



COLORADO COUNTY CLERKS ASSOCIATION

Friday, November 21, 2025

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado
200 E. Colfax Ave
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis:

We, the multi-partisan Colorado County Clerks Association, respectfully ask that you not transfer former Mesa County Clerk Tina Peters to federal custody. We also request an in-person meeting with you prior to any decision, so you can hear directly from the election officials who experienced the consequences of Ms. Peters' actions.

Colorado's clerks, Republicans, Democrats, and unaffiliated, have spent decades building one of the most accessible, secure, and transparent election systems in the nation. They have done so by following the law exactly as written, preserving all required records, maintaining air-gapped and physically secured systems, enforcing chain-of-custody procedures, and working openly with bipartisan judges, canvass boards, and observers. Every clerk in the state adhered to Colorado's meticulous certification, audit, and oversight requirements. These officials did their work with professionalism, accuracy, and integrity, even under tremendous pressure.

Ms. Peters was the one clerk who chose not to. Her actions were not mistakes or misunderstandings; they were deliberate violations of Colorado law and/or attempts to undermine public trust. Security cameras in restricted election areas were turned off. Unauthorized individuals were brought into secure spaces under falsified credentials. Established safeguards were bypassed, and routine election procedures were misrepresented as evidence of wrongdoing. None of these actions protected her county; instead, they created vulnerabilities where none had existed and forced Mesa County taxpayers to spend millions replacing compromised equipment and responding to the fallout.

A jury of Mesa County residents examined the evidence, weighed the testimony, and convicted Ms. Peters on multiple felonies and misdemeanors, all tied to her own conduct. Her guilt was not a political determination, nor was it based on policy disagreements or election administration philosophy. It was the result of a lawful judicial process rooted in factual evidence and decided by the community she served.

When the events in Mesa County became public, clerks across Colorado stepped forward to explain the truth: the systems had worked, the safeguards had worked, and Ms. Peters' claims were not accurate. For doing so, many clerks and their families, including their children, were subjected to harassment, intimidation, and threats, some credible enough to involve law enforcement. We are deeply concerned that, if transferred, Ms. Peters would continue disseminating the same false narratives that have already endangered clerks throughout Colorado and across the country. Her pattern of knowingly repeating false claims, long after they were disproven, has fueled harassment, threats, and intimidation against the very officials who protected the integrity of our elections.

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The risks to these public servants would only grow if she were allowed to use a new legal narrative to further these falsehoods. These election professionals stood up for the law, for the truth, and for the voters of Colorado. In return, they endured fear for their safety and reputational attacks that continue even today.

To remove Ms. Peters from Colorado custody now, at the urging of political actors outside our state, would send a deeply damaging message to the clerks who upheld their oath under extraordinarily difficult circumstances. It would imply that accountability for violations of Colorado law can be negotiated or avoided, while those who acted honorably were left to face the consequences alone. It would also undermine the work of Colorado's prosecutors, jurors, and judicial system, each of whom fulfilled their responsibilities thoroughly and independently.

Because of the significance of this issue for election officials statewide, we ask that you decline any request to transfer Ms. Peters to federal custody. Colorado's judicial process should be respected, and the sentence imposed by a Colorado court should be carried out under Colorado's authority. Send a message to all Coloradans, to the nation, and to every public servant watching that this state does not abandon those who do what is right. Courage, integrity, and the law still mean something here.

Colorado's clerks have demonstrated extraordinary courage throughout this challenging period, upholding the law, defending the truth, protecting the election process, and serving voters despite threats, harassment, and intense political pressure. Now, more than ever, they need your support. We now ask you to show that same courage on behalf of the election officials of this state.

Governor, please stand firmly with those who honored their oath, safeguarded our democratic institutions, and protected the rule of law. Doing so will send a powerful message that Colorado does not retreat when the truth is tested. For these reasons, we expect that you will meet personally with Colorado's clerks before any final decision is made. This personal meeting is crucial to ensure that the voices of those who bore the brunt of these events are fully heard.

Respectfully,

The Colorado County Clerks Association

cc:

The Honorable President of the United States
The Honorable Members of the Colorado Congressional Delegation
The Honorable Members of the Colorado General Assembly
The Honorable Attorney General of Colorado
The Honorable Colorado Secretary of State
The Honorable Colorado Treasurer
The Honorable District Attorney of the 21st Judicial District