

EXCLUSIVE: Wauwatosa Poll Worker Violates State Law By Wearing Anti-Trump Clothing At Polls While Working

I have learned that a Wauwatosa Alderman, while working as an official Wauwatosa city poll worker during Tuesday's election, was wearing vulgar anti-Trump clothing in direct violation of state law. The official is Alderman Heather Kuhl. She was working for Wauwatosa at a polling place for Ward 15 staffing the voter registration table while wearing a shirt that had a vulgar message in Spanish ripping President Trump. Kuhl's shirt read: "Chinga tu Pelo" with the words next to a caricature of President Trump. Translated the saying means "F*** your hair." The vulgar saying has become a commonly seen meme ridiculing Trump and is featured on clothing that is sold on the internet.

Kuhl is the Wauwatosa Alderman who several weeks ago fought to get the city declared a sanctuary city for illegal immigrants. After a voter complained about Kuhl's shirt to the chief inspector at the polling place, Kuhl was ordered to button her shirt. Wisconsin state law bars voters from wearing political clothing at the polls. The US Supreme Court this summer struck down a broader political apparel ban in another state but Wisconsin Election Commission spokesman Reid Magney says the commission feels Wisconsin's law is more narrow and is still to be enforced. Kuhl, however, wasn't a mere voter. She was an election official working as a poll worker.

Wauwatosa City Clerk Carla Ledesma, in an email to the voter who reported Kuhl's violation, said she was embarrassed by what Kuhl did and was not aware of the situation until the constituent reported it.

Kuhl's antics were not the only Wauwatosa election problem. The city claims it somehow failed to report to county officials the results of two precincts until Wednesday, changing the outcome of a close state assembly race. The new totals gave the victor to Democrat Robyn Vining. Ledesma, the city clerk, several years ago altered Wauwatosa voting records after former state assemblyman Jim Sullivan was listed as having double-voted in two communities during an election. Ledesma has consistently argued that the original records showing Sullivan voted in Wauwatosa were a "mistake."

Election "mistakes" are becoming the norm in Wauwatosa.

Kuhl, the alderman who wore the vulgar anti-Trump shirt, said it was a t-shirt from a friend's brewery. She emailed me that she was told it was not illegal because Trump is not on the ballot but did not say who told her that. She said she agreed to cover it up when asked to do so by the polling place supervisor. She said the next time she works at a polling place she will "acquiesce" to my wishes.

Mark Belling
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