

CRIME

Woman gets probation for voter registration fraud

By *Bruce Vielmetti* of the Journal Sentinel

Oct. 12, 2009

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A Milwaukee woman was sentenced to three years probation Monday for trying to register some people more than once as part of an ACORN voter registration drive last year.

Latoya Lewis, 19, pleaded guilty to election fraud prior to her sentencing by Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Richard Sankovitz. He stayed a one-year sentence at the House of Correction in favor of the three-year probation term. As conditions of probation, Lewis must serve 90 days at the House, with work release privileges, and not work in any voter registration drives.

A complaint in March charged that Lewis submitted at least two of eight voter registration cards filled out for the same man, who told police he didn't register to vote through Lewis. The complaint says Lewis told police that she was trying to meet her quota as a paid voter registrar for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, or ACORN.

Lewis was the fourth former Milwaukee registrar to face charges stemming from the 2008 election and the only one employed by ACORN. Of three others employed by the Community Voters Project, two pleaded guilty and one remains at large.

Milwaukee County prosecutors have said they found no evidence of an organized vote fraud conspiracy.

A 63-year-old Milwaukee man also pleaded guilty Monday in an unrelated election fraud case.

Kendall Craker was charged in August with lying to an election official and voting in the spring election as a felon. He pleaded guilty to the fraudulent registration and prosecutors dismissed the illegal voting charge. Craker's sentencing was set for Oct. 19.



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