



Updated Statement on DOJ Election Monitors at Wyoming's Primary Elections

Laramie County Clerk Debra Lee - 28 August 2026

I share Governor Gordon's concerns about the "surprise" visit of the Department of Justice election monitors during Wyoming's Primary Election and support his inquiry into the matter. His inquiry is grounded in the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of constitutional authority over our own elections.

The manner in which DOJ executed its monitoring mission was far from transparent and failed to include coordination with me as the chief election officer for Laramie County, WY. A stated purpose of the monitoring mission was to ensure protection of voters. The monitors' actions and line of questioning in Wyoming did not appear to meet that objective. If anything, their presence may make voters think twice about voting at the polls on Election Day.

I hope Governor Gordon's strong stand results in the DOJ operating in a more transparent and professional manner, showing respect for all state and local authorities, and for our voters. Our voters have a right to know if observers or monitors are present in their polling place and what their intentions are.

My advice to my fellow county clerks in Wyoming and to election administrators in other 'red' states is don't think this won't happen to you. Know what the law allows monitors to do and what it does not, and what the monitors' intentions are. Make plans now in case unannounced federal election monitors show up at your polling places on Election Day.

###