

NBC Nightly News with Tom Llamas

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6:31:06 p.m. [TEASE]

14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Shakeup in L.A. Mayoral Race]

TOM LLAMAS: Los Angeles's mayoral race shake-up. Reality star Spencer Pratt slipping to third place. President Trump spreading new baseless claims of election fraud. Why he walked out of his interview with our Kristen Welker.

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6:39:32 p.m.

2 minutes and 47 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Shakeup in L.A. Mayoral Race]

LLAMAS: Back here in the states, all eyes are on L.A. There are growing unfounded claims tonight of fraud in the mayoral election. It comes as Republican Spencer Pratt lost ground as late mail-in ballots are counted. President Trump now also pushing claims of fraud, but putting forward no evidence. Here is Liz Kreutz.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Spencer Pratt Now in Third Place in L.A. Mayor's Race]

LIZ KREUTZ: Tonight in California, there are still counting votes nearly a week after Election Day. In the L.A. mayor's race, former reality TV star Spencer Pratt now overtaken for second place by progressive City Councilwoman Nithia Romet, who appears poised to face Democratic Mayor Karen Bass in the fall runoff. We spoke to Bass tonight. [TO BASS] Is this now a two-way race between you and the city councilwoman?

MAYOR KAREN BASS (D): Well, I don't know. I mean, we will wait to see. It certainly looks that way.

KREUTZ: Pratt, the Republican political outsider, who ran after losing his home in the Palisades fire and surged late with viral ads railing against the city's leadership.

SPENCER PRATT [in ad]: This is where I live. They let my home burn down.

KREUTZ: Tonight, Pratt's saying there's still hundreds of thousands of votes outstanding. The GOP gubernatorial candidates, Steve Hilton, blasting the process.

STEVE HILTON [on FNC, 06/07/26]: This election shambles this fiasco where they're saying is going to be like another month before we know the result fully. It's just an example of how these

people can't run anything properly.

KREUTZ: The L.A. County registrar pushing back.

LA COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER & COUNTY CLERK DEAN LOGAN: Our job is to make sure that we process this ballots correctly, securely, accurately, and that does take time.

KREUTZ: He says California's universal vote-by-mail system causes delays. Mail-in ballots are counted so long as they're postmarked by Election Day and arrive a full seven days after the election. President Trump, now raising unsubstantiated claims to voter fraud with NBC's Kristen Welker.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: I think it's inappropriate that they have an election and five days later, they're nowhere close to picking the window.

KRISTEN WELKER [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: They're local officials acknowledge they are slow. They're urging —

TRUMP [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: No, they're crooked.

KREUTZ: After nearly an hour, including delays for rain, the President ending the interview during a back and forth about election integrity.

WELKER [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]:all the way —

TRUMP [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: I sat in the rain with you for an hour.

WELKER [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: — to Wisconsin.

TRUMP [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: On and off in the rain, and I've given you enough time. You ought to straighten out your press, because you know what?

WELKER [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: Mr. President —

TRUMP [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: A country can never be great with a dishonest press.

WELKER [on NBC's *Meet the Press*, 06/07/26]: — we traveled all — listen. We traveled all the way to Wisconsin for this interview.

LLAMAS: Liz Kreutz joins us now live from L.A.'s ballot processing center. Liz, we can see right there behind you why this is taking so long. Each one of those mail-in ballots are being processed by hand?

KREUTZ: Yeah, that's right. This is just one of the steps in this very long process. You can see

the workers here opening up all of the ballots, and then they make their way over here, Tom, to the highly secure tally room. There is no internet, no unauthorized personnel allowed in there. Officials say part of the delay is that more than 80 percent of all the ballots processed so far in this race are vote-by-mail. Tom.

LLAMAS: More than 80 percent. Okay, Liz Kreutz for us. Liz, thank you.