

LAURENCE K. FLYNN  
CHAIRMAN

ROLAND A. DUMONT  
SECRETARY

MARK J. LOMAZZO  
MEMBER



IN CITY COUNCIL

OCT 1 9 1984

READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*Providence* CLERK

## BOARD OF CANVASSERS

September 27, 1984

To The Honorable City Council Members:

Annual report from the Providence Board of Canvassers for the year January 1, 1983 through December 31, 1983.

1983 was an off election year in Providence, following the 1982 General Elections.

After many long months of testimony, trials and litigation because of the court decisions postponing the November 1982 Senate election, the statewide primary was held on May 24, 1984, followed by the Special Senate election on June 21, 1983.

Shortly after -- July 1, 1983 saw the beginning of the new 'Voter Reform Act' and the many new election law changes and interpretations that followed.

First came the 'Jury Commissioner's Challenge,' resulting from a new election law that enabled local boards to challenge the residency of voters whose jury duty notices were returned as undeliverable. This act brought out a sampling, showing that approximately 14% of the eligible voters in Providence were not properly registered, encouraging the subsequent passage by the council and implementation by the State Board of Elections and the local board of Canvassers of the 1984 Correction of voters addresses.

Over 600 voters were removed from the list as a result of the Jury Commissions Challenge.

The Senate court decision left us with a total of 130 voting districts in Providence causing abnormally expensive elections that were difficult to manage. We therefore redistricted again by combining voting districts bringing the total down to 95 voting districts in Providence.

We then conducted the November 8, 1983 Special State Referenda election following which we began the no-vote 5 year purge.


The first step in the Re-call process of Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr. began in November with the filing of the declaration of intent and the required signatures that began the arduous task of certifying those signatures in accordance with the new Home Rule Charter.

The net result of the various purges in 1983 dropped the eligible vote from 89,309 down to 81,243 voters in december of 1983.

The events that followed were such, that no other board has ever experienced in this city or state, and only because of the efforts of a small professional staff and some very dedicated temporary workers have we been able to cope with the hundreds of problems that ensued in this unusual year.

This board apologizes for the lateness of this report, but too many deadlines and problem's have forced us to prioritorize our schedules.

Respectfully submitted,

  
LAURENCE K. FLYNN, CHAIRMAN

  
ROLAND A. DUMONT, SECRETARY

  
MARK J. LOMAZZO, MEMBER

PROVIDENCE BOARD OF CANVASSERS  
AND REGISTRATION

FILED

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DEPT. OF CITY CLERK  
PROVIDENCE, R.I.