

LAW OFFICES OF
JAMES T. JENNINGS
916 WALNUT STREET
KANSAS CITY, Mo.

March 20, 1938.

Governor Lloyd C. Stark,
Jefferson City, Mo.

Dear Governor:

I note that some voters have filed petitions, etc., asking for protection on election day. About 1924, I was a deputy election commissioner and was stationed on Independence Avenue in the 1st. Ward for a time. The Democrat precinct captain was urging workers to get the voters in. A man would enter and he, the precinct Captain, would say:

"John Jones. He's a Democrat, mark his ballot."

A Democrat election Judge would mark a ballot that was never at any time in the hands of the John Jones voter. It would be numbered by the same man who marked it, and dropped into the box. This was done with two or three hundred at that precinct that day. I protested to the then election commissioners who came down and saw it, but felt the pressure was too great and gave up trying to stop it. This system is used all over the first and most of the second and third wards, and has been used for many years.

In the last, city, primary just past 509 votes were cast in one precinct here, I'm told, and only ten of those ballots were ever in the hands of the voters.

This is, of course, rank violation of the election laws, but it is the expectation of the machine to use the same method in the election and thus disfranchise the voter by preventing him from any choice in how he votes.

Evangelism will not correct these evils. Only force will establish law and order here. The four commissioners are high class men. So are most bankers and others who are robbed by highwaymen, but their good principles do not save them from robbery.

Sincerely yours,
J. J. Jennings

JTJ-Z.

[P.S. *Unfortunately McKittrick's opinion has hurt.*]