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New York State

NY official pleads guilty to federal voter fraud charges

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By The Associated Press

Troy, N.Y. — An upstate New York Republican is being forced out of her city council post after pleading guilty to three federal counts of voter fraud and amid unfounded assertions across the country — mostly by some in the GOP — of widespread elections tampering.

The case involving Troy City Councilmember Kimberly McPherson, who represents a community northeast of Albany, the state capital, is one of the few instances of documented voter fraud.

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Some Republicans have falsely charged that the 2000 presidential election was rigged in favor of Democrat Joe Biden.

As part of a plea deal, McPherson admitted to fraudulently casting an absentee ballot in last year's primary election and two such ballots in the general election. McPherson's name appeared on both ballots. She admitted to illegally filing absentee ballots in the names of two other voters.

McPherson was first elected to the City Council in 2015.

If a U.S. district judge accepts the plea, McPherson must resign her post within 30 days. She would also face as much as a year in custody — although the judge can impose a prison term as long as five years and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

The Albany Times Union reports that other voter fraud investigations in the area are ongoing.

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