

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

This following investigation is predicated on information provided to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) by Investigative blogger Stephanie Kienzle via e-mail, alleging voter fraud by North Miami Beach Commissioner (NMB) Paule Villard. Kienzle stated that Villard committed election fraud on the November 3, 2020, during the municipal election, by escorting city resident [REDACTED] inside the voting precinct located at 17051 NE 19th Avenue, North Miami Beach, FL. , and physically taking Huerta's personal ballot and filling in three bubbles, without Huerta's consent.

On Tuesday, September 7, 2021, Special Agent (SA) Jose Perez was contacted by (SA)Jennifer Vincens, with information regarding possible voter fraud involving NMB Commisioner Paule Villard. SA Vincens received the information via an email that was sent to FDLE, which alleged that Commisioner Villard assisted NMB voter, [REDACTED] into the voting booth and personally filled in approximately three spaces in the ballot for candidates that Commissioner Villard favored during the municipal election that was held on November 3, 2020.

A copy of the email will be maintained electronically under the related items of this investigative case as INV-1.

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 1
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 09/10/2021	Activity End Date:09/10/2021
Approved By: Gonzalez, Confesor	

Description:Opening Investigator Report

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On Tuesday, September 7, 2021, Special Agent Jose Perez (SA) and (SA) Gaylon White contacted victim/witness [REDACTED] for a sworn statement. The interview was scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on September 16, 2021, at the Miami Regional Operations Center, but the interview was cancelled due to [REDACTED] unable to attend due to a work conflict. However, the interview was rescheduled for 9:00 A.M. on September, 22, 2021.

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 2
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 09/07/2021	Activity End Date:09/07/2021
Approved By: Gonzalez, Confesor	

Description:Contacted Victim/Witness [REDACTED]

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On Thursday, September, 9, 2021, Special Agent (SA) Jose Perez contacted Miami-Dade County Deputy Elections Supervisor Angela Rivero in order to ascertain Miami-Dade elections procedures. SA Perez asked Supervisor Rivero if an individual ballot that was used for voting during the November 3, 2020, NMB municipal elections was still preserved and if it could be identified and retrieved at the present time. Supervisor Rivero stated that after voting, all ballots are separated and no longer identifiable in order to protect the anonymity of the voter.

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 3
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 09/09/2021	Activity End Date:09/09/2021
Approved By: Gonzalez, Confesor	

Description:Contacted Miami-Dade County Deputy Elections Supervisor Angela Rivero.

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On Tuesday, September 22, 2021, at approximately 09:15 am, Special Agent (SA) Jose Perez and Special Agent (SA) Gaylon White obtained a sworn audio recorded statement from De la Huerta regarding the above allegation.

The interview was conducted at the FDLE Miami Regional Operations Center (MROC). The following is a synopsis of the sworn, digitally recorded statement provided by De la Huerta and should not be considered a verbatim transcript. For exact details, refer to the recorded statement.

De la Huerta stated that that she bought a house in North Miami Beach during the month of August 2020. subsequently she attempted to get a permit with the City of NMB for a new roof, but was declined after a building inspection. The house has an addition which was built apparently without a permit and is not properly recorded on the house original deed. [REDACTED] also said that after commenting the issue with the permit to a lady she works with, the lady told her that she knew an NMB Commissioner who could possibly be able to help her with the permit house situation.

According to [REDACTED], on November 3, 2020, the day of the municipal election for NMB, she met her friend at the lobby of the Marjorie & William McDonald Center voting precinct, which is located at 17051 NE 19 Avenue, North Miami Beach, Florida 33162 And met with Villard. Villard asked her if she was ready to vote and escorted her inside the voting precinct, stood next to [REDACTED] as she received her ballot, then escorted her to a voting booth to vote.

[REDACTED] added Villard took her ballot from her hand and then proceeded to fill in two or

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 4
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 09/22/2021	Activity End Date:09/22/2021
Approved By: Gonzalez, Confesor	

Description:Recorded Sworn Interview of [REDACTED]

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three selections from the ballot. [REDACTED] further said that Villard then handed the ballot back to her and stood next to her as she filled in the rest of the ballot. [REDACTED] said that after she was finished, Villard took her ballot from her hand and walked her to the final station and handed her ballot to a gentleman to be scanned. [REDACTED] was then escorted out of the voting area by Villard, who departed once outside without talking to her at all.

[REDACTED] also stated that she told a co-worker named [REDACTED] the story about what had happened with Commissioner Villard and he referred her to contact NMB Commissioner Barbara Kramer. Commissioner Kramer then put [REDACTED] in touch with Stephanie Kienzle (VotersOpinion.com Blogger) and [REDACTED] told her what has happened with Commissioner Villard.

A copy of the Witness Sheet and the recorded statement interview of [REDACTED] will be maintained. (INV- 2) (INV-3)

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On Friday, September 24, 2021, at approximately 10:00 AM, Special Agent (SA) Jose Perez interviewed Miami-Dade County Executive Assistant (EA) to the Supervisor of Elections Angela Rivero, at her office located at 2700 NW 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33172. EA Rivero provided SA Perez an overview of Miami-Dade County elections, to include; the voting location layout, the optical scan voting, proper ballot marking and the Miami-Dade County Inspector & Poll Deputy Manual (2021 Edition).

SA Perez verified with EA Rivero that [REDACTED] at no time requested or completed a Declaration to Secure Assistance while voting. EA Rivero also provided SA Perez with [REDACTED] Voter ID # ([REDACTED]) and voting history record, which showed that [REDACTED] voted at the NMB, 2020 municipal election at the Marjorie & William McDonald Center.

A copy of [REDACTED] Voting History Report will be maintained. (Inv-4)

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 5
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 09/24/2021	Activity End Date:09/24/2021
Approved By: Gonzalez, Confesor	

Description: Interview of Executive Assistant to the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections

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On Wednesday, September 22, 2021, Special Agent (SA) Jose Perez, and SA Gaylon White briefed Assistant State Attorney (ASA) Johnette Louise Hardiman on the facts of this allegations, at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (MROC) building located at 1030 NW 111 Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33172. After the briefing and having reviewed the case documents, ASA Hardiman stated this case was was going to be extremely hard to file and prove in court. ASA Hardiman further recommended this case be closed.

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 6
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 09/22/2020	Activity End Date:09/22/2021
Approved By: Haberland, Kenneth William	

Description: Meeting with ASA Johnette Hardiman

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On Thursday, March 10, 2022, at approximately 1015 hours, FDLE Special Agent (SA) Perez received a call from Attorney Hans Ottinot (hereafter, referred to as Ottinot). Ottinot stated that he represents Commissioner Paule Villard (hereafter referred to as Villard). Ottinot stated that Villard declined to be interviewed.

A copy of Ottinot email declining the interview is included under INV #5.

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 7
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 03/10/2022	Activity End Date:03/10/2022
Approved By: Haberland, Kenneth William	

Description: Telephone call from Attorney Hans Ottinot (Comm. Paule Villard's Attorney.)
Declining to be interviewed.

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On Wednesday, June 2, 2022, Special Agent (SA) Jose Perez discussed with Miami-Dade State Attorney (ASA) Johnette Louise Hardiman the facts of this investigation at the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office located at 1350 NW 12 Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33136. ASA Hardiman stated that notify me at a later time on her decision whether to criminally prosecute the case.

On Thursday, June 3, 2022, ASA Hardiman sent me an email stating to consider this criminal matter closed and declining prosecution. At this time this case is being closed.

A copy of the email will be maintained electronically under the related items of this investigative case as INV 6.

A scanned copy of the Investigative Summary is electronically attached as INV 7.

Case Number: MI-14-0299	Serial #: 8
Author: Perez, Jose Antonio	Office: Miami
Activity Start Date: 06/02/2022	Activity End Date:06/03/2022
Approved By: Haberland, Kenneth William	

Description:ASA Hardiman - Criminal Prosecution Declination

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