



**PEOPLE OF INTEGRITY**  
 God gave us great people.  
 The time demanded  
 Strong minds, great hearts,  
 True faith and willing hands:  
 People whom the lust of office could not kill  
 And the spoils of office could not buy;  
 Who possessed opinions and a will:  
 People who had honor; who would not lie:  
 Those who would stand up to a demagogue  
 And damn his treacherous flatteries without  
 winking:  
 Great people, Sun-crowned people who lived  
 above the fog  
 In public duty and in private thinking.  
*Adapted from the writings of John G. Holland*

**Richard Murray and Seth Rosen** were two such people.  
 Thank you, God, for the gift of their presence.



Seth Rosen, in 2011, leading One Ohio Now as part of a successful effort to curb Governor Kassick's balancing of the state budget on the backs of working people. **VOTE**

## How President Murray touched my life.

I don't recall when I first met Richard Murray; it's as though I've always known him. Richard was a quiet storm. Where some ran around in circles flapping their arms and making lots of noise and saying nothing, Richard sat or stood quietly and when he spoke, I listened. And as I listened I came to know a man who was wise far beyond his years. It became clear that I could not only trust him, but trust his opinion on any subject I needed to discuss with him. It was unbelievable how quickly he could think on his feet, or off of them. I never saw Richard without an answer when he needed one, though, when appropriate, his answer would be "You're right".

I am a better man for having known him. Those of you who knew Richard know what I mean. Those who did not will never know what you missed. — *Michael G. Secrest*

## My memory of Seth Rosen- *Michael G. Secrest*

Most people had no dealings with Seth Rosen, and to tell the truth, I didn't know him as well as I wish I had. Him living in Cleveland made that hard. But I'd like to tell you a little story about Seth.

As we were wrapping up negotiations in 2000 when we were on strike, as we sat to sign the contract, **Seth Rosen said "Lets make it official as of tomorrow morning". Why?** Under CWA strike rules, if a strike ends midweek, regardless of the day of the week, the payment for that week is 1/5th of the weekly payment. By postponing the **Official** end of the strike by a few hours, Seth saw to it that we all got another full week's pay instead of one day's pay.

He was a smart, creative, generous man, with his time and with the resources at his disposal. Again, I wish I'd known him better.



Richard Murray spent half of his time fighting for us and the other half trying to get us to fight for ourselves. **VOTE**

# Communications Workers of America



# Local 4501 Communicator

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Late Summer, 2014

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**You may not want to vote, but do you want to lose the right to vote? All of the states voting to curb your rights are led by Conservatives. Voter suppression is a key part of their plan to control this country. This extreme right wing manipulation must end. The only antidote is to get out and vote.**

## Early voting in Ohio blocked ONE MONTH AGO One of many wars being waged against US voters

*Lyle Denniston September 29*  
 With just sixteen hours before polling stations were to open in Ohio, the Supreme Court on Monday afternoon blocked voters from beginning tomorrow to cast their ballots in this year's general election. By a vote of five to four, the Justices put on hold a federal judge's order providing new opportunities for voting before election day, beyond what state leaders wanted. The order will remain in effect until the Court acts on an appeal by state officials. If that is denied, then the order lapses. It is unclear when that scenario will unfold. The state's petition has not yet been filed formally. The practical effect of the order will mean that, at the least, early voting will not be

allowed this week — a period that supporters of early balloting have called "Golden Week." That permits voters to register and cast their ballots on the same day. Depending upon the timing of the state's filing of a petition for review and the Court's action on it, Monday's order may also mean that early voting will not be permitted on most Sundays between now and election day, November 4, and will not be permitted during evening hours — that is, after 5 p.m. Early voting during "Golden Week," on Sundays, and in evening hours are the opportunities that civil rights groups have said are most important to black and low-income voters and the homeless. State

officials, however, contended that those arrangements would raise the risk of voter fraud, and would cost too much for county election boards to implement. Monday's order had the support of Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., and Justices Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Anthony M. Kennedy, Antonin Scalia, and Clarence Thomas, although their votes were not noted in the order. It would have taken five votes to support such an order. Dissenting were Justices Stephen G. Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Elena Kagan, and Sonia Sotomayor. They would have denied the request of the Ohio attorney general and secretary of state to postpone the decision in favor of more early voting, a ruling early this month by U.S. Dis-

Continued on page 3



**Your work is more than your job: help the working class survive!**

You know the right tool for the job. Do you know the right politicians to help the working class?

**FOUR YEARS AGO** Though these admissions and strategies were four years ago, voter suppression is at the heart of laws being passed all over the country today. Don't let them win or we all lose.

## Florida Conservatives Admit Voter Suppression was the goal Of New Election Laws

by Aviva Shen, Nov, 2010

Floridians endured election chaos and marathon voting lines this year, largely thanks to reduced early voting hours, voter purges, and voter redistricting, pushed by Conservative legislators. In an exclusive report by the Palm Beach Post, several prominent Florida Conservatives are now admitting that these election law changes were geared toward suppressing minority and Democratic votes.

Former governor Charlie Crist (R-FL) and former GOP chairman Jim Greer (R-FL), as well as several current GOP members, told the Post that Conservative consultants pushed the new measures as a way to suppress Democratic voters. Crist expanded early voting hours in 2008 despite party pressure, but Gov. Rick Scott (R-FL) targeted early voting almost immediately when he took office in 2011.

Scott's administration claimed the new laws were meant to curb in-person voter fraud, despite the fact that an individual in Florida is more likely to be [struck by lightning](#) than commit voter fraud.

Current party members and consultants confirmed the motive was not to stop voter fraud but to make it harder for Democrats and minori-

ties to vote:

**Wayne Bertsch, who handles local and legislative races for Conservatives, said he knew targeting Democrats was the goal.** "In the races I was involved in in 2008, when we started seeing the increase of turnout and the turnout operations that the Democrats were doing in early voting, it certainly sent a chill down our spines. And in 2008, it didn't have the impact that we were afraid of. It got close, but it wasn't the impact that they had this election cycle," Bertsch said, referring to the fact that Democrats picked up seven legislative seats in Florida in 2012 despite the early voting limitations. Another GOP consultant, who did not want to be named, also confirmed that **influential consultants to the Republican Party of Florida were intent on beating back Democratic turnout in early voting after 2008.**

A GOP consultant who asked to remain anonymous out of fear of retribution said black voters were a concern. **"I know that the cutting out of the Sunday before Election Day was one of their targets only because that's a big day when the black churches organize them-**

**selves," he said.**

Though the state ultimately went to President Obama, the Conservative effort to suppress votes was largely successful. A post-election report found that new voting restrictions led to a huge increase in provisional Ballots, which are cast when there is some question of the voter's eligibility.

While crying voter fraud, the Florida GOP had to confront its own scandal when a voter registration firm they hired turned in hundreds of fraudulent registration forms in several Florida counties. The GOP hastily cut ties with the group when the state opened a criminal investigation into their operations.

UPDATE: African American pastors in Florida said they were "appalled but not surprised" at the Post's report. One Jacksonville pastor said, **"Even while cloaked in the dubious language of 'voter fraud,' the real reason for these measures was always clear. African Americans in Florida knew that, and we fought back – by voting."**

**FIGHT BACK**

**VOTE**

If you voice your opinion at work and in your neighborhood and in your kitchen and you don't vote, whatever happens is your fault, If you complain about the way things are and don't vote, whatever happens is your fault. If you refuse to vote because you don't like the way politicians handle things, because politicians are all the same,

then you obviously are not paying attention. Pay attention!

If you vote for nothing, then that's exactly what you'll get.

**If you don't vote for what you are, you cast two votes for what you are not.**

Continued from page 1 **Ohio votes**

trict Judge Peter C. Economus of Columbus.

The judge's order had been upheld by a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati, but that ruling no longer controls the case now that it has moved to the Supreme Court. A plea by state officials and the Ohio legislature for the Sixth Circuit Court to reconsider the case en banc is no longer necessary to block the early voting.

The Supreme Court could have hurried along the process of reviewing the case. Ohio officials had suggested that the Court might treat their request for a delay as a formal petition for review, and to grant it. The Court did not do that. It left it to the state to file a new petition, as such, and when that is done, the Court would choose whether to review it.

Even if the state moves quickly to file a petition, and even if the Court grants review and gives it very rapid review, those actions may not come in time to save for this year the early voting opportunities that civil rights groups had sought and that Judge Economus had granted.

As a result of the Court's new order, Ohioans will have twenty-eight instead of thirty-five days on which they may cast their ballots early for the general election. The legislature had ordered that reduction from a 2005 law's provisions. **The bar to most Sunday and evening early voting was imposed by Secretary of State John Husted.** Both he and the state attorney general, Michael DeWine, are Conservatives. It is generally assumed — and often borne out by actual vote counting — that black, lower-income and homeless voters are the ones who most often take advantage of early voting, because they have less opportunity to do so on election day. Sunday voting is said to be very important to black voters, who are organized in groups to go to the polls for early voting after Sunday church services — the so-called "Souls to the Polls" campaign. That is the group of voters that tends to vote most often for Democratic candidates. One of the arguments that Ohio officials have made, and made again to the Supreme Court, is that Ohio is out in front of most states in the number of early voting days it allows, and that

should be sufficient. The expansion of early voting in Ohio was adopted by the state legislature nine years ago in the wake of major problems of delay at the polls in the 2004 elections.

The case as it is now unfolding before the Supreme Court involves major constitutional issues, especially on how far the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of legal equality applies to early voting opportunities, and how courts are to apply Section 2 of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Section 2 has become newly important to challengers of voting restrictions since the Supreme Court last year struck down a key part of the 1965 Act, the part that triggers federal government veto power over changes in state election laws that may be racially discriminatory.

In a series of court battles in recent years, restrictions on early voting opportunities and requirements for voter IDs have emerged most prominently. The Supreme Court may next face a case from Wisconsin focusing on the voter ID question. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit has allowed that ID requirement to be in effect for this year's election

## U.S. Supreme Court Puts Wisconsin Voter ID Law on Hold

Thousands of **Wisconsin** voters will be able to vote in the upcoming midterm elections after the U.S. Supreme Court over the weekend stepped in and stopped from taking effect a Voter ID law meant to frustrate their ability to vote.

Opponents of the law have argued that it is too late for many people to obtain the required identifications. The court, which is deciding whether to take the case, ruled that it is too late to implement the IDs for the midterms.

And just yesterday, in a ruling that could affect a key U.S. Senate race, the **Arkansas** Supreme Court declared that state's voter ID law unconstitutional. The unanimous decision upheld a lower court and came just days before early balloting begins Monday for the Nov. 4 election. Meanwhile, the picture is not so clear in **Texas** where a U.S. District Court judge last week shelved the state's Photo ID law, one of the strictest in the nation, as 'discriminatory' and 'unconstitutional' only to have the notorious Fifth Circuit Court of

Appeals immediately put it back into effect.

The plaintiffs, including the U.S. Justice Department, have filed an emergency appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, which will now have to determine whether more than 600,000 Texans will get to vote on Nov. 4. Plaintiffs have argued that the law would leave that many Texans — mostly blacks and Hispanics — without sufficient identification to vote in November elections. In the Wisconsin case, the state was rushing to put into effect the controversial law that the Republican-dominated state legislature enacted in 2011. Earlier court decisions had stopped the law from going into effect but, on September 12, a judge ruled the state could require that voters show photo identification.

The case was then appealed to the full court. But because the normally 11-member court is currently short a member, the court deadlocked 5-5 on whether to take the case, meaning the law could take effect. Then, the U.S. Supreme Court

stepped in and halted it.

Judge Richard Posner, one of the judges who wanted to hear the case, wrote a scathing opinion on the proliferation of voter photo ID laws. **Posner, who was appointed by Ronald Reagan, is the most respected conservative jurist in the nation** and could be called the grandfather of voter photo identification laws.

In his new opinion, Posner **described voter ID laws as "a mere fig leaf for efforts to disenfranchise voters likely to vote for the political party that does not control the state government"**

He called "evidence" of impersonation fraud put forward by proponents of Voter ID "downright goofy, if not paranoid."

**"There is only one motivation for imposing burdens on voting that are ostensibly designed to discourage voter-impersonation fraud, if there is no actual danger of such fraud, and that is to discourage voting by persons likely to vote against the party responsible for imposing the burdens," Posner wrote.**

## GET OFF YOUR DUFFS AND VOTE!

If you think the Republicans will best serve you and the rest of the working class, get out and vote for them. If you think the Democrats will best serve you, get out and vote for them. If you think the Independents or the Greens will best serve you, get out and vote for them. Do you see a theme here? **Get out and vote!!!**