

BELL COUNTY, TX

Review of case filed by Melissa Brown of Killeen, TX
146th Judicial Court
Case No: 22DCV331961
MELISSA BROWN VS. RAMON ALVAREZ

August 20th, 2022

Melissa Brown filed for City Council in the May 7th, 2022 municipal elections in Killeen, TX, a municipality located in Bell County, Texas. Melissa reportedly did not win her election, allegedly losing by 24 votes. Below is a review of her findings, lawfully entered as evidence in her legal case against Bell County Elections, who held purview over the municipal elections.

Melissa found severe discrepancies in officially reported totals from Bell County. These totals depicted a 10% discrepancy, showing higher total ballots reported than the total number of voters who turned out. Upon repeated requests to the County for more data from her election, Melissa found that each voter turnout file she received listed different voters and a new total of participating voter than the previous file from the county.

Melissa chose to pay for a recount by precinct, as authorized by State Statute. The County could not produce the recount, despite her payment, because of the Countywide Polling Place Program. The County staff chose to recount by Location, not authorized by Law, and not what Melissa paid for to audit her results.

Melissa also found serious Chain of Custody violations in the handling of Mail Ballots by County Election staff, who chose to use "ditto marks" when they should have signed their name when they processed a Mail Ballot, making it impossible to know who handled the ballots and impossible to prosecute mishandling of Election Records. Melissa sued for her election to be overturned and redone, and is currently awaiting a ruling after successfully representing herself pro se against her opponent who hired an attorney to defend his win rather than standing on the facts as Melissa has done throughout this process.

The most damning item among her submissions to the court is evidence of many duplicate Secretary of State VoterID numbers on ballots sent to voters. The only explanation the County offered was that a "Glitch" occurred when the ballots were being printed. Fort Hood, a military base, is partially contained in Bell County, and the concern with the many duplicate registration numbers is that it would mostly affect Military votes. Most military who are stationed away from their home towns will be voting by mail. There is absolutely no way to know whether their ballots were accurately tabulated per their choices when duplicate ballots with their voter IDs are being issued as they submit their request for a ballot.

Melissa Brown has already affected change in Bell County Election training for Election Staff. For that, we thank her profusely.