NO on Prop A – Andy's 22% Homeless Tax
YES for Barry

BARRY WERNICK
for DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER

October 14, 2026

Campaign Contact

Jon Hollis

Campaign Manager

323-828-1059

Jon@Intellz.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wernick Sends Personal Letters to District 2 Voters Whose Ballots Were Not Secret

Candidate says he warned the Court in 2024. The incumbent kept the system. Officials on that Court then lost the same right.

Dallas, Texas, October 14, 2026. Dallas County Commissioner District 2 candidate Barry Wernick this week is mailing personal letters to District 2 voters whose ballots public records show were not secret.

The letters cover two elections run under the countywide vote-center system incumbent Commissioner Andy Sommerman has promoted and taken credit for.

In the March 2026 Primary, 9,682 Dallas County voters lost a secret ballot during early voting: 7,324 Democrats and 2,358 Republicans. On Election Day of that same primary, voters were assigned by precinct. That is how roughly 10,000 more ballots remain secret.

In the May 2026 Municipal Special Election, 4,211 Dallas County voters had a ballot that public records could connect to them.

"If this letter reached you, public election records connected a ballot to you," Wernick said. "That is not how a free election works. A secret ballot is supposed to stay between you and God when you walk into the booth."

More Democrats than Republicans had the right taken. Wernick said that is the point.

"This is not a party issue," he said. "It is your name on a ballot that should have been secret. I have fought to protect Democrats, Republicans, and independents. The incumbent treated that right as optional."

The Warning Came First

On October 1, 2024, Wernick stood at Dallas County Commissioners Court with copies of ballots in hand, including those of County Judge Clay Jenkins and Commissioner Elba Garcia. He cited Texas Election Code §122.001, which requires secrecy of the ballot, and §123.002, which lets the Court rescind a voting system at any time. He had already taken the same evidence to the Dallas County Election Commission. Four of the five members of that board had ballots that could be tied to them: Democratic Party Chairman Kardal Coleman, County Judge Clay Jenkins, County Clerk John Warren, and Tax Assessor-Collector John Ames. The Court did nothing.

Sommerman Kept the System

Sommerman then pushed countywide voting forward anyway. In the March 2026 primary and the May municipal election, after that warning, the same right was taken from his own deputy chief of staff, Todd Hensley, from

Commissioners Elba Garcia and Theresa Daniel, and from Democratic Party Chairman Kardal Coleman. Hensley was the only voter from his precinct at the Esperanza Community Center during early voting. His ballot was identifiable. The same early-voting period in March stripped privacy from 9,682 ballots.

While that was happening, Sommerman attacked the effort to restore precinct voting and raised money off it. A fundraising email claimed Wernick "likes to make it very hard for you to vote," caused "mass confusion" on Primary Day, tried to "disenfranchise" voters, and "lost" in court. Wernick answered it line by line on April 28, 2026.

The claims do not match the record. Precinct voting keeps the polling place close to home. It is the easier trip for most voters, and it protects the constitutional right to a secret ballot. The Primary Day trouble was a TEAM software glitch the Dallas County Elections Department had been warned about. Countywide voting is what lowered turnout in Dallas County. The petition for writ of mandamus was ultimately dismissed on procedure, not on the merits.

"He was warned," Wernick said. "He kept the system. Then he raised money by calling the warning an attack on voters. After that warning, his own deputy and two of his colleagues had ballots that could be tied to them. That is the record."

Private Halls as Polling Places

The same officeholder set up private facilities, including mosques, and took credit on video for rooms that voted almost all for his party. Texas Election Code §43.031 already prefers a public building when one is practicable. Those buildings do not cost the county a dime. The letters tell voters Wernick will not hand-pick a mosque, a church, a synagogue, or any other private hall as a political weapon for his party or his own advantage.

"You should not have to choose between convenience and a constitutional right," Wernick said. "You should have both."

What the Letters Ask

The letters ask recipients to vote in person, close to home, and all the way down the ballot: No on Prop A, Andy's reckless 22% property-tax hike, and Yes for Barry Wernick.

The line-by-line answer to the fundraising email: x.com/Wernick4Dallas

The incumbent's election failures: sadandblueindistrict2.com/election-integrity-1

Wernick's solution: wernickfortexas.com/land-of-milk-and-honey

About Barry Wernick

Barry Wernick is the Republican nominee for Dallas County Commissioner, District 2. A lifelong Dallas resident, attorney, and TMCA Credentialed Distinguished Mediator, he is a former precinct chair and election judge and has testified on ballot secrecy in court and before the Texas Senate Committee on State Affairs.

For more information on the Barry Wernick campaign, visit WernickForTexas.com. See Andy Sommerman's record at AndySommerman.com.