

To: Relevant Parties
From: John Yob, CEO of Strategic National
Date: March 26th, 2024
Re: Electoral Impact of Illegal Immigrant Murder

It is never easy to comment on the political or electoral impacts of tragedy. But it is a necessary role of pollsters and political analysts to determine the impacts of current events on our political system. Tragedy struck Grand Rapids in West Michigan very hard this week, and the impact on Michigan politics and the national election is undeniable. This tragedy is going to change Michigan's electoral outlook and quite possibly impact the entire country.

Media Attention

Some members of the media make the interesting choice to hide the fact that some murderers are illegal immigrants when reporting the news. It is unfortunate that they proactively choose to leave out such a relevant fact. Luis Fabian Bernal-Sosa was convicted of first-degree on February 7th. The case received relatively little media attention and few if any reported his status. However that is likely to change. He was scheduled to be sentenced tomorrow March 27th, and that has now been moved to April 17th. This story will continue.

The alleged murder of Ruby Garcia on March 24th by illegal immigrant Brandon Ortiz-Vite is receiving a very significant amount of national media attention and put this issue immediately on the forefront. The issue of **illegal immigrants murdering people in Grand Rapids is now a national story** that will not go away any time soon.

President Trump Successfully Realigned Michigan Electoral Politics in 2016

President Trump was able to win Michigan in 2016 for the first time in nearly three decades because he single-handedly and successfully realigned the electoral makeup of the state. He overperformed in blue-collar areas of the state such as Macomb County, Mid-Michigan, and Northern Michigan. He earned the votes of autoworkers and working families taking that coalition away from the Democrats and leaving them as the liberal elitist party of the East and West Coasts.

The downside of that successful realignment included underperforming in historically strong Republican territories such as Kent County in West Michigan and Southeast Michigan's Oakland County. The 2000 and 2004 campaigns included the famous term "soccer moms" to describe more establishment Republicans. Candidates such as George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush prioritized and appealed to these voters with varying degrees of success despite the difficult issue of abortion. Their strategy worked well in bringing traditional establishment West Michigan voters to the Republican column. But they ultimately failed as statewide candidates in Michigan because of their underperformance with blue-collar working families.

2024 is the Year Traditional Republicans Come Home in West Michigan

The massive problem at the border and corresponding media attention is now on the verge of turning these "soccer moms" into "security moms" in West Michigan and changing their

perspective in the Presidential race. The heat of the immigration crisis is going to turn to a boil this week as attention builds on the sentencing of Bernal-Sosa and today's arrest of Ortiz-Vite for murder. One case is a terrible tragedy, two cases is an unacceptable trend that voters will not easily accept. Simply put, the immigration crisis is likely to move historically centrist Republicans in West Michigan who were torn in recent Presidential elections firmly into President Trump's corner.

The Unfortunate Truths

There have been not one - but two - alleged murders by illegal immigrants in recent months. The alleged murderer arrested today - Ortiz-Vite - was deported by President Trump in September of 2020 and somehow he got back into the country thereafter. Making matters worse, Kent County Michigan is a sanctuary county. Suburban families, even as far north as West Michigan, are now finding out that the **open southern border is in their backyard** - and they don't like it. They are about to hear about it over and over again in the media.

Impact of Change in West Michigan

As you can see from the data in the appendix, just a small shift in sentiment from traditional 1990's style Republicans in West Michigan would move Michigan's electoral votes back to President Trump. The ripple effect of the media attention will also impact "security moms" in areas of the state such as Oakland County and Traverse City, quite possibly moving Michigan out of reach for President Biden.

Conclusion

The immigration issue hitting home in West Michigan is going to fundamentally change the outlook of the 2024 election and **put Michigan more firmly in President Trump's corner**. Because of Biden's failed immigration policies, this is likely to play out in other states and across the country - a prime example of which is Georgia, after the murder of nursing student Laken Riley in February.

Immigration is once again the most determinative issue in national electoral politics, and critical **Grand Rapids, Michigan is now ground zero** for the presidential race.

Appendix: The Numbers

Key County Analysis: Kent, Oakland, Grand Traverse

Kent County Michigan

2016 (*Trump Recvd MI Electoral Votes*)

2020 (*Biden Recvd MI Electoral Votes*)

Trump	Clinton	Trump	Biden
148,180	138,683	165,741	187,915

The murder occurred in Grand Rapids, the second largest city in Michigan, and the major city in Kent County, Michigan. Trump won Kent County by roughly 10,000 votes in 2016. He lost Kent

County by roughly 22,000 votes in 2020. Changing the electoral makeup of this single county in 2024 changes the outlook of Michigan, and the ripple effect in similar counties such as Grand Traverse and Oakland, puts Michigan firmly back in President Trump's column.

Oakland County Michigan 2016

Trump
289,203

Clinton
343,070

2020

Trump
325,971

Biden
434,148

The deficit in Oakland County was roughly 54,000 votes in 2016 and was roughly 110,000 votes in 2020.

Grand Traverse County Michigan 2016

Trump
27,413

Clinton
20,965

2020

Trump
30,502

Biden
28,683

The surplus in Grand Traverse County was roughly 7,000 votes in 2016 but was reduced to 2,000 votes in 2020.

RCP Average for 2024 (Pre-Murder)

Several recent polls have been released by a variety of credible pollsters show that President Trump already led in Michigan prior to the attack.

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	1/2 - 3/18	—	—	47.4	43.9	Trump +3.5
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	3/8 - 3/12	698 RV	4.0	45	45	Tie
MIRS/Mitchell Research	3/15 - 3/16	627 LV	3.9	47	44	Trump +3
CNN	3/13 - 3/18	1097 RV	3.6	50	42	Trump +8
The Hill/Emerson	3/14 - 3/18	1000 RV	3.0	50	50	Tie
Quinnipiac	3/8 - 3/12	1487 RV	2.5	48	45	Trump +3
EPIC-MRA	2/13 - 2/18	600 LV	4.0	45	41	Trump +4
FOX News	2/8 - 2/12	1106 RV	3.0	47	45	Trump +2
Detroit News	1/2 - 1/6	600 LV	4.0	47	39	Trump +8

##