



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

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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.



Long and Hard Fight for Voting Rights

A battle we thought we had won

BY JUDGE GREG MATHIS

Many in this country, African-Americans specifically, fought long and hard for a free and clear right to vote.

When the Voting Rights Act across the country, we've witnessed

was passed in 1965, we thought we could move on from that battle. Unfortunately, we cannot.



Ever since the 2010 elections, when Republicans lawmakers, fueled by conservative frustration with the Obama administration swept into state and federal legislatures and governor's mansions

nessed a concerted effort to change voting laws throughout the country.

More than a dozen states have enacted new laws that will restrict voters. Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin are among the states that will now require voters to present state-issued ID cards when they vote. In the past, voters have been able to use bank statements, utility bills or even social security cards as identification.

Republicans say the ID laws are needed to fight voter fraud. Democrats, however, say there is no evidence to suggest that these types of laws are needed. They also point out that these restrictions will prohibit seniors, the poor and minorities from voting. Essentially, anyone who doesn't have the money to pay for the state ID, can't easily access a state facility to purchase the ID, doesn't drive, or has had their license confiscated during a traffic stop, will not be able to vote.

Attorney General Eric Holder will take a look at the new voting laws, paying close attention to a Florida law that will, among other things, allow lawmakers to fine

voter registration groups that do not turn in registration forms within 48 hours.

Additionally, Florida has plans to ban early voting on the Sunday before Election Day. This would hamper faith-based get-out-the-vote activities, specifically in African-American communities where pastors usually follow weekly service with voter registration efforts and often organize shuttles to transport worshippers to the polls.

There are many things that, as Americans, we expect to be sacred, and the right to vote is among them. Yet here we are, fighting a battle we thought we had won.

The Voting Rights Act was passed to stop the powers that be from inhibiting the right to vote among poor and minority communities. We must not believe this fight is over, and we must work to ensure these Republican lawmakers do not get their way. If we don't, they will slowly chip away at the rights we fought so hard to gain.

Judge Mathis is a longtime advocate for equal justice. His life story of a street youth who rose from jail to judge has provided hope to millions.

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