

## True Texas Project

*This extremist, anti-government group promotes a variety of fringe beliefs, from misrepresenting conservation efforts as 'land grabs' to lies about voter fraud and racist, anti-immigrant conspiracy theories.*

**Summary:** True Texas Project is an extremist, anti-government group identified by the Southern Poverty Law Center as being part of the “antigovernment movement.” The group opposes the Biden Administration’s [America the Beautiful Conservation initiative](#) that aims to conserve 30% of lands and waters by 2030, and invited its leading critic, Margaret Byfield, to [speak](#) at an event.

True Texas Project is run by Fred and Julie McCarty, who are married. Julie McCarty has been criticized for sympathizing with [the El Paso shooter](#) who massacred 23 people in a racially-motivated attack on a Walmart store.

The True Texas Project frequently spreads [racism](#) and promotes the “replacement theory” that falsely claims Democrats want to replace white Americans with immigrants from Mexico. In 2021, a man involved with True Texas Project [shouted](#), “white power” at an Asian City Council candidate.

Additionally, True Texas Project promoted the [lies about voter fraud](#) in the 2020 election and expressed sadness that January 6<sup>th</sup> [insurrectionists](#) didn’t succeed in stopping the certification of the 2020 election.

Our detailed report can be found below:

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### **BACKGROUND:**

*The True Texas Project Is An Anti-Government Extremist Group Promoting Far-Right Policies And Political Candidates.*

**The True Texas Project Is Recognized As An Anti-Government Group By The Southern Poverty Law Center.** “Candidates in the Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District, also in Tarrant County, had the support of the True Texas Project, which was recently deemed an anti-government group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.” [*Texas Observer*, [05/13/22](#)]

- **True Texas Project Was Previously Called The NE Tarrant Tea Party.** “Julie McCarty founded NE Tarrant Tea Party in 2009, and it quickly became the most influential, active, and recognized tea party in Texas. [...] In 2019 the group

rebranded to True Texas Project, reflecting an expanded vision and reach." [True Texas Project, About, accessed [02/08/24](#)]

**True Texas Project's Focus Is "Holding Elected Republicans To Account For Conservative Priorities."** "If there is a difference between the group then and now, it is that the True Texas Project is less focused on promoting new candidates and more focused on holding elected Republicans to account for conservative priorities, Rhodes said." [Texas Tribune, [02/03/22](#)]

*The True Texas Project Hosts A Certification Program To Give People "Training To Carry Out Our Mission."*

**True Texas Project Hosts A "Certified True Texan Program" To Give Texas "The Training To Carry Out Our Mission."** "You may think you're a True Texan, but now here's your chance to prove it! We started the "Certified True Texan Program" because we believe it should mean something when you say it. Every Texan should receive the training to carry out our mission, which states, "True Texas Project exists to educate and motivate citizens to get involved in all areas of government"." [True Texas Project, Certified True Texas Program, accessed [06/08/22](#)]

*The True Texas Project's PAC Gave \$274,070 To Texas Politicians From 2012 To 2022.*

**The True Texas Project PAC Gave \$274,070 To Texas Politicians Since 2012.** [Texas Ethics Commission, True Texas Project PAC, accessed [06/08/22](#)]

*The True Texas Project Is Led By Husband And Wife Julie And Frank McCarty And Group President Fran Rhodes.*

**Julie McCarty Is The CEO Of The True Texas Project.** [True Texas Project, About, accessed [05/25/22](#)]

**Fred McCarty Is The True Texas Project's PAC President And Treasurer.** [True Texas Project, About, accessed [05/25/22](#)]

- **Fred And Julie McCarty Operate A Real Estate Business.** "Outside her life in politics, McCarty operates a real estate business with her husband and home schools her daughter." [Texas Tribune, [09/26/15](#)]

**Fran Rhodes Is The President Of The True Texas Project.** "Currently serving as President of True Texas Project, Fran Rhodes first became interested in politics when Obama was elected." [True Texas Project, About, accessed [05/25/22](#)]

**True Texas Project Hosted Conservation Opponent Margaret Byfield**

*Margaret Byfield Spoke About The America The Beautiful Initiative At A True Texas Project Event In August 2022.*

**On August 11, 2022, Margaret Byfield Headlined A True Texas Project Event.** [True Texas Project, Events, accessed [05/25/22](#)]

**True Texas Project Promoted The Event On Facebook And Described It As An Opportunity To Learn About The '30x30 Land Grab.'**  
[Facebook, [08/11/22](#)]

## **Sympathy For White Supremacist El Paso Shooter**

*True Texas PAC President McCarty Said The El Paso Massacre Is "Blow-Back" For "Replac(ing) A Once Proud, Strong People."*

**Fred McCarty Promoted The Great Replacement Conspiracy Theory In Support Of A Gunman That Murder 23 People In A Racist Attack Against Hispanics In El Paso, Texas.** "On Aug. 4, 2019, the day after a gunman who had posted a hateful diatribe against Hispanics fatally shot 23 people at an El Paso Walmart, a leader of a tea party group in Texas said on Facebook: "You're not going to demographically replace a once proud, strong people without getting blow-back."" [Washington Post, [04/23/21](#)]

- **Fred McCarty Continued To Justify The El Paso Shooting, Implying It Was An Understandable Reaction To "Flooding A Place With Foreign Peoples."**  
"Imagine flooding a place with foreign peoples to the point that the native population will become a minority," Fred McCarty wrote in a now-deleted Facebook post, four days after the shooting in El Paso. "Then imagine being shocked at the strife and hostility that results. Imagine."" [Washington Post, [04/23/21](#)]

*True Texas CEO on El Paso Massacre: "...I Certainly Understand Where (The Gunman) Came From."*

**Julie McCarty Supported The Post Saying She "Certainly Understand[s]" The Gunman's Motivations.** "His wife, the founder of the group, in the Fort Worth suburbs of Tarrant County, added in a comment: "I don't condone the actions, but I certainly understand where they came from."" [Washington Post, [04/23/21](#)]

**The El Paso Gunman Targeted Hispanic People In His Attack, Railing Against A "Hispanic Invasion Of Texas."** "The gunman's manifesto had railed against a "Hispanic invasion of Texas," and many of those killed or wounded were Hispanic." [Washington Post, [04/23/21](#)]

*The True Texas Project Hosted An Event For A Far-Right Movement Leader Who Frequently Spews Racist Rhetoric Online*

**True Texas Project Hosted Three Events Featuring Jake Lloyd Colglazier, A Political Staffer And Former Leader In The Far-Right America First Movement.** “Until this week, Jacob Lloyd Colglazier, a 24-year-old former leader within the far-right America First or "groyper" movement, who's better known online as just Jake Lloyd, was advertised as Huffines' deputy communications director for three upcoming events hosted by the True Texas Project.” [*Salon*, [01/19/22](#)]

**Jake Colglazier Touted The Racist Great Replacement Conspiracy Theory, Claiming The US Is “Nearing The Demographic Cliff” In Regards To An Increase Of People Of Color.** “Republican gubernatorial candidate Don Huffines said Wednesday he will not fire a campaign staffer who said on his YouTube channel in 2020 that he wants to “restore historical American culture” by “maintaining a supermajority of the original stock of the United States, and maintaining a homogeneity,” referring to white people. The staffer, Jake Lloyd Colglazier, has previously done fieldwork for the campaign, Huffines said, adding that he will not take any action against Colglazier. On his YouTube channel, Colglazier warned that “we’re nearing the demographic cliff,” a reference to an increase of people of color gaining more political and economic power.” [*Texas Tribune*, [01/20/22](#)]

- **Colglazier Said He “Spit On George Floyd.”** “In another post, he said, “I spit on George Floyd.”” [*Texas Tribune*, [01/20/22](#)]

*A True Texas Project Associate Said "White Power" To An Asian City Council Candidate.*

**A Man Affiliated With The True Texas Project Shouted “White Power” At An Asian City Council Candidate Campaigning.** “A man involved with the True Texas Project, a Tarrant County-based tea party group, said "white power" to an Asian City Council candidate as he campaigned during early voting in Colleyville, according to two witnesses and a video of the incident. [...] Medlin has been involved with Colleyville politics for several years, including with the True Texas Project and candidates affiliated with the True Texas Project. [...] Medlin is featured in pictures on social media at True Texas Project events and wearing a True Texas Project shirt.” [*Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, [04/27/21](#)]

*The True Texas Project Called Victims Of Police Brutality "Felons And Rapists" And Defended Kyle Rittenhouse's Murder Of Black Lives Matter Protesters.*

**True Texas Project Called Victims Of Police Brutality “Felons And Rapists.”** “In a September Facebook post, as National Football League players wore decals bearing the names of victims of racism and police brutality, the group asked: “Why are NFL players

wearing names of felons & rapists on their helmets when they already have them on their jerseys?"” [*Washington Post*, [04/23/21](#)]

**Julie McCarty Said Black People Cannot Be Stopped From “Looting And Destroying” During The 2020 George Floyd Protests.** “Amid last summer’s protests after the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Julie McCarty said on the group’s public Facebook account run by her husband: “We can love black people all day long – all decade long – all our lives long . . . and that will not stop them looting and destroying and feeling justified in doing so.”” [*Washington Post*, [04/23/21](#)]

## **Voter Fraud Disinformation And Defense Of Jan 6th Insurrectionists**

*Fred McCarty Defended Insurrectionists And Still Says That The 2020 Election Was “Stole(n)”*

**Fred McCarty Said The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrectionists “Did Nothing Wrong.”** “The following day, Fred McCarty tweeted, “Capitol Stormers did nothing wrong.”” [*Washington Post*, [04/23/21](#)]

**True Texas Project Believes The 2020 Election Was Stolen From Donald Trump, Relying On An Anti-Semitic Dog Whistle To Fearmonger About Election Integrity.** “In 2020, the Democrats flagrantly stole multiple States that voted for Trump. Despite mountains of evidence of criminal activity, as seen in the movie 2000 Mules, investigations have ranged from insipid to non-existent in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Michigan, and Wisconsin. So who is guarding election integrity in Texas? The Democrats want to pull off the same coup in Texas, and they might succeed. They plan to achieve this through Democrat district attorneys, backed by George Soros, who will turn a blind eye to election fraud in their counties.” [True Texas Project, [05/30/22](#)]