

MARK BRNOVICH
Attorney General
Firm Bar No. 14000

TODD C. LAWSON
State Bar No. 020216
Senior Litigation Counsel
2005 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1592
Telephone 602-542-3881
crmfraud@azag.gov

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COCONINO**

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

VICTOR JOHN VARELA,

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT NO. _____

GRAND JURY NO. GJ-186-2020

NONSUPERVENING INDICTMENT

FELONY

**COUNT 1: FRAUDULENT
SCHEMES AND PRACTICES, a Class
5 Felony, in violation of A.R.S. §13-2311**

**COUNTS 2-4: PRESENTMENT OF
FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING,
Class 6 Felonies, in violation of A.R.S.
§39-161**

**COUNTS 5-12: SIGNING OF
PETITIONS VIOLATION, Class 1
Misdemeanors, in violation of A.R.S.
§16-1020**

The grand jurors of Coconino County, Arizona accuse:

VICTOR JOHN VARELA

On July 30, 2020, charging that in Coconino County, Arizona:

COUNT 1
FRAUDULENT SCHEMES AND PRACTICES

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about January 7, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, in a matter related to the business conducted by any department or agency of this state or any political subdivision thereof, and pursuant to a scheme or artifice to defraud or deceive, knowingly made or used a false writing or document knowing such writing or document contained any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, in violation of A.R.S. §13-2311(A), 13-701, 13-702, 13-801, and 16-351(G), a class 5 felony.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela knowingly made nominating petitions for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff which contained falsified signatures purported to be the signatures of electors supporting his nomination.

COUNT 2
PRESENTMENT OF FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING

Victor John Varela, on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly acknowledged, certified, notarized, procured or offered to be filed, registered or recorded in a public office in this state an instrument he knew to be false or forged, which, if genuine, could be filed, registered or recorded under any law of this state or the United States, or in compliance with established procedure, in violation of A.R.S. §39-161, 13-2001, 13-701, 13-702, 13-801, and 16-351(G), a class 6 felony.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela knowingly completed the verification on the back of petition #6 where he stated that he verified “that each of the names on the petition was signed in my presence on the date indicated” and that “each signer was a qualified elector who resides at the address given as their residence on the date indicated” knowing that petition contained false or forged information about the listed electors.

...

...

COUNT 3
PRESENTMENT OF FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING

Victor John Varela, on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly acknowledged, certified, notarized, procured or offered to be filed, registered or recorded in a public office in this state an instrument he knew to be false or forged, which, if genuine, could be filed, registered or recorded under any law of this state or the United States, or in compliance with established procedure, in violation of A.R.S. §39-161, 13-2001, 13-701, 13-702, 13-801, and 16-351(G), a class 6 felony.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela knowingly completed the verification on the back of petition #38 where he stated that he verified “that each of the names on the petition was signed in my presence on the date indicated” and that “each signer was a qualified elector who resides at the address given as their residence on the date indicated” knowing that petition contained false or forged information about the listed electors.

COUNT 4
PRESENTMENT OF FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING

Victor John Varela, on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly acknowledged, certified, notarized, procured or offered to be filed, registered or recorded in a public office in this state an instrument he knew to be false or forged, which, if genuine, could be filed, registered or recorded under any law of this state or the United States, or in compliance with established procedure, in violation of A.R.S. §39-161, 13-2001, 13-701, 13-702, 13-801, and 16-351(G), a class 6 felony.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela knowingly completed the verification on the back of petition #97 where he stated that he verified “that each of the names on the petition was signed in my presence on the date indicated” and that “each signer was a qualified elector who resides at the address given as their residence on the date indicated” knowing that petition contained false or forged information about the listed electors.

COUNT 5
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 13, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on her behalf, knowingly signed the name of Paula Monthofer f/k/a Paula Rocco to his petition #6 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

COUNT 6
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 13, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on his behalf, knowingly signed the name of Mark Rocco a/k/a Mark Rocco to his petition #6 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff. *Monthofer f/k/a*

COUNT 7
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 13, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on her behalf, knowingly signed the name of Anna Elliott f/k/a Anna Lopez to his petition #6 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

COUNT 8
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 13, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on her behalf, knowingly signed the name of Janelle Sedillo to his petition #6 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

COUNT 9
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 16, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on her behalf, knowingly signed the name of Anita Porter to his petition #38 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

COUNT 10
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 15, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on her behalf, knowingly signed the name of Anita Porter to his petition #97 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

COUNT 11
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 16, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on his behalf, knowingly signed the name of Scott Porter to his petition #38 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

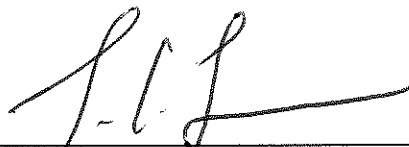
COUNT 12
SIGNING OF PETITIONS VIOLATION

Victor John Varela, during a period of time beginning on or about March 15, 2020, and ending on or about April 6, 2020, knowingly signed any name other than his own to a nomination petition, in violation of A.R.S. §16-1020, 13-707, 13-802, and 16-351(G), a class 1 misdemeanor.

Said conduct occurred when Victor John Varela, without a specific request to sign on his behalf, knowingly signed the name of Scott Porter to his petition #97 for the office of Mayor of Flagstaff.

WILLIAM P. RING
COCONINO COUNTY ATTORNEY

Truebill
Foreperson Writes a True Bill or No Bill

By: 
Todd C. Lawson
Assistant Attorney General


Foreperson of the Grand Jury