

Good evening,

My name is Carol Montana and I was a member of the 2009/2010 Census team.

I'd like to share with you some of the problems the team had with that census, which I hope will serve as a warning as to why getting a complete count might be impossible if these same problems have not been fixed.

In 2009, the team was trained and sent out to "mapspot." This involved standing in front of main door of a residence and placing a spot on a handheld computer. This information was then supposed to be transferred to another team tasked with placing those residences on a map, so that we would have accurate locations for the next phase.

Upon starting the next phase, the team found that many of the residences were still in the wrong spot and that our work had not been used to update correct locations. This led to some census takers being unable to find certain houses, since some were as much as a quarter mile from the location stated on the uncorrected maps.

Another problem was the fact that in this county the census forms were delivered not mailed. The team was

sent out to deliver census forms to places that we knew - because we live here - were summer residences. We wasted a great deal of time knocking on doors that we knew for a fact were not going to be answered. We were even instructed to staple the census form to a tree if we couldn't enter the property because there was two feet of snow on the ground, and we couldn't locate the driveway.

This was a complete waste of time.