

REDISTRICTING PROCESS

City of Pensacola Districting Commission

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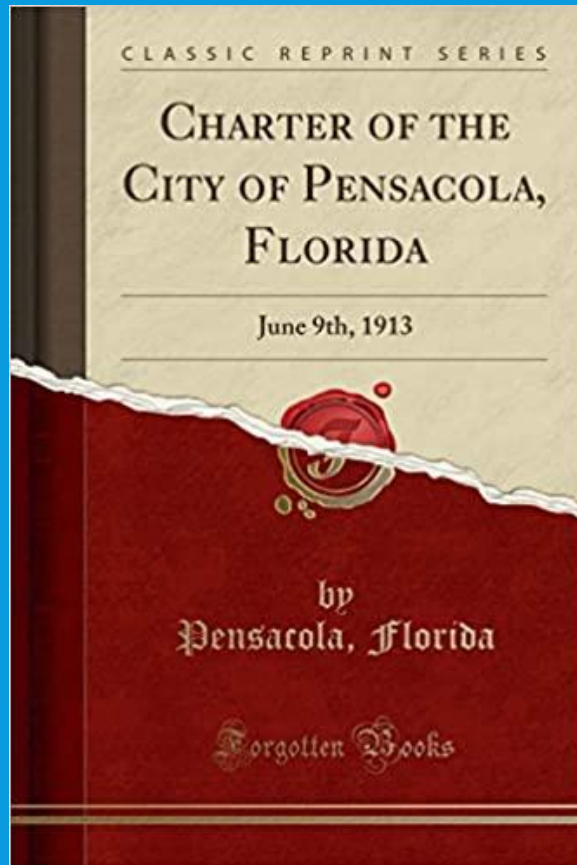
ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE

Supreme Court – 1962

Representative districts should roughly be the same size in population.

Population should be the most significant factor per the 14th Amendment.

CITY CHARTER



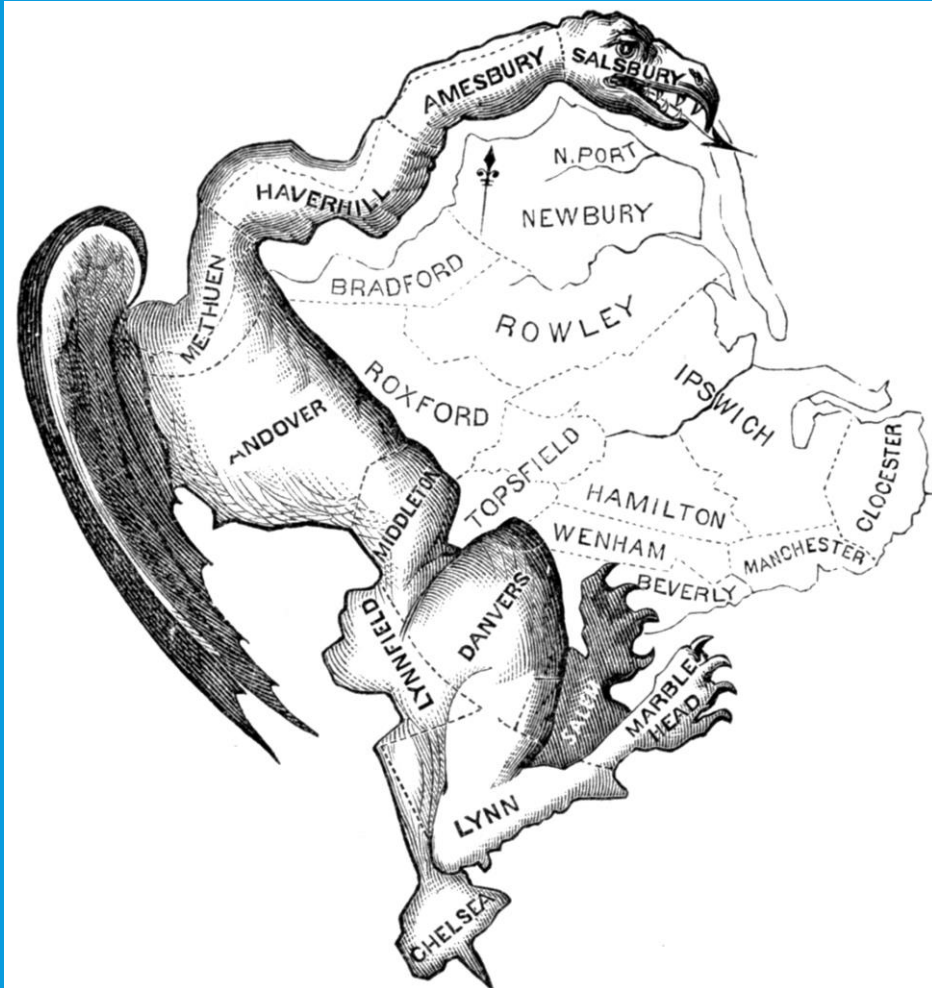
Requires that no such deviation may exceed five percent (5%) of the average population for all City Council districts.

OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER



- Non dilution of minority voting strength
- Census Blocks
- Compactness
- Contiguity
- Preservation of communities of interest
- Recognition of significant boundaries

GERRYMANDERING



Racial gerrymandering is a prohibited action of intentionally dividing districts on the basis of race.

STRICT SCRUTINY

- A constitutional standard
- If an action may infringe upon a fundamental constitutional right, such as voting rights, government must have a “compelling state interest.”
- The action must be narrowly tailored to accomplish that interest.
- The least restrictive means must be used to accomplish that interest.
- This is the most stringent level of scrutiny; laws reviewed using strict scrutiny are frequently ruled unconstitutional.



CONCLUSION

- Regardless of whether it is being used positively or negatively, if race becomes a predominate reason for the decision making, it is not permissible without a compelling state interest and sufficient narrow tailoring along with the least restrictive means to accomplish the goal such that it meets the strict scrutiny test.