### Voter Registration Data Audit Report 2024



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#### INTRODUCTION

The State Board of Election Commissioners is tasked with performing an audit of the "voter registration data to ensure voter registration data is accurate and up to date." A.C.A. § 7-4-121(c)(1). This audit must be conducted annually by December 31. *Id.* at (c)(2). This report represents the results of that audit, and is to be published on the State Board's website so that it is publicly available. *Id.* at (c)(3); see also Act 441 of 2023.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Staff utilized two audit procedures. First, the auditor utilized a random number generator from the internet to generate a number within the range of 100,000 and 3,000,000. The number generated represented a voter registration number. When a number was generated, that number was searched within the computerized voter registration database by the auditor. If a generated number did not have a responsive record, then another number was generated until a generated number identified a voter registration record in the database. The voter registration data was then reviewed to determine if the record contained a scanned image of the voter's signature, whether a scanned copy of the voter's registration application was available, the voter's status, when the last time the voter voted was, and if there were any conditions worthy of noting.

The second audit procedure involved close examination of voter registration data and precinct assignment along the border of a city located in Union County. This location was selected because issues with precincting were alleged across Arkansas, and the unique geography of the municipal boarder meant that the selected city presented a higher-than-normal opportunity for precincting issues. For this procedure, the auditor reviewed Arkansas GIS mapping information to locate parcels and address points along the border of Calion, along McGough and East Smith Loop and West Smith Loop. Street names were searched and address points identified that are located adjacent to the city limits as reflected by the GIS mapping. These addresses were then reviewed to determine if they were properly precincted as being within the city limits or not.

## RANDOM NUMBER GENERATOR REGISTRATION RECORD SEARCH

The random registration number audit utilized a sample of fifty registered voters. Of the fifty records reviewed, four (4) were identified as not containing a scanned image of the voter's signature. Those registrants were identified as **Reg.** Nos. (1) 1643938; (2) 679169; (3) 679169; and (4) 1132423. All four entries are listed as Removable, meaning their voting registration status is not active or useable without submitting a new voter registration application. Three of the four have no record of having cast a vote, and the one remaining last voted in 1996. Lastly, Registrant 1643938 indicated a date of birth of January 1, 1801, indicting that entry may have been a test entry versus a true application. From reviewing these records, the audit was unable to discern any inaccurate or out of date data.

Table 1. Results of Random Number Generator Registration Record Search

Reg Number	Signature	VR App	Status	Last Voted	Notes
1981702	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
1706174	Yes	Yes	Active	GE2024	
4385837	Yes	Yes	Active	GE2024	
753779	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
1653955	Yes	Yes	Active	GE2024	
1355307	Yes	Yes	Removable	N/A	
641485	Yes	No	Removable	GE2002	
2911301	Yes	No	Removable	GE2002	
1643938	No	No	Removable	NA	1/1/1801 DOB
1875209	Yes	No	Removable	SP2005	
679169	No	No	Removable	NA	
682860	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	Linked Registration
119530	Yes	Yes	Active	NA	
463563	Yes	No	Removable	NA	
2131764	Yes	Yes	Active	GE2024	
600273	No	No	Removable	GE1996	
2201261	Yes	No	Removable	PR2014	
583141	Yes	No	Active	GE2020	NVRA Ret 2023
1721614	Yes	No	Removable	NA	Linked to 1872798
1132423	No	No	Removable	NA	Craighead No address
549322	Yes	Yes	Removable	GE2014	
1084233	Yes	No	Active	GR2024	
1725158	Yes	Yes	Removable	GE2008	

0.10000				GE 4 0 0 0	
643826	Yes	No	Removable	GE1996	
218019	Yes	No	Removable	GE2004	Linked to 982028
2609238	Yes	Yes	Active	GE2024	
2030503	Yes	Yes	Active	SP2010	
2312396	Yes	No	Removable	PR1996	
519852	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
1531090	Yes	No	Removable	GE2004	
392770	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
1381432	Yes	No	Removable	NA	
2112056	Yes	No	Removable	GE2000	
2366416	Yes	Yes	Active	GE2024	
1619357	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
1307226	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
712098	Yes	No	Removable	NA	
1382931	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
2692180	Yes	No	Inactive	GE2020	2023 NVRA Began
866278	Yes	No	NVRA	PR2018	2023 NVRA Began
2081766	Yes	No	Active	PP2024	
2061754	Yes	No	Removable	GE2008	
1872390	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
1256810	Yes	No	Removable	SP1996	
996207	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
2510700	Yes	Yes	Removable	GE2006	
1923313	Yes	No	Removable	NA	
2196555	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
704470	Yes	No	Active	GE2024	
481020	Yes	No	Removable	NA	

# SELECTED CITY AND PRECINCT ASSIGNMENT VERIFICATION

The State Board auditor conducted a review of precinct assignments for a community located in Union County. Staff selected the city of Calion for municipal border and voter registration data assignment comparison. Staff utilized Arkansas GIS mapping, with municipal boundaries and address points to identify addresses that were both within and without of the city of Calion. Three streets that included West Smith Loop, East Smith Loop, and McGough were examined. These streets were selected because West and East Smith Loop form a loop that extends out of the city along a peninsula into Calion Lake. McGough is the adjoining road from which West and East Smith Loop connects and is located fully within Calion city limits.

Auditor's review of address points as indicated by Arkansas GIS, aerial imagery, and city limit boundaries revealed several residences abutting the city limit line. When these addresses were reviewed in the voter registration database, several of them have or have had registered voters. Auditor verified that the precinct assignments for these addresses that abut the city limit, but which are outside the city limit, were properly precincted as a rural precinct. Similarly, in the jurisdictional assignment portion of the voter registration data, these voters were not included in the city of Calion. Other addresses, located near the city limit but within the city, were properly registered as being within the city. Also, for jurisdictional assignment purposes, these addresses were included in the city assignment. Auditor found no discrepancies with these entries.

Figure 1 below is a map overhead view the study area. In it, the city limit is identified along with the sample addresses for examination.

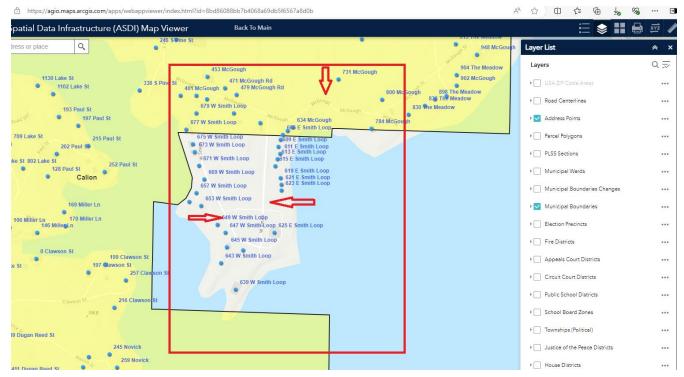


Figure 1.

Staff searched each address point along West and East Smith Loop, verifying that registered voters were properly assigned as being either properly within the city or properly outside the city.

A voter registration record was located for 675 W. Smith Loop, and it showed as being outside the city. This matched to the aerial image provided from Arkansas GIS. See Figures 2 and 3 below.

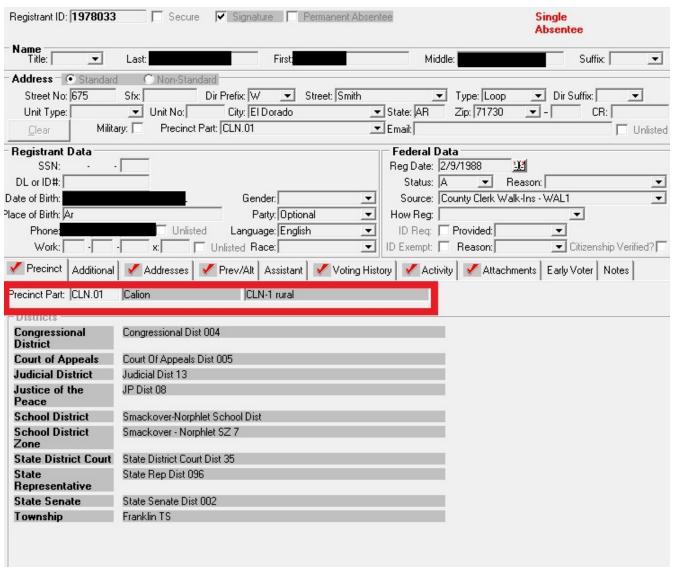


Figure 2. Voter Registration Record for 675 W. Smith Loop - Rural.



Figure 3. Showing 675 W. Smith Loop just outside the city limit.

Similarly, Staff researched 607 E. Smith Loop. A voter registration record was located and auditor reviewed aerial images of the address. Again, the address was correctly precincted outside the city and given a rural listing on the voter registration entry. See Figures 4 and 5 below.

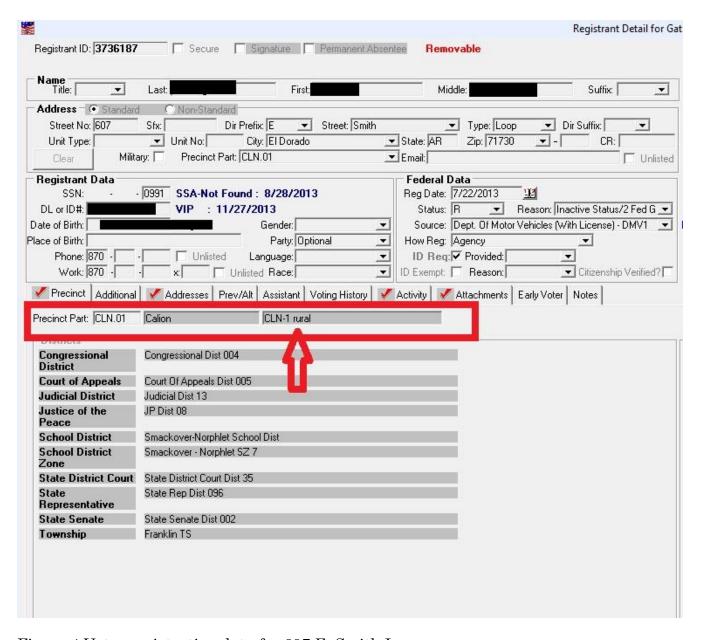


Figure 4 Voter registration data for 607 E. Smith Loop.



Figure 5. Aerial view showing residence of 607 E. Smith Loop just outside the city limits.

Lastly, Staff located a voter registration record for 405 McGough, an address on the adjoining road to West and East Smith Loop. This record reflected an in-city precinct assignment. See Figures 6 and 7 below.

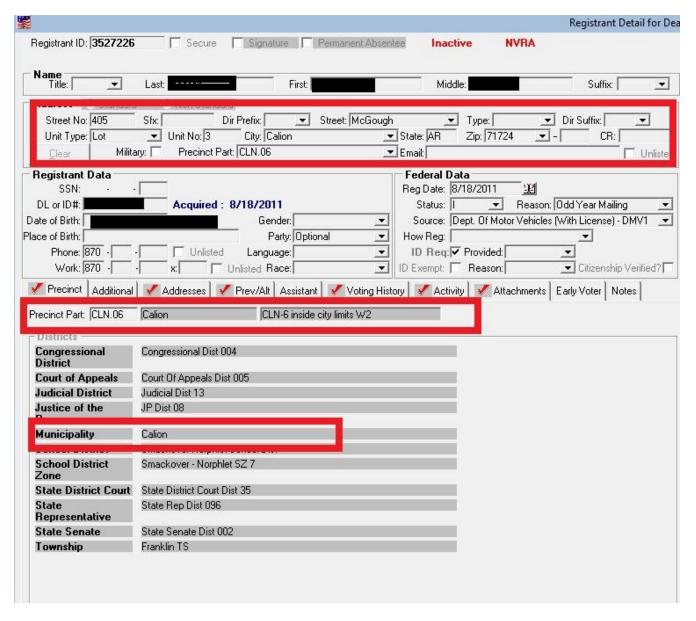


Figure 6 Voter registration record for 405 showing "inside city limits W2."



Figure 7 Showing 405 McGough's proximity to the City Limit line.

Based on this review, auditor did not locate any improperly precincted or assigned voter registration records, finding the information was accurate and up to date.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Auditors for the State Board found that some voter registration data files failed to have an electronically scanned image of voters' signatures. The files identified were of Removable voters, meaning they are no longer active or eligible to vote without completing a new voter registration form. Auditors did not locate any discrepancies with the city limit precinct verification portion of the audit.

Auditors found that the audited voter registration data is accurate and up to date, but recommends expanded inquiry and sampling in future audits, including review of death files from the Department of Health and other sources, removals for voters registering in other states, address verification through available vendor services and data, NVRA notice files review, inactive voter record files, and DMV and third party provided voter registration application records. A broader sample such as those mentioned above would provide audit review of registration records coming into the system, such as DMV files, and review registration records in the process of removal through NVRA process and identified inactive voter registration records, to and including the removal of deceased voters in a timely and appropriately procedural fashion.