

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[StandWithTina.org](http://StandWithTina.org)

Press enquiries

[TPMedialnquiries@protonmail.com](mailto:TPMedialnquiries@protonmail.com)

## RELEASE DATE

October 21, 2021

## CITIZENS LOSE AGAIN: COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE GRISWOLD STRIPS LOCAL CONTROL OVER ELECTIONS

*A Colorado Supreme Court ruling supports the state stripping power from county officials and citizens. Local election control, administration, and oversight now under Sec State Griswold's power*

**[Mesa County Colorado, October 21, 2021]** – The Colorado Supreme Court declined to hear Clerk Tina Peters' appeal based on last week's ruling in Mesa County. The lower court ruling does not address Secretary of State Griswold's misconduct and potentially illegal action of destroying Mesa County election records which are required by state and federal law to be preserved. The Supreme Court case addresses the legality of whether or not Secretary of State Griswold has the authority to remove a duly elected official from office. The Supreme Court's inaction does not confirm the validity of the legal claims, or act as an endorsement of the lower court's ruling. The Supreme Court simply confirmed legal procedures were followed in the Peters' case.

The implications of the high court's failure to act confirms that last week's ruling in the lower court stands. This means Secretary of State Griswold has successfully circumvented the will of the voters by removing another elected official. This ruling concentrates election power at the state level which is in direct contradiction to the fundamentals of the U.S. Constitution. The electoral structure in the U.S. is designed to be decentralized, administered, and overseen on the local level by citizens in each locality – not state or federally run.

"The inaction of the Colorado Supreme Court is a very unfortunate day for self-government and the balance of power in Colorado. Secretary of State Griswold believes that duly elected County Clerks serve at the pleasure of her and the Secretary of State's Office. The people who voted for their local election officials have been severely violated with this action," in a statement by Clerk Peters.

What spurred Griswold's overreach was that Clerk Peters arranged for forensic images (complete backups) to be taken of the county's election equipment before and after a May 2021 software modification. The equipment modification was performed by the office of Secretary of State Gena Griswold and Dominion Voting Systems. Peters suspected that the update would destroy critical election records that Peters is required by state and federal law to preserve.

Griswold has taken nearly thirty separate campaign donations from Dominion Voting Systems in 2021 alone. This clear conflict of interest raises questions about why Griswold has relentlessly attacked Clerk Peters simply for following the law and upholding her sworn duty as Clerk and Recorder of Mesa County.

In Peters' diligence to protect Mesa County election records, Clerk Peters commissioned a forensic analysis of the backups with the purpose to confirm or deny whether Griswold and Dominion

destroyed election records. The forensic analysis generated a peer-reviewed report by a renowned cyber expert, [Doug Gould](#). The report vindicated Peters' concerns. It showed that some 29,000 critical election records were unequivocally and completely destroyed.

The implications of Griswold and Dominion Voting Systems destroying the election records are serious. Griswold has successfully prevented any future forensic audit of the 2020 election in Mesa County. This creates legal questions for Mesa County citizens. According to Colorado State Law, they have the right to call for and have an audit conducted at any time for twenty-five months. Additional court action is expected to resolve this issue.

[The Mesa County Forensic Image Analysis Report](#) is publicly available as part of the Peters official court filings and at [useip.org](#).

Started by volunteers in Mesa County Colorado, [StandwithTina.org](#) is the official site for news, events, fundraising, and [media enquiries](#) for Clerk Tina Peters.

###