

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Event: Friday rally and march condemns
Republican actions that disenfranchise
people of color, Democrats, and people
likely to vote Democratic.

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Date: Friday, October 29th, 2004

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Pioneer Courthouse Square

**Friday rally and march condemns Republican actions that disenfranchise
people of color, Democrats, and people likely to vote Democratic.**

The *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition's* Friday rally and march strongly condemns the efforts by Republicans to steal elections in the coming November 2nd balloting, reviewing a growing list of actions taken by Republican bosses and functionaries aimed at disenfranchising tens of thousands of Americans. "Whether it has been the outrageous rulings by Ohio's Republican Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell, such as requiring eighty pound weight paper for registration forms, or Jeb Bush's efforts to again purge the Florida voters rolls of black or Hispanic Americans, the Republicans are hard at work to repeat their stealing our national elections," said William Seaman, a volunteer with the PPRC. "The efforts by the Republican Secretary of State of Colorado to exclude provisional ballots in their close Senate race is just one more of these many, rapidly proliferating schemes by Republicans to deprive Americans of their right to vote." The Denver Post recently editorialized against this move by Secretary of State Donetta Davidson.¹

An account of many of these Republican efforts to deprive voting rights to persons likely to vote Democrat has been provided by *New York Times* writer Adam Cohen in a series of articles entitled "Making Votes Count".² "The elections have already been tainted by these outrageous crimes against our democracy, and it only remains to be seen if and how many of the results, including the outcome of the presidential race, are changed by this Republican assault on one of our most basic rights as citizens," said Seaman. "Will the world and the American people suffer another four years with a non-elected man in the White House, or will we challenge this brazen Republican effort to reduce our country to dictatorial despotism?"

1. "Ballot provision may disenfranchise voters", editorial, The Denver Post, Wednesday, September 29, 2004.

2. A transcript of an October 26th interview with Adam Cohen is available at <http://www.democracynow.org/article.pl?sid=04/10/26/144227>