



New Prices Effective May 1, 2010

# Martin Cleaning Service

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Residential & Commercial Services Minimum Service CHG. \$45.00

A small distance/travel charge may be applied

### CARPET CLEANING

2 Cleaning Areas or more \$30.00 Each Area

Pre-Spray Traffic Areas (Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only) \$40.00

Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area (Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs - With Other Services): \$25.00

Area/Oriental Rugs: \$25.00 Minimum

Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool): \$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area: Additional \$10.00 each area (Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

### UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

- Sofa: \$69.00
- Loveseat: \$49.00
- Sectional: \$109 - \$139
- Chair or Recliner: \$25 - \$49
- Throw Pillows (With Other Services): \$5.00

### ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage Services

SEE CURRENT FLYER FOR ADDITIONAL PRICES & SERVICES Call for Appointment (503) 281-3949

# OPINION

Opinion articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Portland Observer. We welcome reader essays, photos and story ideas. Submit to news@portlandobserver.com.



## Misguided Attacks on Voting Rights

### Self-serving politicians threaten democracy

BY BENJAMIN TODD JEALOUS

Our voting rights are under attack. In legislatures across the county, misguided state politicians have proposed, and in too many cases have passed, laws that create obstacles to voting.

Over the last 12 months, 34 states have introduced voter sup-

pression legislation, with laws passing in 14 of those states and bills pending in eight. These suppressive laws take many forms, but in each case they disproportionately impact

people of color, working women, blue-collar workers, students, seniors, and immigrants.

In some states like Wisconsin and Ohio, lawmakers are limiting access to the polls by cutting, or even eliminating, early and

Sunday voting opportunities. These significant cuts force parents, blue-collar workers, students and seniors who do not have the luxury of a flexible schedule to stand in polling lines for as many as eight hours.

In states like South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Texas, politicians have used the threat of voting fraud to move bills requiring voters to acquire government-issued photo identification before they cast a ballot. However, studies show that a person is more likely to be struck by lightning than to impersonate someone in the polling booth.

While states are required to provide photo identification for free, the underlying instruments needed to obtain the identifications, like a certified copy of a birth certificate, can in fact be very expensive. In this way, the new laws become a sort of poll tax for certain individuals.

Other creative voter suppress-

ion measures are making their way into law across the country. They include bills stripping voting rights from rehabilitated criminal offenders, eliminating same-day voter registration or voting, and targeted purging of African Americans and Latinos on registered voter rolls.

These attacks on voter participation mimic those used nearly a century ago in the lead up to the Jim Crow era. The lesson we learned then surely applies today, that an attack on voting rights is merely a gateway to further restrictions on our rights, including our right to organize, our right to clean air, our right to negotiate, and even our right to privacy.

Our democracy is far too important to allow self-serving politicians to suppress the vote. We must defend our rights. We must have our voices heard. We must stand for freedom.

Benjamin Todd Jealous is president and chief executive officer of the NAACP.



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