



Ohio Early Voting Affirmed In Win For Obama Campaign

HUFFINGTON POST : October 8, 2012

The injunction stands against a Republican-backed law that would have banned early voting in Ohio during the weekend before Election Day, a prime voting period for minorities in the 2008 election.

grounds that Ohioans would not have equal access to the polls otherwise. The law allowed military families to vote over that period. The lawsuit argued that everyone should be allowed the same access.

A panel of three judges from the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday affirmed a lower court's ruling in August blocking the law from taking effect.

Ohio Republican leaders insisted that their only motivation was to make things easier for election administrators. But in their ruling the three judges wrote that the state's "proffered interest in smooth election administration" was not sufficiently weighty to justify the voting regulation.

More at : <http://huff.to/UoGltJ>

A Vast Left-Wing Competency

SLATE : November 7, 2012

A polarizing incumbent wins a closely fought but decisive re-election despite mixed public opinion about his first term. His lead was steady and consistent throughout, and he was boosted on Election Day by strong turnout from core constituencies despite suggestions that his supporters could suffer from weakened enthusiasm the second time. The storyline was clear: The president won in large part because of superior tactics and improved technique.

In 2004, the incumbent who won that tactical victory was George W. Bush, and as Democrats learned more about his campaign's successful application of first-generation "microtargeting" procedures, they began to see their opponent's powers as more mundane than mystical. Five weeks after Bush's re-election, Washington Post columnist E.J. Dionne diagnosed the Democrats as suffering from "Rove Envy" and described the...
More : <http://slate.me/VDAmko>

Obama's Ohio Early-Voting Advantage

THE NATION : November 5, 2012

It was a cold, damp, windy weekend in Cleveland, but thousands of early voters assembled outside of the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections and refused to be deterred. Volunteers passed out pizza, hot dogs and hot chocolate as voters waited for two hours on Saturday and Sunday to exercise their most basic constitutional right. State Senator Nina Turner, a ubiquitous presence in the area, worked the line to keep spirits up. "Think about what our ancestors went through," she told the predominantly African-American crowd. "This is nothing."

It probably didn't feel this way for those waiting in line, but voters in Ohio were lucky to have this opportunity. The Ohio GOP legislature and Secretary of State Jon Husted banned early voting three days before the election, only to be overturned in court as a result of a lawsuit filed by the Obama campaign. In Cleveland's Cuyahoga County—where Obama needs a big turnout to win the state—5,661 people voted early this weekend, compared to 6,457 in 2008. Turnout in Cuyahoga had surpassed 2008 levels until Hurricane Sandy hit and left many parts of the city without power.

[UPDATE: 45,395 people voted early in person in Cuyahoga in 2012, compared to 54,340 in 2008, a decrease of 16 percent. The combination of Sandy and early voting limits likely explains the decrease in turnout. Writes Norman Robbins of Northeast Voter Advocates: "This 'reduction' of about 9,000 early votes in 2012 compared to 2008 is totally expected on the basis of Sec. of State Husted's restrictions of early voting hours in 2012. In 2012, Sec. Husted cut away ALL 4 weekends of voting prior to the last weekend before election day that were available for in-person voting in 2008. In this time period in Cuyahoga County in 2008, 7,495 votes were cast. Sec.Husted also cut away about 3 weeks of extended business hour early voting (4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.) which in 2008 had garnered about 1,632 early in-person votes in Cuyahoga County. Adding these votes cast in hours prohibited by the Sec of State in 2012 gives 7495+1632=9127 votes cast during early in-person hours in 2008 that were eliminated by Sec Husted in 2012."]

More at : <http://bit.ly/SugMBD>

Dinner Tickets Going Fast!



Sunday, April 14th, 2013
InterContinental Hotel Cleveland

Please RSVP by April 8th to Karen Connavino at 216.534.3343 karen@balodisgroup.com or Wendy Balodis at 440.476.2106 wendy@balodisgroup.com



THE CUYAHOGA DEMOCRAT

Border to Border, From the Lake to the Corners™

AccuDem Forecast



Pelosi to Headline Cuyahoga Dems Dinner

EXCLUSIVE : Chairman Garson to Welcome House Democratic Leader at Annual County Party Fundraiser



Leader Pelosi's visit comes just months after Cuyahoga County played a pivotal role

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi will be one of several guest speakers at the Democratic Party of Cuyahoga County's Annual Dinner on Sunday, April 14th at the InterContinental Hotel Cleveland.

in pushing Ohio over the top for President Barack Obama and Senator Sherrod Brown.



Leader Pelosi will be joined by northeast Ohio's Democratic Congressional delega-

tion—who were also lifted last fall by the strong Democratic turnout in Cuyahoga County.

The event will be preceded by a private reception beginning at 6:30 p.m., with the general reception beginning at 7:00 p.m. The two previous Democratic dinners sold out ahead of time, so tickets to this year's dinner are expected to move quickly. To reserve your place, contact Karen Connavino at karen@balodisgroup.com or call (216) 534-3343.

Obama Wins by 166,214

PLAIN DEALER : December 6, 2012

Ohio's final election results released Thursday show that Barack Obama defeated Mitt Romney by 166,214 votes, or 3 percentage points.

Both the turnout and margin of victory were down from 2008, when Obama defeated Republican John McCain. But the 5,580,822 people who cast bal-

lots in this year's presidential race were the third most in Ohio history, behind only 2008 and 2004.

The final tally shows Obama with 2,827,621 votes (50.7 percent) to Romney's 2,661,407 votes (47.7 percent). Another 91,794 people voted for other..

More at <http://bit.ly/TMyEs3>

Brown Trounces Mandel

PLAIN DEALER : November 7, 2012

Sherrod Brown won a second term in the U.S. Senate as voters in Ohio's main media markets appeared unpersuaded by the well-financed and relentless critique on his record by his Republican challenger, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel.

Brown's victory Tuesday, along with several other wins from his party, made it almost certain that Democrats will retain their Senate majority, while Republicans will still control the House of Representatives.

Among other high-profile races, Elizabeth Warren was declared the winner against the incumbent Republican, Sen. Scott Brown, in Massachusetts, returning to Democrats the seat once held by Ted Kennedy. And Indiana Democrat Joe Donnelly appeared to beat

Republican Richard Mourdock, whose comments on pregnancy from rape seemed to doom his Tea Party-style campaign.

With no apparent change in the balance of congressional power, both chambers will be under pressure almost immediately to find an accommodation on looming tax hikes and spending cuts, both mandated by earlier legislation that Congress now is eager to undo.

Brown celebrated his victory at the Hilton Columbus Downtown and, flanked by his family, began speaking in a hoarse, campaign-worn voice.

"We fought back against secretive, out-of-state forces that wanted to impose their will on us," he said. More at : <http://bit.ly/TvuMvU>



Fudge is new CBC chair

CALL AND POST : January 9, 2013

The Rev. George O. Stewart, pastor Zion Chapel Baptist Church in Cleveland, gave the invocation and Dr. Marvin L. Sapp, pastor Lighthouse Full Life Center Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, had the crowd on their feet as he gave the benediction.

Quoting Shakespeare, Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge took

over the reigns of the Congressional Black Caucus of the 113th Congress as its new chair at swearing-in ceremonies Jan. 3.

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances and one man, in his time, plays many parts." More : <http://bit.ly/ZLiBhn>

Kaptur Crushes "Joe"

PLAIN DEALER : November 7, 2012

U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Toledo coasted to victory tonight, capturing more than 70 percent of the vote in wrapping up her 16th term, handily defeating her Republican opponent, Samuel Wurzelbacher, aka Joe the Plumber, with more than 171,000 votes cast in the 9th District.

Kaptur advance(d) from the primary election for the right to represent the new 9th Congressional District -- an unusual gerrymandered configuration that hugs the Lake Erie coastline for 100 miles from Cleveland's West Side to Toledo. More at : <http://bit.ly/XiqfBQ>

Ford to add third shift to Brook Park engine plant

PLAIN DEALER : November 7, 2012

BROOK PARK, Ohio -- Ford executives and top politicians talked excitedly about jobs staying in Northeast Ohio. Union leaders said they were happy to keep members working.

But the real excitement at Ford's Cleveland Engine Plant No. 1 in Brook Park Tuesday was hidden behind white, corrugated metal walls. That's where work crews this month will begin clearing space for a new engine line that should go into production in 2014.

Mark Fields, Ford's president of the Americas, declined to say which cars would use the new line of small, fuel-efficient engines. But at an event Tuesday to mark the planned startup of the plant's third production shift, he said they will be key to the automaker's future.

"We're going to make fuel economy a reason to buy a Ford," Fields said in an interview. "We're already doing that in trucks with EcoBoost, and you're going to see a lot more of that from us over the next few years."

EcoBoost is Ford's term for turbo-charged engines that it is offering in a wide array of vehicles. In the F-150 pickup, Brook Park-built EcoBoost engines, for example, offer more power than most of the company's V-8s but with the fuel economy of a V-6.

United Auto Workers Local 1250 President Mike Gammella said the EcoBoost engine saved Engine Plant 1 in 2009 when Ford launched the product for specialty cars such as the hot-rod Taurus SHO and the Lincoln MKS. More at : <http://bit.ly/YeOwXF>

April 14th is Coming Soon! RSVP Today!

Clip and Return

RSVP TO THE 2013 DEMOCRATIC PARTY ANNUAL DINNER

**Democratic Party of Cuyahoga County
Annual Fundraising Dinner**

with special guest

Nancy Pelosi
House Democratic Leader

also with

Senator Sherrod Brown, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur,
Congresswoman Marcia Fudge,
County Executive Ed FitzGerald, Mayor Frank Jackson

Sunday, April 14th, 2013

InterContinental Hotel Cleveland

Please RSVP by April 8th, 2013

Mail to : 1466 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114

I will be attending the annual fundraising dinner

- Headline Maker - \$5,000
- Above the Fold - \$3,000
- Contributor - \$2,000
- Private Reception and Dinner Ticket - \$1,000
- Dinner Ticket - \$200

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2013 Cuyahoga County Democratic Party ANNUAL DINNER

with special guest

House Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI



also with

Senator Sherrod Brown
Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur
Congresswoman Marcia Fudge
County Executive Ed FitzGerald

Mayor Frank Jackson
Chairman Chris Redfern
Ohio House Minority Leader Armond Budish
Ohio Senate Minority Whip Nina Turner

Sunday, April 14th, 2013 InterContinental Hotel Cleveland

9801 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106

6:30pm Private Reception | 7:00pm General Reception & Dinner

Sponsorships & Dinner Tickets

Headline Maker - \$5,000 | Above the Fold - \$3,000 | Contributor - \$2,000
Private Reception & Dinner - \$1,000 | Dinner Ticket - \$200

Please RSVP by April 8th to

Karen Connavino at 216.534.3343 or karen@balodisgroup.com or
Wendy Balodis at 440.476.2106 or wendy@balodisgroup.com

All solicitations of funds in connection with this event are by the Democratic Party of Cuyahoga County and not by Senator Brown, Representative Pelosi, Representative Kaptur or Representative Fudge.