To: States United Action
From: The Mellman Group
Re: Pennsylvanians Acknowledge Reality: Joe Biden Won, And We Don’t Need A New Sham “Investigation”
Date: July 28, 2021

This analysis is based on the findings of a survey of 600 registered voters in Pennsylvania, using a registration-based sample. Interviews were conducted via landline, cell, and text-to-online from July 15-20, 2021. The margin of error for the sample as a whole is +/- 4.0% at the 95% level of confidence (higher for subgroups). This survey was conducted on behalf of States United Action, a section 501(c)4 organization.

Our just-completed survey reveals that Pennsylvania voters oppose the potential new sham “investigation” proposed by State Senator Doug Mastriano and believe President Joe Biden was the legitimate election winner, while few voters support current efforts to undermine the results.

In one of the nation’s most closely divided states, where Joe Biden won by less than one percentage point:

- Seventy-four percent (74%) of Pennsylvania voters have heard at least a bit about the proposed investigation.

- Those voters believe the audit cannot be trusted by a fourteen-point margin (47% to 33%). After everyone hears more background information,¹ voters say they will trust the official vote count already certified by Pennsylvania’s election officials more than the results from this new investigation by a fifteen-point margin (53%-38%).

- The most concerning aspects to respondents of Mastriano’s so-called “audit” were the need for a Republican Party that works in the best interest of Pennsylvanians and isn’t embroiled in division over a settled election (45% very convincing as a reason to oppose the investigation, 13% somewhat convincing),² the fact that Pennsylvania counties

1 “Just so we are on the same page, State Senator Doug Mastriano recently sent letters to three Pennsylvania counties asking them to send election-related equipment and materials ‘needed to conduct a forensic investigation’ of the 2020 election and 2021 primary. Mastriano requested that the counties send him every single ballot, mail ballot applications, mail ballot envelopes, voting machines, vote-counting equipment, ballot production equipment, poll books, personal information about each voter, all security passwords, and computer equipment used in the election.”

2 “Pennsylvania needs a Republican Party that will work in the best interests of Pennsylvania, not one embroiled in division over an election that has already been settled. It is in the best interest of the Republican Party – and our state – to move on and
confirmed the results were accurate through audits required by state law (45% very convincing, 12% somewhat convincing),\(^3\) the lack of transparency and security surrounding the investigation (44% very convincing, 10% somewhat convincing),\(^4\) and the cost to taxpayers of replacing voting machines due to potential security breaches resulting from this investigation (41% very convincing, 12% somewhat convincing).\(^5\)

- By a nineteen-point margin (57% to 38%), Pennsylvania voters believe that Biden won the election in Pennsylvania.

- By fourteen points, Pennsylvanians believe Biden won fairly, not because of fraud (55% to 41%).

- By a similar margin (53% to 37%), Pennsylvanians believe that there was not enough fraudulent voting to change the outcome of the election in the Commonwealth.

In summary, Pennsylvania voters acknowledge that Biden won the election and express serious reservations about a new “investigation.” Opponents of the audit are most convincing when they communicate about a divisive state leadership focused on the wrong issues, the legitimate audits required by state law which already confirmed the results, and the lack of transparency and security surrounding the new investigation. In a state that saw very narrow margins in the presidential election in 2020, a clear majority correctly believe Joe Biden legitimately won the state.

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\(^3\) “After the election, Pennsylvania counties completed the post-election audit required by state law, and it confirmed that the results were accurate. This is a settled issue.”

\(^4\) “There are no answers to many basic questions about how this investigation would be conducted. We don’t even know where the voting machines and ballots would be stored, who would have access to this sensitive information, what security precautions would be in place, or even who would actually conduct the investigation. For all we know, millions of ballots and other private voter information could be stored in a random garage, unsecured.”

\(^5\) “Pennsylvania’s Secretary of State warned that this investigation would break state rules for properly securing the voting machines and potentially reveal to hackers how Pennsylvania’s voting machines work. As result, these counties would have to throw out these voting machines and purchase new ones, costing taxpayers millions of dollars.”