



# FINANCIAL PREPAREDNESS

*"One of life's most painful moments comes when we must admit that we didn't do our homework, that we are not prepared." ~ Merlin Olsen*

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Zucked

*Those who vote decide nothing. Those who count the vote decide everything. ~ Joseph Stalin*

I just finished reading [Rigged: How the Media, Big Tech, and the Democrats Seized Our Elections](#) by Mollie Hemingway. To borrow a quote from the book, reading it is like watching a clown car drive into a raging dumpster fire. It's five stars and a Must Read.

Early in the book, the author tells this jaw-dropping story. 2020 was the first presidential election since "1980 in which the Republican National Committee could play any role whatsoever in Election Day operations. For nearly 40 years...[the RNC] had been prohibited by law from helping out will poll watcher efforts or nearly any litigation related to how voting is conducted."

In a court case involving alleged voter intimidation by Republicans in the 1981 New Jersey gubernatorial race, the RNC entered into a "consent decree limiting Republican involvement with any poll watching operation. But...the Jimmy Carter-appointed judge who oversaw the agreement never let them out of it, repeatedly modifying it and strengthening it at the Democrats' request." After the judge's retirement, "he stayed 21 years in...a form of semi-retirement that enables judges to keep serving in a limited capacity. It literally took [his] dying in 2015 for Republicans to get out of the consent

decree.” Only the Republicans would take this abuse like a beaten dog.

The decree “also meant the RNC was kept out of almost any litigation related to Election Day. In fact, a main part of the RNC's legal efforts came to be training RNC staff to *stay away* from Election Day operations on Election Day, including recounts, and fending off litigation that arose from the consent decree. It utterly paralyzed the political operation of the RNC, as the slightest misstep would result in getting sued by Democrats.”

### Zuck Bucks

Facebook and its CEO Mark Zuckerberg have been providing Democrats with massive in-kind contributions since at least 2008. “The analytics director for Obama's campaign would later admit that the campaign had access to all of Facebook's data, saying, '[Facebook] allowed us to do things they wouldn't have allowed someone else to do because they were on our side'.”

Fast forward to 2020. “Shortly before the [2020] election, David Plouffe, who is best known for running...Obama's successful 2008 presidential campaign, published a book that said the election 'may come down to block-by-block street fights in Detroit, Philadelphia and Milwaukee.' Since 2017, he had been doing policy and advocacy work for the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. He was advising the group when it decided to give so much money [\$419 million] toward *privatizing* and controlling the nation's election system in 2020. Plouffe, one of the Democratic Party's most successful campaigners, innately understood exactly what needed to happen for a lackluster Biden campaign to pull off a victory.”

“Most of the funds—colloquially called 'Zuck Bucks'--were funneled through the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), a group led by three Democrats with a long history of activism...relating to election rules.” The *Washington Post* described the organization where they previously worked “as 'the Democratic Party's Hogwarts for digital wizardry.' Some on the right had called the influential Democratic training organization 'the Left's New Death Star'.”

Months after the 2020 election, Republicans discovered that Democrats had used a massive and *unprecedented* donation from Zuckerberg to “essentially run their vote-by-mail [mail-in ballots provide far more opportunities for fraud] operation through official government offices in five cities in Wisconsin, Democrat-heavy counties in Georgia, and overwhelmingly Democratic Philadelphia, among others.”

Of this money, states that Biden won “received 88.4%, [or] 3.34 times as large as the amount Trump states received. Four states that received funds switched from Trump states in 2016 to Biden states in 2020. Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, and Pennsylvania received...more than half of all funds....Georgia received more than \$31 million in Zuck Bucks for the general election alone, one of the highest amounts in the country,” which was “nearly 9% of all Zuckerberg funding, even though Georgia has just over 3% of the population....”

Contrary to its stated purpose, “the money was not spent on COVID-related issues,” but “to hire [liberal] activists to work the election.” Of the Georgia counties that received funding, “Trump-voting counties received an average of \$1.91 per registered voter, while Biden-voting counties received \$7.13....”

“Unelected liberal activists were allowed to embed in government offices and actually *take over* election administration duties in crucial battleground states. They were given vast amounts of voter information and even put in charge of designing, distributing and collecting ballots....[Zuckerberg] directly funded liberal groups running partisan get-out-the-vote operations.”

### Who Moved My Cheesehead?

“The five cities of Wisconsin that received Zuck Bucks outsourced much of their election operation to private liberal groups. In one case, the group's control was so extensive that a government official frustrated at being sidelined by Zuckerberg-funded out-of-state activists quit her job....CTCL kept tight control of how money was spent, and it had an abundance of 'partners' to help with anything the cities needed. Some government officials were willing to do whatever CTCL recommended.”

“And CTCL had plenty of recommendations...[saying] it had a 'network of current and former election administrations and elections experts available' to scale up 'your vote by mail processes' and 'ensure forms, envelopes, and other materials are understood and completed by voters'. Each group was comprised of progressive activists who supported the Democratic Party....”

CTCL's network included: “Power the Polls, a liberal group recruiting poll workers, promised to help with ballot curing. The liberal Mikva Challenge worked to recruit high school-age poll workers. And the left-wing Brennan Center could help with 'election integrity'....The Center for Civic Design...[which] frequently partners with left-of-center organizations...designed absentee ballots and voting instructions, often working directly with an election commission to...create an advertising and *targeting campaign*. The Elections Group, another group linked to [[liberal billionaire Pierre Omidyar](#)], provided technical assistance in handling drop boxes and conducted *voter outreach*.” I could go on and on (see p. 218 of the hardcover edition). As the author wrote, “The amount of services [these groups] offered to officials was stunning.” This was a very sophisticated, well thought out and well-funded digital coup.

One out-of-state Democratic activist “would eventually take over much of Green Bay's election planning from the official charged with running the election....Once early voting started, [the executive director of the Milwaukee Election Commission] would provide him with a daily update on the numbers of absentee ballots returned and still outstanding in each ward, prized information for a political operative....Amazingly, he even asked for direct access to the Milwaukee Election Commission's voter database....Emails show that [he] *had keys to the central counting facility and access to all the machines before Election Night*.”

“Even though state law clearly states that the city clerk is in charge of the election, [the]

Democratic Green Bay mayor...delegated that authority to agents from outside groups and gave them leadership roles in collecting absentee ballots, fixing ballots that would otherwise be voided for failure to follow the law, and even *supervising the counting of ballots*.”

An investigative reporter wrote, “The city of Green Bay literally gave the keys to the election to a Democratic Party operative from New York.” The clerk of the county that includes Green Bay testified, “He was touching the ballots. He had access to see how the votes were counted.” “Others testified that *he was giving orders to poll workers and seemed to be the person running the count operation on Election Night*.” One commentator wrote, “The rigging of the election happened in front of our face, you know?”

“What happened in Green Bay...also happened in countless Democrat-run cities across the country. Cities and counties took money from [CTCL]...the strings attached to the money required officials to work with 'partner organizations' to massively expand mail-in voting and staff their operation with activists. These partner organizations were all left-wing groups that then ran a Democratic get-out-the-vote operation *through the election offices themselves*. It was a genius plan. And because no one ever imagined that a coordinated operation could pull off the privatization of the election system, laws were not built to combat it. In fact, *nobody even really figured it out until...months after the fact*.”

### Brotherly Love

“The City of Philadelphia had received more than \$10 million in Zuck Bucks, some of which was spent on satellite offices where, in their words, voters could 'request a *mail-in* ballot in-person, receive it, fill it out, and return it to cast their vote.'...[But] early voting isn't legal in Pennsylvania. Nevertheless, Philadelphia would open 17 such locations where people could vote in September and October....Nearly \$35 million in Zuckerberg funds flowed into government offices in Democratic strongholds of Pennsylvania to assist Democrats with their mail-in voting push.”

“Publicly, Philadelphia kept advertising what was happening in these new satellite locations as 'voting,' but when Republicans inquired about witnessing what was happening, they were told *it wasn't voting*. Members of the Trump campaign tried to enter one of the voting locations, but they were told they couldn't...because of COVID-19 concerns. The Trump campaign was willing to put observers in full hazmat suits and follow any protocol...yet they were not allowed in....An attorney for the city said that since the city wasn't *recording* the votes, it wasn't voting.”

After the election, Zuckerberg said, “At Facebook, we took our responsibility to protect the integrity of this election very seriously....We've built sophisticated systems to protect against *election interference*.” He also highlighted Facebook's censorship work, which he described as a fight against “misinformation.” Zuckerberg has actually been [helping people vote since his sophomore year of college](#). It's impressive how, in less than 20 years, he went from running a “hot or not” election to running the election for Leader of the Free World. But Mark, now that we are trusting you with all of our personal data from government elections offices, would you still consider us to be “[dumb f\\*cks](#)”?

## The Devil Went Down to Georgia on a Midnight Train

“Late on Election Night and into the early morning hours, reports of pausing or stopping for the night in other swing states [besides Georgia] filled the news....Cities in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin all had reports of counties taking a break or stopping. But the evidence suggests that they didn't actually stop. The vote-counting was continuing in every state....[And] Biden was getting huge spikes in his number of votes, allowing him to take the lead or almost take the lead in multiple swing states. To make matters worse, in some states nobody could even guess how many ballots were outstanding...As hours turned into days in Georgia, Biden took the lead as more and more votes were found and counted.”

Around 10:00 on Election Night, the Fulton County Director of Registration and Elections (Richard Barron) was told that they were going to have to shut down vote-counting operations at the State Farm Arena in Atlanta because one of the county's top registration officials (Ralph Jones Sr.) “needed to leave for the night to deal with a personal emergency.” Oh! Earlier in the day, they had claimed that there was a water main break at the arena, but it turned out to be a leaking urinal.

Security camera footage taken at the arena that night later surfaced that showed [about five election workers pulling suitcases full of ballots out from under cloth-covered tables](#) after poll watchers and the media were told to go home, and running them through machines. Asked for an explanation, Barron said, “According to my staff, that's just normal.” You know, that's actually probably a truthful statement: *It is normal for Fulton County.* “Democrats knew that the video looked absolutely awful, particularly since *Biden had received a huge spike in numbers from Fulton County at the same time as the footage was timestamped.*” Jones, “who reportedly had claimed that he needed to leave the premises, appeared [from the video] to have stuck around while ballots were counted.”

Jones “is no stranger to scandal....[in 2018,] a consulting firm registered to him was paid thousands of dollars by Atlanta mayoral candidate Keisha Lance Bottoms [who] would go on to win by a razor-thin margin of 832 votes. The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* described it as an ‘alarming lack of separation between a top election employee and an active political campaign,’ since Jones oversaw the division that ‘maintains master voter lists, purges criminal and deceased voters from the polls, verifies petitions and mails absentee ballots’.”

Jones also hosts “an annual party where many of [the candidates whose elections he oversees] are invited guests.” And his son Ralph Jr. “served as the social media communications director for Bottoms' campaign.” A former federal prosecutor who is now a law professor said, “It's almost like saying, having a big arrow going, ‘Hey, look at me, I'm doing something corrupt. Check it out.’”

In 2020, Ralph Jr. became “the communications director for none other than Raphael Warnock, a Democratic candidate in the 2020 Senate election and runoff, a race Warnock would eventually win.” Small world. Warnock was just re-elected on Tuesday.

The author sets the record straight on Trump's interaction with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, which was misreported by the media. A reporter “asked [him] directly if he had authorized the leak of the second phone call [with Trump], and he repeatedly refused to answer the question. [He] admitted...that it coincided with his anger at Republican senator David Perdue...after Perdue called for him to resign.”

Raffensperger's office used \$5.5 million of Zuck Bucks to mail “nearly seven million absentee ballot applications to Georgia residents....Ballots were sent to nearly 150 addresses where more than 50 voters were registered. Some were homeless shelters, such as one with more than 2,000 registered voters....Other addresses with more than 50 registrations included commercial mail-receiving services, parking lots, college dining halls, and single-family dwellings.”

In December 2020, Raffensperger opened an investigation into several progressive groups, “including one founded by Stacey Abrams and previously run by Warnock called the New Georgia Project....Complaints alleged the groups were soliciting registrations in the names of dead people, those ineligible to vote, and those who had moved away years prior...reports indicated that the effort to get people to vote in Georgia was *nationwide*, with voters out of state claiming they had received requests for them to register in Georgia.”

Democrats realized years ago that they needed people like Raffensperger in place as secretaries of state. “Some of the most significant effects on the 2020 election were the elections in years prior when Democrats won key control over secretary of state offices. That project really began in 2006, when far-left political operatives created the Secretary of State Project.”

“Democrats wanted control not just so they could turn away from the Republican emphasis on preventing fraud, but because it was 'more important' to be in a 'more advantageous position when it comes to the interpretation and administration of election law' on Election Day.” This was also key to the Democrats' strategy of doing an end run around the Constitution, which says that only state legislatures can determine how elections are run. The Democrats' top election attorney (Marc Elias) “had great success with this 'sue-and-settle' approach to changing laws, particularly in states with Democratic secretaries of state [or RINOs, such as Raffensperger], attorney generals, or governors.”

The author's discussion of Democratic Arizona secretary of state Katie Hobbs is interesting, especially in the wake of the recent governor's election there, which (surprise!) she won after refusing to recuse herself from election-related issues.

### “The Ends Justify the Means” Means It's the End (of the Republic)

“The raft of changes [in voting] the Democrats rushed in undermined many of the measures in place to detect fraud. By unilaterally issuing these changes, the Democrats undermined the faith of millions of Republicans in the election. *They chose not to conduct an election that their opponents could have confidence in, and acted surprised when the declared loser challenged the results.* Luckily for them, those challenges failed to trigger a

full-blown constitutional crisis. But they very much could have, and might yet if Democrats insist on conducting future elections in such a partisan way in the future.”

“The 2020 election is just the tip of the iceberg. The left's vehement anti-Trumpism—and willingness to lie, contort reality, and ruin Trump's supporters to advance its agenda—has undermined half the country's faith in America's most vaunted institutions....What many ordinary Americans saw from 2016 to 2020 was a willingness on the part of the establishment to *do whatever it took* to defeat its political opponents.”

The author quotes one frustrated voter who sums up the problem: “The only thing we did on Election Day was tell them how many votes they needed on Election Night.” I'll have a lot more to say about this in an upcoming issue, but this country is *Zucked*.

## News Items

[The Twitter Files](#)

[“My Jaw Hit the Floor”](#)

[Double Digit Inflation in Almost Half the World](#)

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