

LONE STAR PROJECT

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Pete Olson Likely to Face Voter Fraud Charges

Olson's vote in Connecticut highlights legal trouble and tenuous Texas ties

Documents obtained by the Lone Star Project show that Republican congressional challenger Pete Olson (Texas CD22 – Houston) voted in both the State of Virginia and the State of Connecticut during a five month period in 2003. By remaining on the voter rolls and casting ballots in both states, Olson may have committed voter fraud. Under Virginia law, a person who intentionally registers to vote in Virginia and any other state or territory is guilty of a felony violation.

Olson Voting Records

Pete Olson lived in Virginia until late 2007, when he moved to Texas to run for Congress. While in Virginia, he voted regularly in State and local elections. (Voter File, Virginia Democratic Party; [See the Documents](#).) During much of this same period, Olson also maintained his voter registration in Connecticut. (Newtown, Connecticut, Town Clerk ; [See the Documents](#).) Election documents show that between June and November of 2003, Olson voted in the Virginia Republican Primary, a special election in Newtown, Connecticut and then again in the Virginia General Elections. (Voter File, Virginia Democratic Party; Newtown, Connecticut, Town Clerk)



The Law

Virginia does not allow individuals to register in multiple states. The Virginia election code states clearly that any person who “registers to vote at more than one residence address at the same time, whether such registrations are in Virginia or in Virginia and any other state or territory of the United States ... is guilty of a Class 6 felony.” ([Va. Code Ann. Section 24.2-1004 \(C\)](#)).

[See the Voter Rolls](#)

While Pete Olson resided in Virginia and participated in Virginia elections, he owned property in Connecticut and remained active on the Connecticut voter rolls through at least March 2005. Pete Olson's

presence on the 2003 Connecticut voter rolls and [his vote in Newtown, Connecticut](#), which was followed by his vote in the 2003 Virginia General Election, appears to violate Virginia election law.

Bottom Line

Pete Olson's questionable Connecticut vote and the legal fallout spell trouble for him on at least two fronts:

- Olson's voter fraud controversy reinforces the impression in voters' minds that he is an opportunistic out-of-stater with stronger ties to Yankee New England than the Houston, Texas, Bay Area. Also, it adds to the long list of scandals involving [Houston area Republicans ranging from voter impropriety to outright theft](#).
- After spending the entire 2006 election cycle caught up in the drama of Tom DeLay's legal problems and his shameful retreat from Texas, District 22 voters have seen Nick Lampson build a moderate to conservative voting record while working diligently and effectively on their behalf. They may not be anxious to invite in the type of partisanship and legal drama that an Olson election might bring.

Pete Olson Voting Timeline

Date	Voting History	State
9/6/1996	Olson registers to vote in Newtown, CT. (<i>Federal Post Card Registration and Absentee Ballot Request</i> , Newtown Town Clerk, Received September 4, 1996)	CT
11/5/1996-11/4/1997	Olson votes in 2 general elections in Newtown, CT. (<i>Voter Election History</i> , Peter G. Olson, Newtown Town Clerk, Search conducted April 30, 2008)	CT
2/27/1998	On Olson's <i>Confirmation of Voting Residence Return Form</i> signed 2/27/2005, Olson indicated that he moved out of Newtown, CT to Annandale, VA on this date. (<i>Confirmation of Voting Residence Return Form</i> , Newtown Town Clerk, Received March 3, 2005)	VA
9/3/1998	Olson registers to vote in Fairfax County, VA. (<i>Voter File</i> , Virginia Democratic Party)	VA
11/3/1998-6/10/2003	Olson votes in 7 elections in Fairfax County, VA. (<i>Voter File</i> , Virginia Democratic Party)	VA
8/12/2003	Olson votes in special election in Newtown, CT. (<i>Voter Election History</i> , Peter G. Olson, Newtown Town Clerk, Search conducted April 30, 2008)	CT

11/4/2003- 11/2/2004	Olson votes in 2 general elections in Fairfax County, VA. (<i>Voter File</i> , Virginia Democratic Party)	VA
2/27/2005	Olson signs and returns <i>Confirmation of Voting Residence Return Form</i> indicating that he had moved out of Newtown on 2/27/1998. Gave new address as 8203 Strong Spring Court, Annandale, VA 22003. (<i>Confirmation of Voting Residence Return Form</i> , Newtown Town Clerk, Received March 3, 2005)	VA
6/14/2005- 11/7/2006	Olson votes in 3 Elections in Fairfax County, VA. (<i>Voter File</i> , Virginia Democratic Party; <i>On-site Search of Fairfax County Voter Records</i> , May 2008)	VA
8/17/2007	Olson registers to vote in Fort Bend County, Texas. Gives address as 4018 Weatherfield Ct., Sugarland, TX 77479. Says last location of voter registration in Annandale, VA. (<i>Voter Registration Application</i> , Fort Bend County Elections Administration Division, Certificate #513740, Signed by Olson: August 15, 2007, Effective: August 17, 2007)	TX
11/6/2007- 4/8/2008	Olson votes in 3 elections in Fort Bend County, TX. (<i>Voter History</i> , Fort Bend County Elections Administration Division, Certificate #513740, Search conducted April 23, 2008)	TX

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