACTED] under its owner [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and that she was paid for voter registration work. The matter was referred to law enforcement by the MCCO. A subsequent investigation by the MSP found a number of prepay debit cards located at [REDACTED] office based in [REDACTED] raising concerns that [REDACTED] as paying people to register.

III. An in-depth summary of the predication setting forth the relevant facts and circumstances, including witness allegations.

Since on or about October 5, 2020, MCCO has received six packages, marked [REDACTED] via U.S. Mail containing voter registration applications. MCCO determined some of the applications were fraudulent based on a number of factors. MCCO determined the bulk of applications were sent by [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] also hand delivered numerous applications with indicators of potential fraud. MCPD estimated [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had delivered between 8,000 to 10,000 registrations.

MCPD conducted a non-custodial interview of [REDACTED] on October 8, 2020, where she informed MCPD investigators that she worked for [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] under its owner [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and that she was paid for voter registration work. MSP investigators subsequently conducted an interview of [REDACTED] on October 20, 2020, where she stated she was a first level supervisor overseeing "canvassers" with canvassing being conducted in Muskegeon, Detroit, Ypsilanti, Southfield, Flint, and Lansing. [REDACTED] told MSP investigators that canvassers were paid through a reloadable "pay card" and that canvassers were paid for each completed form, but later changed her statement and indicated they were paid hourly. [REDACTED] later told MSP investigators that she could not recall her boss' name despite earlier identifying [REDACTED] as her employer. MSP discovered the vehicle [REDACTED] was driving was a rental vehicle rented by [REDACTED]

On October 22, 2020, MSP investigators received authorization to track [REDACTED] movements via a cellphone GPS ping. The information received from [REDACTED] cellphone subsequently showed [REDACTED] had traveled to [REDACTED] on October 23, 2020. An open source search for information associated with that address identified it as an office location for [REDACTED]

MSP subsequently received authorization to search [REDACTED] office located at [REDACTED] for among other things, employee lists, payroll information, and any information on the purchase and distribution of reloadable pay cards. MSP executed the search on October 29, 2020. SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were dispatched to the search scene due to concerns about weapons located at the scene and SA [REDACTED] saw a quantity of reloadable [REDACTED] pay cards.

IV. A statement that the requisite level of predication exists.

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There is information or an allegation the subject, and others yet unknown, were engaging in and/or are currently engaged in possible federal criminal activity.

V. The identification of all known SIMS or significant issues involved in the investigation.

The allegations involve potential payments for registrations for the 2020 national election and concern matters which require the concurrence of DOJ Public Integrity Section Election Crimes Unit and the FBI PCU as documented in Section X below.

VI. The identities of the subjects, including all reasonably available descriptive data to be indexed within FBI databases.

Name:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth:

[REDACTED]

Sex:

[REDACTED]

Race:

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number:

[REDACTED]

Address:

[REDACTED]

Telephone:

[REDACTED]

Driver License Number:

[REDACTED]

Name:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth:

[REDACTED]

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Sex:

Race:

Social Security Number:

Address:

Telephone:

VII. A citation of the federal criminal statutes that may have been violated/AUSA opinion.

On March 16, 2021, United States Attorney (USA) for the Western District of Michigan [REDACTED] was fully informed of the facts of this case. USA [REDACTED] advised that his office would prosecute [REDACTED] and/or [REDACTED] for violations of 18 U.S.C. 1343 (Wire Fraud) or any other federal criminal laws that could be proven.

VIII. Investigative Strategy.

The investigative strategy may include, but will not necessarily be limited to, obtaining publicly available information, recovering records/information via subpoena, interviews, and consensual recordings.

IX. CDC Review.

CDC review is not required because the above captioned matter is not a "Sensitive Investigative Matter".

X. Notification to PCU and DOJ PIN

Per PCU Program Guide 23.10.1.2 (2), on March 11, 2021, DOJ Attorney [REDACTED] [REDACTED] as advised of the above captioned matter and provided written approval. On March 16, 2021, PCU SSA [REDACTED] was apprised of the same

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by verbal notification and concurred with the opening.

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