

Detroit Free Press

SECOND FRONT PAGE

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Archer camp combs lists

*Supporters say they
have proof of fraud*

DETROIT

By COREY DADE
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

Mayor Dennis Archer deployed supporters to the County Clerk's Office on Friday, armed with documents to challenge more than 40,000 signatures on petitions calling for his ouster.

For Archer to avoid a recall election in August, 63,541 names must be stricken from petitions

turned in by the Black Slate and Community Coalition.

Workers on Archer's anti-recall campaign say they will deliver more evidence of fraudulent petitions over the weekend, as the county staff works to meet a June 8 deadline. By that date, the clerk's office must determine whether there are 57,176 valid signatures to force a vote.

"This is only the beginning," said Greg Bowens, the mayor's press secretary. "When we are done challenging signatures, people will be shocked at the number of misrepresentations there are."

Leonard Speckin, a forensic document analyst whom Ar-

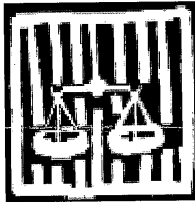
cher's supporters hired, spent Friday peering through a high-powered lens at dates on petitions. On 46 of 79 petitions he reviewed, he found numerous signatures dated in January. The recall drive officially began Feb. 3.

"That is a lot of tampering," said Speckin, whose firm did the same work for Highland Park Mayor Linsey Porter.

"I don't think anything of their challenge," said Bishop Netfa Omowale of the Black Slate. "We're not worried."

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February 8, 2002

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The Encyclopedia of Crime & Punishment is nearing completion and is on schedule for publication in later March or early April. I want to thank you for your valuable contribution and for helping to ensure that the project proceeded smoothly and swiftly. The eighteen months from contract signing to manuscript delivery seems to be a record in reference publishing. Sage is holding up its end by getting Crime & Punishment into print in six months.

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