



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

August 16, 2019

Contact: Lindsey K. O'Shea, Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: (831) 755-5251

PACIFIC GROVE MAN SENTENCED TO PROBATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION FRAUD

People v. Richard Davis, 19CR003742

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Richard Davis, a resident of Pacific Grove, was sentenced to probation for committing voter registration fraud.

On October 22, 2018, the Monterey County Elections Department received an online voter registration form in the name of Eugene Davis, who was born in 1923. But the Elections Department confirmed that Eugene Davis was deceased.

On October 24, 2018, Richard Davis, the son of Eugene Davis, called the Monterey County Sheriff's Office to report that he had registered his deceased grandfather to vote in order to prove that the voter registration system is flawed. Davis also admitted to previously registering his dog "Cooper" to vote in 2013, in order to prove the same point. The Elections Department detected this fraud in 2013, never registered the dog to vote, and Davis was warned at the time not to repeat such behavior.

Today, the Honorable Pamela L. Butler sentenced Davis to three years of probation with terms to refrain from registering anyone but himself to vote, not use the online voter registration system, and not threaten or harass employees of the Monterey County Elections Department. Davis was also ordered to complete 48 hours of community service through a non-profit organization.

This case was investigated by Monterey County District Attorney Investigator Benjamin Draeger.