Twitter Thread by Marc E. Elias



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■■Our voting rights litigation was instrumental to winning Georgia in the 2020 election. As a result of our lawsuits, over 3,000 ballots were cured statewide. The post-cure rejection rate DECREASED by 6% since 2016. How did we get there?

On behalf of the @dscc, @dccc and @GeorgiaDemocrat, we sued and obtained a favorable settlement with the state regarding #GA's signature matching laws and Gwinnett County's absentee ballot design. Why was this so important? (2/16)

https://t.co/uUW1aSsloW

Up until our settlement, VBM ballots were being thrown out in #GA for no lawful reason due to standard-less signature matching processes that failed to notify voters. As I warned in my #FourPillars, signature matching laws drive disenfranchisement. (3/16)
https://t.co/WDYQQcHTz6

Under the terms of the settlement, #GA agreed to provide prompt notification of absentee ballot rejections and increased signature matching regulations and trainings. Gwinnett County also adopted a clearer absentee ballot envelope design in the settlement. BIG wins!■ (4/16)

Our victory was critical in the face of #COVID19. Like other states, #GA experienced a giant surge in VBM. Our settlement installed stronger guardrails against VBM disenfranchisement and set the tone for what states had to do to protect their voters amid the pandemic. (5/16)

As @staceyabrams shared w/ @DemocracyDocket, "...litigation, including lawsuits by the indefatigable Marc Elias, began to chip away at the superstructure of suppression. Consent decrees created cure options for voters who sought to vote by mail." (6/16)
https://t.co/MNcoiNaiCd

Our #GA litigation shed light on some of the biggest issues facing voters. The below excerpt from one of our cases on long lines shows how poor election administration hits Black, brown and young voters the hardest. (7/16)

- Among polling places where *minorities* made up over 90 percent of registered voters, 36 percent were forced to stay open over one hour past the specified closing time in order to accommodate long lines. In the Atlanta metro area, 45 percent of such polling places were forced to do so. Among polling places where *whites* made up over 90 percent of registered voters, less than 3 percent of polling places were required to stay open late in order to accommodate long lines.
- In polling places where minorities constituted more than 90 percent of active registered voters, the average minimum wait time in the evening was 51 minutes. When whites constituted more than 90 percent of registered voters, the average was around six minutes.