

TERRI HOLLINGSWORTH

Pulaski County Circuit and County Clerk

STATEMENT FROM TERRI HOLLINGSWORTH, PULASKI COUNTY CIRCUIT AND COUNTY CLERK

On March 31, 2021, during the House State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee Deputy Attorney General Douglas House and Representative Mark Lowery were speaking in favor of HB 1715, lied about my office and that needs to be addressed and corrected.

FALSE STATEMENT #1: The Pulaski Clerk allowed an outside group to collect ballots on behalf of the clerk at a tent outside of the courthouse.

FACT #1: No outside groups accepted ballots. The Clerk and sworn deputies lawfully accepted returned absentee ballots with security provided by the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office and the Little Rock Police Department.

FALSE STATEMENT #2: Ballots received were "opened" in the county courthouse.

FACT #2: No absentee ballot returned by voters to the courthouse were opened by this office. They were placed in a locked box in the presence of the voter and then processed in the system before being delivered to the Pulaski County Election Commission.

FALSE STATEMENT #3: Ninety-eight percent plus of absentee ballot request had signatures verified. **FACT #3:** All requests for absentee ballots passed verification *before* absentee ballots were sent to the voters who requested them.

I cannot sit by quietly and allow our office to be attacked and damaged by blatant lies. My staff worked tirelessly to ensure that thousands of Pulaski County voters safely and securely returned their absentee ballots to the courthouse even during a pandemic.

I understand the need for our legislators to ensure integrity in our election process, but you can't seek integrity without speaking with honesty and truth.

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The Pulaski County Clerk's office processes voter registration, registration updates and transfers (for changes of address,) and maintains the county's voter registration data. The office also processes requests, distributes and receives absentee ballots.

Pulaski County Voter Registration (501) 340-8336 or visit <u>www.pulaskiclerk.com</u>.

The Pulaski County Election Commission manages the selection and administration of polling places, supervision of poll workers, and the counting of votes. Pulaski County Election Commission at (501) 340-8383 or visit www.votepulaski.net



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