GOVERNMENT
OF

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 13, 2024

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The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Videoconference, pursuant to notice at 9:30 a.m. EST, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY THOMPSON, Chair KARYN GREENFIELD, Member J.C. BOGGS, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Director
TERRI STROUD, General Counsel
CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Office of
Campaign Finance
MARISSA CORRENTE, Registrar of Voters

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## P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (9:32 a.m.)

CHAIR THOMPSON: Good morning, everybody. see Ι have a couple dozen we participants by Zoom. Welcome. And welcome to everybody here. Been a while since all three Board members have been here together, welcome.

My name is Gary Thompson, the Chair of the D.C. Board of Elections. Before I call the meeting to order, I wanted to make a few remarks about Michael Gill, our former Board member. I think as most everybody knows, Mike tragically passed away recently. And we miss him dearly, and our thoughts and our condolences continue to go out to his family and his friends.

Mike sat up here and at our prior location through dozens, maybe hundreds, of Board meetings; I'm not sure how many over the course of seven years. And engaged in so many ways with our commission at the Board of

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Elections to better our democracy and keep our elections strong. And the success of our BOE is, in many respects, one of his legacies.

We thank him deeply for his public service. And we know that Mike had so many successful parts of his life, first and foremost his family life, but in his profession, at his job, and at his church, and in so many of his endeavors throughout life.

And among those many successes was his time here at the Board of Elections. always remember him and celebrate Mike, and go forward and fulfill our mission with Mike in So, before we into formal mind. jump the wanted to call for agenda, I а moment silence, about one minute. People can reflect and pray or send their best wishes to family in silence, thank you.

(Moment of silence.)

CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you everybody. With that we will -- oh, and I mentioned this recently when I appeared before

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in Oversight hearing, our t.hat. are dedicating our 2024 election season to Mike So, we'll think of him in everything we We'll surely mention him many times as we go forward in our meetings. We'll certainly think of him very much on evenings when our election results come in, when Mike а really big part of the team here.

So, I want everybody to know that our 2024 election season is dedicated to Mike Gill. And we're also thinking about other ways to remember Mike. His funeral is Friday. And after that passes, we're going to think about some ways perhaps we can create some lasting institutional memory or ways of remembering Mike here.

Okay, so, with that, we have a quorum. All three Board members are here. The first thing we do is adopt our agenda. It's been distributed, and a notice to the public. And at this time, I would move we adopt our agenda.

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1	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Second.
2	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right, all in
3	favor. Aye.
4	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
5	MEMBER BOGGS: Aye.
6	CHAIR THOMPSON: It's adopted. We
7	also circulated our minutes from our January
8	10th meeting. We've all had a chance to review
9	those and make any corrections if needed. And
10	at this time, I would move that we adopt those
11	minutes.
12	MEMBER BOGGS: Second.
13	CHAIR THOMPSON: All in favor?
14	MEMBER BOGGS: Aye.
15	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
16	CHAIR THOMPSON: Any Board matters
17	that anyone wants to raise before we carry on?
18	(No response.)
19	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay, all right, so
20	with that, onto the Executive Director's Report
21	from Monica Evans.
22	MS. EVANS: Thank you and good

Executive Director's Report morning. January 2024, I will begin with January engagements. In January I attended the Joint Election Official Liaison Conference οf I was able to engage with other Virginia. elections officials and staff members from the Hill. Cyber-security, election funding, and mail security were some of the topics highlighted.

On January 30, at the request of the Election Assistance Commission's Vice Chair, I was a panelist for the EAC and the University of Maryland's 2024 election summit. My panel was entitled "Serving All Voters" and covered experience with military voters, our voters with disabilities, student voters, and language-minority voters. Ι was able provide insight regarding voting practices of special populations within the District of Columbia, to a national audience.

2024 Performance Oversight, our Performance Oversight hearing was scheduled for

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February 7. We provided written responses to the Performance Oversight questions on January 31. Particular areas of interest included implementation of the local Voter Rights

Amendment Act, precinct mapping, and preparations for the 2024 election cycle.

Precinct mapping, as required by our regulations, the Board looked at our current precinct boundaries to divide the district into appropriate voting precincts based on our election wards. Our plan to make precinct boundaries synonymous with SMD boundaries, was went to Councilmember Bonds for review on November 7th.

We've had several meetings with the Councilmember and her staff, to explain modifications based on the new requirements of the Elections Modernization Amendment Act.

We're currently awaiting action from the Council.

ANC vacancies, we currently have 11 ANC vacancies for the 2023/2025 term. These

positions are in different stages of being filled. Of course, after the candidate filling requirements are met, an open vote of registered voters of the affected SMD, will be held during regularly scheduled ANC meetings.

List maintenance, previously as reported, our 2023 list maintenance process is we removed ongoing. In total, 108,698 individuals from our voter registry in 2023. We've moved another 92,772 active voters to an inactive status. We will continue move voters from an active to an inactive status, until reach the 90-day-blackout window we before the June primary.

Communications Our and Outreach Divisions are working to establish partnerships with local universities to aid and maintain the accuracy of our voter roll. These divisions to utilize university are identifying ways registrars, alumni associations, and housing offices in the process. A flyer is being developed to assist with our outreach efforts.

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Voter registration rolls, in January we registered 4,359 new voters, and processed 5,415 registration changes. In total, we prepared 9,774 voter registration cards to be mailed. Additionally, 519 registered voters moved out of D.C. and 29 voters cancelled their registrations and registered with other jurisdictions. And 1,150 voters registered in D.C., after cancelling their registrations in other states.

Online voter registration, we're continuing to register voters using our website portal. To date, we have processed over 42,000 applications using the portal. These new voter registrations and updates to -- these are new voter registrations and updates to existing voter registrations.

2024 election cycle year planning,
our draft, primary and general election
calendars for the 2024 election cycle are
posted on our website. Our vote center and
mail ballot drop-off locations are also posted

on our website. The first day for candidate pickup was Friday, January 12th. Nominating petitions may be returned from January 12th through March 6th, 2024.

vendor, the installation and testing of the two new DS950 tabulation units have been successfully completed. Onsite training was conducted by ESNS, on January 30th, 2024.

KNOWiNK, regularly meeting we are with KNOWiNK as prepare for the 2024 we election cycle. Current conversations are primarily focused on testing the workflow for processing non-citizens in our poll pads. are also working with Runbeck to coordinate the shipment of the new Agilis mail sorter. expected delivery time is approximately eight weeks.

For our mail house vendor, the contract for our mail house vendor has been granted to K&H Printing Company, located in Seattle, Washington. In conjunction with our

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K&H engagement, we are meeting with our additional election security partners, including BallotTrax, Democracy Live, and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Election Registration Information

Center, or ERIC, we are collaborating with the

membership states and ERIC on the 2022 Voter

Participation Initiative to investigate the

possibility of double voting.

Local Resident Voting Rights

Amendment Act, there are -- systems provide a

database solution to house non-citizens who

registered to vote in local elections. We have

deployed the online registration of non
citizens for local elections.

However, non-citizens may also continue to register to vote in our office at 1015 Half Street, SE, using a paper registration form. The paper form has been translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Amharic, and French. The translations for the online form are in progress. We have

developed a flyer to assist with our outreach efforts, and we are exploring the possibility of having a town hall.

election cycle, all registered D.C. voters, will receive a mail-in ballot. Voters may vote by mail, in person, or by depositing a ballot in a drop box. BOE will have 55 mail ballot drop boxes that will be placed throughout the city. We will also operate 25 early-vote centers and a total of 75 election day vote centers.

Accessibility, we are conducting an accessibility survey of all 2024 vote centers before the primary election, to ensure they are accessible. We have partnered with Disability Rights at University of Legal Services and the Office of Disability Rights to conduct surveys. As is our practice, we will also work with DGS to ensure vote centers are structurally accessible.

Election Worker Division, the

Election Worker Training Division has revised the election worker handbook and training curriculum based on recently passed legislation. The handbook is currently with the printer. During the 2024 election cycle, our goal is to recruit and train between 2000 and 2500 election workers.

We will deploy approximately 1,700 election workers to serve at our vote centers. Election worker training will begin on Tuesday, March 12th, 2024. Election workers are also able to access an online training module to compliment the required in person classes. And we are currently conducting interviews for our election worker training classes.

Voter Education and Outreach, during the month of January, the Voter Education and Outreach Division conducted five outreach events on behalf of the Agency. Events included, the Naturalization Ceremony at the U.S. District Court, and the D.C. Army National Guard Career Fair. Outreach event requests are

increasing as we get closer to the primary election. And that concludes my report.

CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thank you, Director Evans. And perhaps you heard we're in the period now where this, but candidates submitting their nominating are declarations of petitions and candidacy. Yesterday was the first day for those papers to be dropped off. And March 6th is the last day for declarations and nominating petitions to be submitted.

So, we are building a ballot. There's a challenge process that follows that, but by Friday, April 12th, when the public lottery is conducted to determine ballot positions, we will have a ballot for the primary election. So, that's only two months away.

There's a very clear and regimented process for how this happens. And I'm always impressed with our Board of Elections staff, because they have to keep pace with a series of

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deadlines that do not change. They can't be deferred. We can't say, oh, well, let's push this one off to next week.

All of it is driven by law, and our calendar is online. And when I look at it, I'm amazed. For example, you look at it, there are deadlines on March 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 18th, April 5th, 8, 11, and 12th leading up to that public lottery on the ballot positions. And then after that it's, you know, nearly every day, all the way through June.

So, it's a fast-moving cycle with an incredible amount of detail involved for our 60 plus brilliant election professionals to handle. So, our continuing thanks go out to Monica Evans, our Director, and everybody else, who every day is working so hard to make all of this happen.

And I'm pleased to report, as I did at our Oversight hearing, that it's going extremely well at the Board of Elections. We are on pace. We are energized. And we have no

concerns or issues that are in our way to achieving these objectives. So, you know, as far as our oversight goes, I think we're an A+.

And I said as much, and I think we demonstrated as much at our Oversight hearing. That we are the finest election agency in the country, so.

With that, we'll proceed with our General Counsel's Report from Terri Stroud.

MS. STROUD: Good morning, everyone. The first item on my agenda is the issuance of the petition and support of the recall of Charles Allen, Ward 6 Member of the Council of the District of Columbia. By way of background, the Notice of Intent to Recall was timely filed on January 18th, 2024, by Jennifer M. Squires, qualified registered elector who resides in Ward 6.

Charles Allen filed a response to the Notice of Intent to Recall on January 29th, 2024. Both his statement and support of the recall, and the statement in response to such statement will be on the petition that will be

circulated in support of the recall.

today, with respect to this matter is the issuance of the petition form, subsequent to its adoption by the proposer. The Board staff has prepared and is prepared to issue to the proposer an original petition form for her adoption. And she was provided a courtesy draft of the original petition form for her review prior to the meeting.

The proposer was informed on February 1st, 2024, that the issuance of the petition form would take place at today's meeting. The proposer responded that she could not attend today's meeting. The proposer was then advised that the issuance of the petition could be deferred to the Board's March meeting, which is currently scheduled for March 6th.

She was also informed that under Section 403 of the Board's regulations, any person or party in a Board proceeding, may be represented by any other person duly authorized

in writing to do so, provided that such authorization shall state specifically, that the authorization includes the power of the agent or representative to bind the person, or proposer in this case, in the matter before the Board.

On February 7th, the proposer provided a letter to the Board in which she authorized April Brown, the treasurer of the Recall Committee, to adopt the petition on her behalf. This morning, a representative from the Office of General Counsel sent a draft of the recall petition to both the proposer and her agent in this proceeding, April Brown, for review.

So, the adoption, through adopting this form, we're asking the proposer through her authorized agent to adopt the form. And what they should look at is whether the information that they provided on the recall, their name, the statement of reasons to recall, their address, et cetera, is correctly and

1	accurately reflected on the petition form
2	prepared by the Board.
3	If that information is not correct,
4	the proposer or the agent in this matter,
5	should advise the Board accordingly. And so, I
6	see today, that we have April Brown present.
7	If you could unmute her. Ms. Brown, okay.
8	MS. BROWN: Yes.
9	MS. STROUD: Ms. Brown, you are
10	present?
11	MS. BROWN: I'm present. Hello, how
12	are you?
13	MS. STROUD: How are you? And if
14	you could just state your name and address for
15	the record.
16	MS. BROWN: Yes, my name is April
17	Brown, and my address is 54 Buchanan Street,
18	NE, Washington, D.C. 20011.
19	MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you. And
20	so, it is the Board's understanding, based on
21	the information that we sent, specifically, the
22	authorization provided by Ms. Squires, that you

1 will be acting as her agent in this adoption of 2 the petition this morning. Is that correct? 3 MS. BROWN: Correct, yes. MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you. 4 5 you had the opportunity to review the petition? 6 MS. BROWN: Yes, ma'am. I've 7 reviewed it. General Counsel sent it to me 8 this morning. 9 is the MS. STROUD: Okay. And 10 information that is reflected on the petition, 11 the proposer's name, the statement of reasons 12 to recall, the address, et cetera, is that 13 correctly and accurately reflected on the 14 petition form? 15 MS. BROWN: Yes, everything 16 correct, ma'am. 17 MS. STROUD: Okay. Thank you. at this point, I'll have the Chair ask whether 18 19 or not you adopt the petition as -- whether you 20 adopt the petition on behalf of the proposer 21 for issuance in support of the recall of Mr. 22 Allen.

MS. BROWN: Okay.

CHAIR THOMPSON: So, I pass along the question.

MS. BROWN: Yes, we, I am adopting the petition for the proposer, yes. Everything is correct on the form.

MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR THOMPSON: And just so people understand, this is what voters see, they're asked to sign a petition. This is the words on the form, whether you want to sign it or don't want to sign it. This has all been, know, vetted and now adopted by what the actual voters the proposer as on street will see when they're asked to consider signing.

MS. STROUD: Okay. And we have shared for the benefit of the public, petition form that adopted for was just purposes of circulating the recall measure. you can see, it has the information, statement of grounds for recall. It has the

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1 subject of the recall's response. It will be 2 printed in double sided and allowing for space 3 for 20 individuals to sign the particular, to 4 sign the form. And so, just for the public's 5 benefit, here is what the petition form looks like. And right now --6 7 CHAIR THOMPSON: Also, if I could, 8 also just make sure it's clear, the words on 9 statements themselves, either for the 10 opposed, we did not draft them. 11 MS. STROUD: We did not draft them. CHAIR THOMPSON: Those do not come 12 13 from the Board of Elections, those come from 14 the proposer, or --15 MS. STROUD: And the subject of the 16 recall. 17 CHAIR THOMPSON: Or the subject of 18 the recall, we review them to make sure 19 they're, you know, make sure that they're fair. 20 Nothing is inflammatory or improper, but those are their words. 21 22 MS. STROUD: We also look to see

whether or not the word counts were met. so, I would ask the Board at this time to -actually what I'm going to do now, is ask the Registrar of Voters, in light of the form having been adopted, Ι′m going to ask Registrar of Voters to outline the remainder of the recall process. So, we have Ms. Marissa Corrente here, who is a Registrar of Voters, and she will outline the process.

MS. CORRENTE: Good morning, thank you. So, I have a memo dated for today. The beginning of the memo goes over the information that Counselor Stroud has already shared, about leading up to this moment. So, I'm going to share, I'm going to read the second half of this memo, which talks about what happens from here.

So, pursuant to D.C. Official Code

1-204.112, a petition for the recall of an
elected official from a Ward seat shall include
the valid signatures of 10 percent of the
registered qualified electors of the affected

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Ward. The number of registers voters used to compute these requirements is, quote, the latest official count of registered electors by the Board of Elections, which was issued 30 or more days prior to submission of the signatures for the particular recall petition.

signature While the requirement cannot be determined yet, the current calculations using the published December 31st, 2023, monthly voter registration statistics report, are as follows. So, in Ward 6, as of December 31st, there were 61,439 voters. And that would mean, based on that calculation, 10 percent of those registered voters in Ward 6, the signature requirement would be 6,144.

Both the proposer of the recall measure and the elected official, who is the subject of the recall, are advised to check with the Board on а monthly basis, statistics issued are to get up-to-date estimates of the signature requirement. addition, since the petition has been adopted

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1 at today's Board meeting, the 180-day period 2 for circulating the petition, pursuant to D.C. 3 Official Code 1-1001.17(g), expires on Monday, August 12th, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. 4 5 And so the petition will be issued to the proposer via email today, following this 6 7 Board meeting. will Ιt be sent in 8 format. Again, as Counselor Stroud outlined, 9 the format when it printed needs to match the 10 original format. And so, that's double sided. 11 And in this case, it's on 8.5 by 14-inch size 12 So, it's bigger than kind of paper. 13 normal paper, so. 14 We'll follow up with that email 15 after the Board meeting. 16 MS. STROUD: Thank you, Ms. 17 Corrente. 18 A quick question, CHAIR THOMPSON: 19 if they collect 10 percent, and turn that in by 20 August 12th, I think you said, then what's the 21 timeline after that, 90 days? 22 MS. CORRENTE: I'd have to consult

1	the regulations. I think that it's actually a
2	30-day review period.
3	MS. STROUD: Yes, just to
4	MS. CORRENTE: To certify the
5	recall.
6	CHAIR THOMPSON: Thirty days to
7	review in there, yes.
8	MS. CORRENTE: Has to be, and then
9	it also gets posted for a challenge period as
10	well.
11	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay.
12	MS. STROUD: Okay, with that, I will
13	ask Ms. Brown if you have any questions?
14	MS. BROWN: I don't at the moment.
15	Thank you very much.
16	MS. STROUD: Okay, thank you, and
17	certainly if you do, you have the Office of the
18	General Counsel's contact information, as well
19	as Ms. Corrente's information. If you have any
20	questions, we're happy to answer them.
21	MS. BROWN: Thank you, thank you so
22	much.

MS. STROUD: Okay, the next item on my agenda is Rulemaking for Title III of the D.C. Municipal Regulations. The first item is a final rulemaking that adopts amendments to Chapters 1-5, and 16 of the D.C. Municipal Regulations, Title III. The purpose of the amendments to these regulations is to correct errors to a rule that expresses the elections in which non-citizens can participate.

And а rule that indicates which offices non-citizens can vote for, and conform certain of the Board's regulations regarding its notice, an agenda, closed session, and the minutes procedures to the D.C. Government's Open Meetings Act.

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking with respect to this rulemaking, was published in the D.C. Register on December 15th, 2023. No written comments on the proposed rules were received during the public comment period. And no substantive changes have been made to the regulations as proposed.

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I request that the Board adopt these
rules as final, and allow for them to be
submitted to the D.C. Register for publication.
Just for information, the projected publication
date is Friday, February 16th, 2023 I mean
2024. And upon the regulation's publication,
in the D.C. Register, they will become
effective.
MS. STROUD: Do you want to take up
both, before you make the motion?
CHAIR THOMPSON: We may as well do
them one at a time.
MS. STROUD: Okay.
MS. STROUD: Okay.  CHAIR THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and
CHAIR THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and
CHAIR THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and move that we adopt this final rulemaking, that
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CHAIR THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and move that we adopt this final rulemaking, that you've described, and forward it onward for final publication.
CHAIR THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and move that we adopt this final rulemaking, that you've described, and forward it onward for final publication.  MS. STROUD: And so, I would ask for
CHAIR THOMPSON: I'll go ahead and move that we adopt this final rulemaking, that you've described, and forward it onward for final publication.  MS. STROUD: And so, I would ask for a roll call vote on that. So, Mr. Chair, your

1 vote. 2 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye. 3 MS. STROUD: Mr. Boggs, your vote. 4 MEMBER BOGGS: Aye. 5 Okay. And, with that, MS. STROUD: the motion carries, and I will send the final 6 7 rulemaking upward to the D.C. Register 8 publication. 9 The item is next а proposed 10 rulemaking. The purpose of the rulemaking is 11 to conform the Board's regulations to 12 Elections Modernization Amendment Act of 2022. 13 Provide for consistency between Board 14 of conduct for regulations, adopt rules 15 attendees at Board meetings, and make other 16 non-substantive housekeeping updates and 17 corrections of typographical errors. 18 This rulemaking will be published in 19 the D.C. Register on February 23rd. And the 20 comment period will close on March 25th, after

publication in the D.C. Register

actually, I misspoke with respect to

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these

rulemaking.

The purpose of these amendments is to conform the Board's regulations to existing law and current practice regarding the ballot access and initiative processes, and qualified petition circulators. This will be published on our website for review and comment. And it will also be published in the D.C. Register, and the comment period will close on March 25th.

And so, at this time, I ask that the Board permit this rulemaking to be submitted to the D.C. Register for publication. There will be again, the 30-day review period upon publication, and that period will close on March 25th. And so, I'd ask for a roll call vote with respect to that.

CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes. And thank you for clarifying what it's about. This has to do with non-resident circulators. And I will so move that we adopt this proposed rulemaking and forward it to be published in the D.C.

1	Register, and for the public to comment.
2	MEMBER BOGGS: Will second.
3	MS. STROUD: Okay, we'll take a roll
4	call vote.
5	CHAIR THOMPSON: The Chair votes,
6	aye.
7	MS. STROUD: Okay. Ms. Greenfield.
8	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
9	MS. STROUD: Mr. Boggs.
10	MEMBER BOGGS: Aye.
11	MS. STROUD: Thank you. And with
12	that, the motion carries. And the proposed
13	regulation will be sent to the D.C. Register
14	for the 30-day review period, during which the
15	public may comment.
16	The final item on my agenda is
17	litigation status. The first matter is Public
18	Interest Legal Foundation v. Monica Evans, in
19	her official capacity as the Executive Director
20	of the Board of Elections. This matter was
21	filed in U.S. District Court under the NVRA,
22	the National Voter Registration Act. The suit

alleges that the Board is out of compliance with the NVRA's public records provision.

PILF requested records from Board which were denied. On July 21st, on behalf of the Board, the OAG filed a motion to dismiss. August PILF filed On 18th, an opposition to that motion. On October 6th, 2023, the OAG filed a reply. On December 4th, the court denied the motion to dismiss, and stayed the pending settlement case negotiations.

A status report was filed by the parties on January 17th, and the next status report is due on March 18th.

The next matter is Stacia Hall v.

the Board of Elections. This is a challenge to

the legality of the Local Residents Voting

Rights Act. On June 7th, 2023, the OAG filed a

motion to dismiss. On July 14th, the Plaintiff

filed a response to that motion. On August

18th, the OAG filed a reply. And there has

been no action on the matter since the filing

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The third matter is the District of Columbia Democratic Party v. Muriel Bowser and the Board of Elections. This is a challenge to Initiative 83. On October 23rd, the Defendants filed a joint motion to dismiss. The Plaintiff's opposition was filed on November 3rd, 2023. The Defendants filed a reply on November 13th. The record in the matter was filed on November 16th, 2023. The initial hearing, which had been set for December 1st, 2023, was continued to February 23rd, 2024.

The next item is Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai v. Merrick Garland, the District of Columbia and the Board of Elections. The Plaintiff here seeks a declaration that he is eligible to President, notwithstanding serve as constitutional natural-born citizens clause. alternatively, that this qualification Or, matter presents a non-justiciable political issue for the voters.

On February 1st, 2024, the OAG filed

a motion to dismiss on behalf of the Board. On February 2nd, Defendant Garland, Merrick Garland, sought an extension of time to respond to the complaint. Also, on February 2nd, Defendant Garland -- I mean, the court granted an extension to February 20th, 2024. And noted that it would set a briefing schedule on the OAG's motion to dismiss, after the response to the complaint submitted by Defendant Garland is filed.

The final matter is Long v. Board of Elections. This is the re-submission matter previously dismissed without seeking prejudice. Long is \$10,000 Mr. damages based on а claim concerning an overdraft cost to his bank account, when a stop payment was imposed on a \$500 check for his service as an election worker.

An initial hearing was held on February 2nd, 2024. At that time, the Plaintiff declined to proceed before a magistrate judge. So, the case was referred to

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an associate judge, and a status hearing set for March 1st, 2024. The OAG will be filing a motion to dismiss on behalf of the Board in this matter, in due course. And that concludes my report.

All CHAIR right, THOMPSON: yes. Thank you so much. And one thing I want to say about those legal cases is, in several of these cases, the appeals come from actions that we have as a Board. And I have come to appreciate the fact that there is an appellant I'm glad that there is. Our D.C. above us. Court of Appeals and our Superior Court, to the extent they're involved, are excellent courts. And, you know, we welcome their review of our actions. We want to make sure that everything we do is correct.

So, in the case of Stacia Hall, for example, that matter is purporting to challenge under the Constitution, the right of non-citizens to vote. It's pending. There's a pending motion to dismiss. I don't think they

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ever filed for an injunction. So, while that case winds its way through the court system, we're obviously continuing to prepare and will conduct the elections according to the law, which includes the participation of non-citizens in local elections.

So, I don't know what's going to develop in that case. But we're proceeding with respect to non-citizen voters and likewise with respect to Initiative 83. That's on appeal as well and we'll see where that case But in the meantime, there are several goes. steps ahead for the proposers to gather signatures. And the process is ongoing with respect to our Board, I guess unless and until the court may rule otherwise.

So, but, yes, just I've always -I'm always glad when people appeal, because I
think it's good to have our courts review our
work. And let us know whether we got it right,
or maybe didn't get it right. And I think, so
far in my tenure, we've been upheld every time.

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1 So, you know, it's a pretty good record on our 2 part. 3 Okay, anything else from BOE? No, thank you. 4 MS. CORRENTE: 5 MS. STROUD: No, thank you. 6 CHAIR THOMPSON: Then onto the 7 Office of Campaign Finance. General Counsel 8 Bill SanFord is here, who I think will give us 9 his part of the report for starters. 10 MR. SANFORD: Good morning, Mr. 11 Chairman and distinguished Board members. My 12 name is William SanFord, General Counsel for 13 the Office of Campaign Finance. During the 14 month of January 2024, the Office of General 15 Counsel received 14 referrals, issued 16 orders, which included the following. Five 17 orders to vacate prior notices of hearings 18 where orders were issued, six orders in which a 19 total of \$36,400 in fines was imposed. 20 three orders in which no fines were imposed. 21 During the month of January 2024,

the Office of the General Counsel, imposed a

total of \$36,400 in fines against the following Fine of \$2,200 respondents. was imposed against Randy Downs for Ward 2. Fine of \$2,200 imposed against Monica Palacio, was \$20,000 Council. Α fine of was imposed against the Committee to Elect Trayon White. Α \$4,000 was imposed against fine of Committee to Elect Alpha Bah. A fine of \$4,000 was imposed against Friends of Courtney Snow. And finally, another fine of \$4,000 was imposed against the Committee to Elect Alpha Bah.

During the month of January 2024, the Office of the General Counsel received a total of \$900 in payments of fines. They include the following. Former Ward 5 Council candidate, Art Lloyd, paid a \$200 fine. Former mayoral candidate and current Councilmember Robert White paid a fine of \$450. And former candidate for Ward 5 State Board of Education, Bill Lewis, paid an installment of \$250 towards fines of \$1200 -- \$1,050.

During the month of January 2024,

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the Office of General Counsel completed one investigation. And during the month, 2024 the Office of General Counsel was engaged with four open investigations. And they included the following.

Docket Number FY2023002, OCF docketed October 23rd, 2023. The on Complainant was Edward Hanlon. The Respondent's Committee to Re-elect Brooke Pinto 2024. And the allegation was the use Government resources for campaign related The order in this matter was issued purposes. on January 17, 2024.

The second matter is Docket Number LCF2023003. It was docketed on the 13th of November 2023. The Respondents, Brooke Pinto for Ward 2, 2020 principal campaign committee. The allegation is the use of Government resources for campaign related purposes.

And the Office of the General Counsel has requested that the Board extend the investigative period, for an additional 30 days

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1 to give the Respondents a final opportunity to 2 respond to the complaint. And I don't know if the Board would 3 4 like to take that matter up at this time. 5 CHAIR THOMPSON: So, you're, right now, you're asking about your Matter 003? 6 7 That's right. MR. SANFORD: 8 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes, let me, I have 9 a question that may relate to four and five as 10 well. Why don't you finish, and then we'll --11 all right? 12 MR. SANFORD: Oh, sure. The third 13 complaint is OCF Docket Number FY2023004. Ιt 14 was docketed on the 29th of December 2023. The 15 Complainant again is Edward Hanlon. The 16 Respondent's Committee to Re-elect Brooke Pinto 17 And the allegation is the use 18 Government resources for campaign-related 19 purposes. 20 The fourth complaint is OCF 21 FY2023005. It was docketed on the 29th of

December 2023. The Complainant again is Edward

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1	Hanlon. The Respondent again, is the Committee
2	to Re-elect Brooke Pinto. And the allegation
3	again is the use of Government resources for
4	campaign related purposes.
5	And the last three that I read into
6	the record are pending.
7	CHAIR THOMPSON: Right. Thank you
8	so much, and I believe that on the date they're
9	docketed, in normal course, you take 90 days,
10	or up to 90 days to issue a ruling.
11	MR. SANFORD: That's correct, we
12	have 90 days to complete the investigative
13	period. And issue a ruling.
13	period. And issue a ruling.
13 14	period. And issue a ruling.  CHAIR THOMPSON: So, in the case of
13 14 15	period. And issue a ruling.  CHAIR THOMPSON: So, in the case of  Matter 3, docketed on November 13th, that 90
13 14 15 16	period. And issue a ruling.  CHAIR THOMPSON: So, in the case of  Matter 3, docketed on November 13th, that 90  days would be today, I believe, February 13th
13 14 15 16 17	period. And issue a ruling.  CHAIR THOMPSON: So, in the case of  Matter 3, docketed on November 13th, that 90  days would be today, I believe, February 13th  or thereabouts. And the other two matters that
13 14 15 16 17 18	period. And issue a ruling.  CHAIR THOMPSON: So, in the case of  Matter 3, docketed on November 13th, that 90  days would be today, I believe, February 13th  or thereabouts. And the other two matters that  were docketed on December 29th, it looks like
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	period. And issue a ruling.  CHAIR THOMPSON: So, in the case of  Matter 3, docketed on November 13th, that 90  days would be today, I believe, February 13th  or thereabouts. And the other two matters that  were docketed on December 29th, it looks like  March 29th roughly.

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MR. SANFORD: Yes.

CHAIR THOMPSON: So, here's mу auestion is, I've noticed that in various agencies, the Department of Justice and other agencies around the country, I often read that they have a window of time in which they don't issue rulings about a particular candidate. So, within, I think the policy of DOJ is within 90 days of the federal election, they don't issue rulings that could impact how voters perceive a candidate. They defer or, you know, wait to consider those matters.

So, I was thinking about that because our primary election is June 4th, and 90 days prior is March 4th, or maybe it's sooner than that, if you consider when early voting and mail ballot voting commence.

So, we may already be within that 90-day window, so, my question is, do you have a similar policy about holding or deferring rulings on matters about a particular

candidate? And if so, that gets to my ultimate question is, do you want an extension beyond June 4th?

MR. SANFORD: Well, we do not have a similar policy. But we would not under any circumstances, want to play an outsize role in any election. And so, we would take that into consideration. Our objective, is to complete the investigations as expeditiously possible. Sometimes the Respondents didn't make that possible. However, if we sufficient information in the case file, we will be able to prepare and issue an order indicating our position, or our findings.

We don't necessarily believe at this point, we would need additional time, because as you can see, most of the complaints are related, and the allegations are the same. And the Complainant in all cases, is the same Complainant.

So, in some cases, we look at the pending cases, we would think that actually if

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one case is resolved, it might resolve the other companion case. And that would be, we would not have a separate need for an extension to resolve the subsequent case. Because they're essentially the same allegations.

CHAIR THOMPSON: Right.

MR. SANFORD: And if it's resolved, then I think, specifically, docket numbers four and five. They were both filed on the same day, the allegations are the same. And in all likelihood, we would resolve them, hopefully, before 90 days prior to the election. But if not, we would not think that it would play an outsize role in the election. Because the Respondent has been put on notice.

This is the fifth of a series of complaints. There are five of them. And they're all, the allegations are all about the same alleged activity. And so, we would hope that we would have sufficient information to resolve these matters.

CHAIR THOMPSON: Matters 4 and 5 are

1	linked. Are they also linked to Matter 3?
2	MR. SANFORD: Matter 3 is separate,
3	but Matters 4 and 5 are linked to Matter 1,
4	002. Because our order, which is posted at the
5	OCF website, asked or ordered the Respondent to
6	cease and desist from using her government
7	account to re-tweak her personal account, and
8	then to the campaign account. The allegations
9	in four and five are very similar.
10	And so, there's a, if there's
11	compliance, there's a possibility that Matters
12	4 and 5 could be resolved as well.
13	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. So, at least
14	with respect to Matter 3, you're asking us to
15	grant an extension on your time?
16	MR. SANFORD: At this stage, we
17	think that we'd like to give Respondent an
18	additional opportunity.
19	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay.
20	MR. SANFORD: We would establish
21	approximately a 10-day deadline to receive, a
22	final deadline to receive the response. And

1	then we will commence to preparing and issuing
2	the order.
3	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Well, I'm
4	glad you said 10 days, because I'm going to
5	suggest, and I guess also formally move that
6	your extension be to March 3rd, in that regard.
7	And I say, March 3rd, because it's more than 90
8	days prior to
9	MR. SANFORD: Well, we're giving the
10	Respondent 10 days.
11	CHAIR THOMPSON: Right.
12	MR. SANFORD: So, but we would need
13	additional time to write the order to
14	prepare and issue the order.
15	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay.
16	MR. SANFORD: You know, assuming
17	that the Respondent, you know, rigorously
18	defends against these allegations.
19	CHAIR THOMPSON: Well, nevertheless,
20	it strikes me that there's enough time in that
21	window, whether you give them, five more days,

had whatever, 60 days, 70 days. So, I'll leave that to your discretion, how much additional time you'd like to give the Respondent.

But even if it's up to 10 more days, from today, I think that leaves enough time for you to release whatever opinion you might release by March 3rd. And I do, I just want to stress that I think that that's important to stay outside of that 90-day window.

I, so, that's my motion with respect to the Matter 3. With respect to Matters 4 and 5, you technically have until March 29th, and I, we can't govern when you release an opinion in those matters. But I would simply urge you to think about March 3rd as a common --

MR. SANFORD: I'll consider that.

CHAIR THOMPSON: -- deadline for that. And to think about the concept that I brought up, that we not rule on anything else, especially within that 90-day window. Because I'm sure there's more complaints that will be filed in the next month or so. And they will

all naturally fall within this window of time that will push up against, you know, late May. So, that's my, I'm just sharing my thinking on that.

MR. SANFORD: I understand. I'd just like to make one comment. I think it's very important that we do not appear that, you know, to be favoring any particular candidate, under any circumstances. Because if we have given them sufficient time, and even if it goes beyond March 3rd, for us, I'm just concerned about the ethics of us holding a decision until after an election. Because I don't know that that would be appropriate either.

And not that we want play to an outsize role, but I just don't believe that the Office of Campaign Finance should be holding a decision because there's a pending election one other. should not hold way or the We decision that might exonerate the Respondent. The voters have a right to know whether or not this Respondent, allegations these are

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accurate. And we should not withhold a decision that may cast some doubt on the, you know, the fitness of that candidate to serve, or to receive the confidence of the vote.

So, I don't think we should be playing that --

CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes.

MR. SANFORD: -- outsize role, one way or the other.

CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes, well, thank you for sharing your thoughts on that. Ι suppose there's a couple ways to look at it. Ι would suggest that other government offices, like the Department of Justice, I'm sure have thought through the same exact issue, the ethics of either ruling upon holding or matter until after the election.

And I believe in large part, most agencies believe that the correct policy is to hold a ruling until after the election date passes. I can't, you know, can't speak for them. I'm just the guy that reads the paper

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1 and reads articles about this kind of stuff. 2 But that seems to be the prevailing approach. 3 But I, we once again, just so anyone 4 listening knows we don't control or govern what you do, that's within your discretion. 5 MR. SANFORD: No, I'd just like to 6 7 say one more thing, and not to belabor these 8 points. I think we have an ethical imperative 9 to do what's right under all circumstances. 10 the event, we withhold, and then later you saw 11 a violation did indeed occur. I don't think 12 that casts in a very favorable light us 13 ethically, as the ones who are charged with the 14 investigating responsibility of matters, 15 complaints that are filed with the Agency. 16 the interest, in the public interest. 17 And then by the same token, if we 18 found evidence that have exonerates the 19 Respondent, don't think it I would be 20 appropriate for us to withhold that from them. 21 CHAIR THOMPSON: Well, I certainly

respect your view on that. I quess I have a

1 motion to allow you an extension to March 3rd 2 3. That's the technical Matter motion 3 that's been made. Are any seconds, 4 I mean anything you guys want to -comments. MEMBER BOGGS: 5 I think it's been a good discussion. And very thoughtful around 6 7 the whole issue. I mean so I guess there's not 8 discretion without Board approval to change the 9 date, to extend the time period. if 10 CHAIR THOMPSON: Correct, we 11 don't extend it, Ι believe that complaint 12 would, there would be ruling the no 13 complaint as of today. 14 MEMBER BOGGS: It sounds like that's 15 not anybody's preferred option. 16 CHAIR THOMPSON: I don't think so. 17 I don't mean -- is that what would happen, Mr. SanFord, if we didn't give you an extension, 18 19 would the matter die on the vine? 20 MR. SANFORD: The reason why 21 requested the extension, prior to the 22 expiration of the investigative period, was to

get additional time, to give the Respondent additional time, final opportunity to one respond. We could have issued an order, sustaining the allegations, without a response from the Respondent. But we believe in the interest of fairness, we would give a final extension, final opportunity. MEMBER BOGGS: And do you believe, without any conversations, the Respondent could within, given 10 days, that an extra you'd receive --MR. SANFORD: Well, we intend to deal with them, contact them and explain to them that the deadline to respond is a fixed date. And, you know, irrespective of what action they take or don't take, we will be issuing an order by a certain date. MEMBER BOGGS: But that should have maybe been clear already, rather than --MR. SANFORD: Yes, it should be. MEMBER BOGGS: Yes. MR. SANFORD: Because we have

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1	advised the Respondent initially of the
2	requirements. But in this case, we consider
3	five complaints by one Complainant, against one
4	Respondent. We just thought we'd give it an
5	additional
6	MEMBER BOGGS: Then the question is,
7	we're asking for additional time, it's just how
8	much time, right?
9	MR. SANFORD: Yes, so it's 10 days,
10	or is it until March 3rd?
11	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yes, that's the
12	clarity I was asking, is the March 3rd, you're
13	talking about that's the time by which the
14	order needs to be filed?
15	CHAIR THOMPSON: Correct.
16	MEMBER GREENFIELD: He can decide
17	how much time he wants to give Respondent to
18	respond. But you're asking that the order be
19	filed by March 3rd?
20	CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes. If they have
21	10 more days from today to respond, then Mr.
22	SanFord and his team would have about 10 days

1 to draft an order, which, you know. 2 law, the legal world, you can do anything in 10 3 days. 4 MR. Well, that SANFORD: would 5 definitely, if that's the extent, that would definitely shorten the amount of time we'll 6 7 provide the Respondent. Because we do need 8 time to prepare and issue the order. 9 Well, how CHAIR THOMPSON: you 10 calibrate that is up to you. I'm just, I'm 11 suggesting March 3rd for the reasons 12 explained it. I personally think it would be 13 best that any, for any opinion, whether it's 14 upholding or disagreeing with the allegation, 15 that it come out publicly before that 90-day 16 period. 17 It makes sense to me. MEMBER BOGGS: 18 MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yes. 19 And then, let him MEMBER BOGGS: 20 figure out, like calibrate how much time you 21 need and how much time the Respondent needs. 22 CHAIR Sounds like THOMPSON: а

1	second.
2	MEMBER BOGGS: Second.
3	CHAIR THOMPSON: So, all in favor.
4	MEMBER BOGGS: Aye.
5	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
6	CHAIR THOMPSON: Aye. Thank you,
7	Mr. SanFord. Anything else?
8	MR. SANFORD: Shall I complete my
9	CHAIR THOMPSON: Oh, please yes,
10	sorry.
11	MR. SANFORD: The balance of my
12	report. So, the extension is granted until the
13	3rd of March, is that correct?
14	CHAIR THOMPSON: Correct.
15	MR. SANFORD: Okay, thank you very
16	much.
17	CHAIR THOMPSON: That should give
18	some time for you to issue your order.
19	MR. SANFORD: Okay. Thank you.
20	And during the month of January
21	2024, there were no requests for interpretative

1 conducted. And that should conclude my report. 2 And the content of my report will be published 3 at the Office of Campaign Finance website by 4 close of business on today's date, February 5 13th, 2024. And that concludes my report. 6 CHAIR Thank you THOMPSON: 7 much. 8 MR. SANFORD: Thank you. 9 also CHAIR THOMPSON: And we 10 welcome, OCF Director, Cecily 11 Collier-Montgomery. Welcome. And I believe 12 you also have your report. 13 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: For the 14 record, I would indicate that the full report activity of the Office of Campaign 15 the 16 Finance, for the month of January 2024, will be 17 posted at our website, www.ocf.dc.gov before 18 the close of business today. But I will at 19 this time, highlight a few matters, items of 20 interest for the public, from the report. 21 First, in the Office of the 22 Director, even though this activity occurred in

February, I did want to point out that on February the 7th, 2024, I did appear before the Council's Committee on Executive Administration and Labor, and provide testimony on the Fiscal Year '23 report of the Office of Campaign Finance, and the Fiscal Year 2024 Plan.

Also, I wanted to indicate on the record, that on February the 8th, 2024, the D.C. Auditor issued a report on the recommendations that she had made on 19 audits, which were conducted during a specified period of time. And that also included a report on the Office of Campaign Finance and its implementation of, The Fair Elections Act.

And with respect to that, the auditor did indicate that the Office of Campaign Finance with respect the to recommendations which were made by the auditor, Fair Elections Program, the that recommendations were either in progress or had been implemented.

And with the recommendations, we

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must submit documentation of exactly the steps that we have taken, with respect to those recommendations, which we will submit to the D.C. Auditor within the next couple of weeks.

With respect to the activity that has occurred during January, the month of January 2024, I would point out that the office did present at two Advisory Neighborhood Commission virtual meetings, as part of our Community Outreach Program. And that was on January the 8th, at ANC 6D. And on January the 10th at ANC 1A.

In our Fair Elections Program Division, during the month of January 2024, I would point out that there are nine currently certified participating candidates in the Fair Elections Program. And that during the month of January, we certified two candidates in the program for the 2024 election cycle.

And we made disbursements as follows. First, Friends of Salim Adolfo,

Principal Campaign Committee, matching payments

in the amount of \$27,330 were authorized for disbursement on January the 8th, 2024.

Veda for Ward 7, 2024, Principal Campaign Committee, matching payments in the amount of \$39,100 were authorized for disbursement on January the 8th, 2024.

Robert White, the Re-elect Robert White 2024 Principal Campaign Committee, the candidate Robert White was certified on January 18th, 2024, to participate in the Fair Elections Program, in the June 4th, 2024, primary election. And matching payments in the amount of \$153,410. And the first half of the base amount payment in the amount of \$20,000 were authorized for disbursement.

Ebony Payne, the Ebony Payne for Ward 7, Principal Campaign Committee, the candidate Ebony Payne was certified on January the 18th, 2024, to participate in the Fair Elections Program in the June 4th, 2024, primary election. And matching payments in the amount of \$32,825, and the first half of the

base amount in the amount of \$20,000 were authorized for disbursement.

Last, Re-elect Janeese Lewis George Principal Campaign Committee, matching payments in the amount of \$9,675 were authorized for disbursement on January the 18th, 2024.

The division conducted 35 desk reviews of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures, which had been filed. And also issued 11 requests for additional information as a result of the reports, which were reviewed.

There were two candidate consultations during the month of January. The first was with Robert White, the Re-elect Robert White 2024, PCC on January the 18th.

And then Ebony Payne, the Ebony Payne for Ward 7, PCC on January the 18th.

The amount of remitted funds that we have received for deposit in the Fair Elections

Fund, from the campaign operations of the candidates who participated in the 2022

election cycle, is at this time, \$803,207.20.

With the ongoing 2020 post-election full-field audit, at this time, there is no change in the status, but I would again indicate that the Fair Elections Division has issued a total of 23 final audit reports of the post-election audits, which were initiated for the cycle.

There are currently 11 which remain ongoing. And the status of the reports is available at, or will be available in the report that is presented or posted at the website this afternoon.

With the 2022 post-election full-field audits, there was no change in the status of the audits during the month of January. Again, to date, the FEP has issued 20 preliminary statements of audit findings and 15 final audit reports for the 2022 election cycle.

The division did initiate 42 postelection audits. Again, of the candidates were

certified to participate in both the primary and the general elections, which were conducted during the 2022 election cycle. All final audit reports are available at our website for review by the public.

Public Information In our and Records Management Division, I would indicate on the record, that there were two filing dates in January 2024 for the filing of the Reports of Receipts and Expenditures by our Constituent-Service and Statehood Fund Programs on January the 1st.

And on January 31st, the report of candidate, the report by Candidates and the Principal Campaign Committees in both the Traditional Campaign Finance and Fair Elections Program, our Political Action Committee, our Independent Expenditure Committees, and our Ballot Committees, including our Initiative, Referendum, and Recall Committees, and all Reports of Receipts and Expenditures that are filed with the Agency are available, real-time

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at the OCF website. Again, for review by the public.

With new candidates and committees for the 2024 election cycle, in the Traditional Campaign Finance Program, there is currently a total of 19 candidates who are registered to participate in the June 2024 primary election, including the following new registrations for the month of January 2024.

For the Office of Council At-large
Member, for the primary election, Christian
Anderson registered on January the 18th. And
George Jackson registered on January the 25th.

For the Office of Council Ward 7, the primary election, Roscoe Grant registered on January the 12th. And Denise Reed registered on January the 22nd. Dwight Deloatch registered on January the 25th.

For Office of the Council Ward 8, for the primary election, Armonte Wilson registered on January the 12th, 2024. For the Office of U.S. Shadow Representative for the

primary election, Linda Gray registered on January the 31st.

For the Office of U.S. Shadow Senator, the primary election, Franklin Garcia registered on January the 19th. And Eugene Kinlow registered on January the 31st.

Republican National For the Committeeman for the primary election, José Cunningham registered on January the 12th. For the D.C. Republican Committee Ward 7, the primary election, Michael Bekesha registered on January the 24th.

In our Fair Elections Program, there are currently 22 candidates who are registered to participate in the program. And the following new candidates registered in January 2024. For Office of the Council Ward 7 for the primary election, Nate Fleming registered on the 29th. December Не was not previously Tyrell Holcomb registered on January reported. the 8th. Villareal Johnson registered January the 25th.

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For the Office of Council Ward 8
primary election, Trayon White registered on
January the 12th. And Kevin Kennedy registered
on January the 18th. There were no new
committee registrations during the month of
January.

division also, referred committees to the Office of General Counsel for enforcement for the failure file the to of Receipts December 10th, Report and Expenditures. And there were 9 candidates and treasurers who completed the OCF Entrance Conference for the month of January. And their names are listed in our report.

In our Reports Analysis and Audit
Division, which is our Traditional Campaign
Finance Program, during the month of January,
there were no final audit reports which were
issued. However, the following audits are
ongoing.

And the first one is of newly elected officials. And this is a full-field

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audit. Kenyan McDuffie, 2022, the Principal Campaign Committee, and that is an ongoing audit. But the audit division has issued the preliminary draft statement of finding. And the committee has been in the office to discuss those findings.

There is also, an Inaugural Committee for which we are conducting a full-field audit. And that is D.C. Proud Inaugural Committee. And with that particular full-field audit, the audit field work is complete and under review. And a preliminary draft audit report is being drafted.

With our Constituent-Service periodic-random audits of the October the 1st, 2023 report, there are two ongoing periodic-random audits. And the first is for the Ward 5 Council, Office Constituent-Service Program. And with that particular one, the field audit has been completed. And the final audit report is being drafted.

The second is the Citizens Outreach

Fund. And that particular program was referred to the General Counsel for the initiation of enforcement action. And I would also indicate that with the Traditional Campaign Finance Program, it did conduct, during the month of January 2024, 99 desk reviews, of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures that have been filed with the Agency.

And the division also issued 16 requests for additional information based on the desk reviews, which were conducted. And that would complete my report.

CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so much. Just like with the BOE, that reflects an incredible amount of hard work by the OCF staff. It strikes me that the Fair Elections Program continues to be enormously popular with candidates, passed by our council, signed by our mayor.

But the rubber hits the road in administration. And it's not a small task to organize the way the Fair Elections Program

operates and disseminates funds to candidates.

I'm always impressed with how the OCF has addressed that flawlessly. Now, I'm seeing it in a second election cycle, where I think it's going to probably be more popular than ever with candidates.

So, it's an incredible amount of work by a relatively small staff. So, kudos to OCF as well. Anything else?

MEMBER BOGGS: Now, we're going to get into public comment?

CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes.

MEMBER BOGGS: Before we do that, I do have, I thought I'd just, maybe share an observation and then, and I love the public part of this, probably the best. comment Because I've just been so impressed by the thoughtfulness and really civil nature of just engaged everybody who is with this process. And that's so important.

Just a general observation, it's around that, your discussion earlier, I think

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more generally the role and responsibilities of the Board. And I've had people come to me, either in these settings or just independently, and, you know, why did you do that? And why are you supporting open primary, or semi-closed primary, or ranked-choice voting? And I said, we're not.

I mean our role is very limited in, we're administering the process. We're trying to make sure that we're doing this the right way. We're not making policy decisions on any of these big issues. And although we may, I'm sure we have views on that, perspectives on that, but that's a policy decision. We want to make sure we're doing this the right way.

This is an independent Board. It's a bi-partisan Board, really a non-partisan Board, or it should be a non-political Board. And we make these decisions, you know, using our best judgment. And I think we're actually all attorneys up here. Not that you need to be an attorney, to have good judgment. And

sometimes, it's just the opposite.

But, you know, we look at this, and kind of, I guess, sort of in a quasi-judicial way, as calling balls and strikes. And just one piece on that, I think in today's measure, the petition for recall, you know, it's important that our role is very limited in the sense that we're making sure that petition, you know, we cross the t's and dot the I's. And it meets the statutory requirements.

We're not taking a position on whether Councilman Allen should be recalled.

We're not favoring that, or against that. And I think that's just important to underscore, but there's a process in place under the statute of the law. And we, and it was delivered to us in a way that everything met the requirements. And we just oversee that and make sure that's correct.

So, I just wanted to add that here, and certainly that was my observation, but you can provide a colloquy if you want to add

anything to that.

CHAIR THOMPSON: And that was very well stated. You know, we try to emphasize that with each matter. That we don't have a position, on the issue, or the candidate. We are indeed shepherds or the referees, if you will.

And I think, I like the word, nonpartisan better than bi-partisan. We are truly
non-partisan, as my goal always was. We're
very objective and we try to approach things
from the position of just basic fairness. It's
candidate A and it's candidate B. It's voter
initiative X, or voter initiative Y. It
doesn't matter what it is, it's just there's a
process.

So, lawyers are, you know, tend to be focused and obsessed with process, which is what we're all about. It's just the transparency and then the neutrality of the process.

Okay. So, turning then to public

comment, which we always welcome. We welcome comments from our D.C. residents. We kindly ask that the comment be polite. Hopefully, not insulting to anyone personally. We ask that you limit your comments to three minutes. And include all of your comments or questions in one comment.

The Board of the staff may or may not respond at this time. But please know that your comments will be considered. And also, the public may send written comment in lieu of any verbal comments to our email, communications@dcboe.org.

So, with that, we will turn to our D.C. residents. If you could raise your Zoom hands, if you'd like -- if you're a D.C. resident and would like to comment. And we'll ask, we'll start by asking you to state your personal address in D.C.

You can scroll along, is there any - all right, Nikolas Schiller. Thanks for
being here. Thanks as always for your

1 comments. 2 MR. SCHILLER: Hey, there. Can you 3 hear me okay, today? 4 CHAIR THOMPSON: We sure can. 5 MR. SCHILLER: A couple questions, real fast. One of them is about the proposed 6 7 regulations. We're looking at a timeline in 8 which that goes onto the Board of Elections 9 website, in advance of it being published in 10 the D.C. Register.

> You alluded to non-resident petition circulators, and the Initiative 83 campaign currently has a couple. And I'm curious if these proposed regulations go into effect, will their signatures potentially be disqualified, we'd have to ask them to not circulate petitions if the proposed regulations go into effect, while, during the signature collection That's question Number 1. effort?

And question Number 2, is about the D.C. jails. There are -- yes, I'm sorry. CHAIR I just THOMPSON: want

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1 remind you to state your D.C. --MR. SCHILLER: 2 Oh, Nikolas Schiller, 3 2448 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 4 20008. 5 Thank you, CHAIR THOMPSON: go ahead. 6 7 So, yes, the question MR. SCHILLER: 8 Number is on the D.C. jails. They're voter roll. 9 included in the And I'm just 10 curious if the Board of Elections has any 11 processes for outreach to these voters? campaign has considered mailing voters that are 12 13 incarcerated a petition pre-filled out with, 14 you know, areas for them to sign. 15 it But the question, is will 16 ultimately get to the voters? Is there a means 17 that the Board of Elections has to ensure that 18 all the incarcerated individuals will receive 19 mail that's campaign or political in nature? 20 And is the Board is actually doing outreach to 21 register incarcerated individuals as well?

those are the two.

appreciate your time and your service. And as a parting note, I really was shocked to hear about Mr. Gill's passing. And it really saddened me, I really enjoyed his presence on the Board. He was actually really good, the questions that he asked. I didn't know of the passing until a week or so later, I'm really sad. I send my condolences to the Board and to his family as well. Thank you. CHAIR THOMPSON: Thank you, thank you so much for saying that. We appreciate Okay, so we have two questions. that. One publication. about Terri, do you want to address that? MS. STROUD: Sure. So, I misspoke when I talked about the topic of the proposed rulemaking that will be published in the D.C.

when I talked about the topic of the proposed rulemaking that will be published in the D.C.

Register. So, the one that -- the proposed rulemaking which will be posted on our website today, does not concern the local residents non-voting, non -- Local Residents Voting Rights Act.

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proposed rulemaking concerns ballot access and initiative process, qualified petition circulators. And the change qualified with respect to the petition circulators, is just a change that was made to state that, what the age of the qualified petitioner circulator has to be.

So, they have to swear or affirm that they are at least 17 years of age, and will be 18. So, it's not pertinent to the non-resident citizens. So, that's not the rulemaking that will be published in the D.C. Register for the comment period.

And just again, the Public Rulemaking should be sent to the D.C. Register today, and will be published in, not this Friday, but next Friday's D.C. Register.

MS. EVANS: And if there are no follow-up questions about that, as far as your comments regarding the D.C. Jail. We do conduct outreach to the D.C. Jail. And I'm happy to report that we have a liaison with

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whom we work. And that individual has been really great as far as helping us develop materials, and a platform that are accessible to those who are incarcerated.

And so, where you don't have access to, directly to the internet, we are working with them to get a version of our voter registration application that they can place on iPads that does not provide any type of connection to the outside internet.

So, we're working with them to modify some of our forms and processes, and outreach materials so that they comply with the requirements of the D.C. Jail, and how they engage with their residents.

But I am very encouraged with the new liaison. And we are working very well together. And I think that we have assurance that those residents in the D.C. Jail will get the information they need. And will get outreach opportunities so that they fully understand their rights. And how to reach out

1	with any additional questions they may have to
2	D.C. Board of Elections, through that liaison.
3	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right, thank
4	you. Yes, we have a very impressive team that
5	conducts that outreach. It's led by Scott
6	Sussman?
7	MS. EVANS: Yes. Scott Sussman is
8	over our restorative vote unit. And that is a
9	very small but active and engaged unit.
10	CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes, thank you.
11	Okay, well, not seeing any other D.C. residents
12	wishing to make comment at this time. I move
13	that we adjourn.
14	CHAIR THOMPSON: No second?
15	MEMBER BOGGS: Second.
16	CHAIR THOMPSON: All in favor.
17	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
18	MEMBER BOGGS: Aye.
19	CHAIR THOMPSON: Aye. Thank you so
20	much everybody. We'll see you next time.
21	(Whereupon, the above-entitled
22	matter went off the record at 10:55 a.m.)

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## <u>CERTIFICATE</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 02-13-24

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.

Court Reporter

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GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 5, 2023

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Zoom, pursuant to notice at 10:30 a.m. EDT, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY THOMPSON, Chair J.C. BOGGS, Member KARYN GREENFIELD, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Director TERRI STROUD, General Counsel CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Office of Campaign Finance WILLIAM SANFORD, General Counsel

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# P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(10:31 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you so much for joining us for our April Board of Elections meeting. Hold on one second.

(Pause.)

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, good morning. My name is Gary Thompson, the chair of the Board of Elections. We have a full house today. Everybody's here for, I think, the first time in a while.

We have a quorum, all three board members here, Karyn Greenfield, and Board Member J.C. Boggs are here. So we're three for three, as usual. Oh, and the court reporter's here. I see the word Court Reporter, so we're good, and we're also recording on Zoom as well.

It's a pretty light agenda. The agenda's been distributed to the board members and others. I would move that we adopt the agenda as distributed.

MEMBER GREENFIELD: So moved.

1	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, all in			
2	favor?			
3	(Pause.)			
4	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, our			
5	agenda's adopted. Quick housekeeping matter.			
6	Our minutes from the last meeting of March 7th			
7	have been distributed. We've had a chance to			
8	review them. I would move we adopt those			
9	minutes.			
10	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Second.			
11	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All in favor?			
12	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.			
13	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Minutes are			
14	adopted.			
15	Next, we have board matters. Nothing			
16	on the Agenda, but we've been talking over the			
17	last few meetings about bringing the public			
18	inviting the public back in to our monthly			
19	meetings, and we'd like to go ahead, I think, and			
20	proceed with that welcomed development in this			
21	post-pandemic environment.			
22	Obviously for many years, the public			

attended meetings, and it was the only way you could attend a BOE meeting was in person. What I'm, I guess, moving for at this time is that we resume having the public attend if they would like, live, or they would always have the option to attend by Zoom with a hybrid approach and would also be possible for board members or any directors as well to attend by Zoom.

So we'll all always have that option, including for purposes of establishing a board quorum if needed. And as for members of the public, we'll have to release some details on how to gain access to the building and get into this room.

It might take an extra 10 or 15
minutes in advance of the meeting to arrive and
get through security, et cetera, but we'll come
up with some pretty clear guidelines on how that
all will work, and I believe have that in place
in time for our main meeting on the first
Wednesday in May. I guess that's in manner of a
motion, any seconds or comments in that regard?

1	MEMBER BOGGS: (Audio interference) put
2	Covid behind us. But also as a public board, we
3	want to make it accessible, and I think they have
4	that dual approach where you can come in person
5	or visit us virtually online (simultaneous
6	speaking.) Sorry about that.
7	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay, can I repeat
8	all that? I think we got it okay, but I
9	MEMBER BOGGS: I think we heard it
10	(simultaneous speaking) the public (simultaneous
11	speaking) but that was a comment in favor.
12	MEMBER GREENFIELD: No, I'm in
13	agreement. I like the hybrid approach and having
14	the public come back in. It's been a long while.
15	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right for
16	formality sake, all in favor?
17	(Chorus of ayes.)
18	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Okay.
19	Any other board matters before we proceed?
20	(Pause.)
21	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Hearing none,
22	we'll turn to the executive director's report

from Monica Holman Evans.

MS. EVANS: Thank you, and good morning. The Board had its budget oversight hearing with the Council on Tuesday, March 28th. Our answers to the pre-hearing questions were submitted on Friday, March 24.

This was our first budget hearing under the Committee on Executive Administration and Labor with Chairperson Anita Bonds. We largely discussed the need for resources to become compliant with the Elections Modernization Amendment Act and the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act.

We specifically discussed the need for staff, equipment and software upgrades. We are appreciative of the constructive testimony that was provided during the hearing, and we have followed up with the Councilmember's office, and we're gathering the information she requested during the hearing.

ANC vacancies. We have 11 ANC vacancies for the 2023-2025 term. These

positions are in different stages of being filled. After candidate filing requirements are met, an open vote of registered voters of the affected SMD (phonetic) are held during regularly scheduled ANC meetings.

As far as our 2023 next steps and offelection year planning, we did have VR systems on
site during the week of March 13. We discussed
native (phonetic) enhancements to Voter Focus.
They provided training. And specifically, we
discussed the need to address system upgrades due
to the recently passed legislation.

We're looking at returned and undelivered ballots from the November general election and are placing them into categories.

Ballot information is being categorized and entered into Voter Focus. We are processing the 87,921 ballots returned as undeliverable, and these ballots have all been scanned into our voter registration database.

We are in the process of manually updating the in-state and out-of-state addresses.

To date, we have processed over 10,000 ballots. The next step is to send final notices. We have also processed the records of 566 D.C. voters.

We are reviewing the requirements of the Elections Modernization Amendment Act, or EMA, and the Local Resident Voting Rights

Amendment Act, or LRVR, to ensure we become compliant. We have met with vendors, and we are requesting funding as needed.

We are also in the process of revising our brochures, and we met with our vendor to discuss website improvements, and we do have a rubric to move forward with some changes.

Additionally, we're updating the election worker training manual, developing the 2024 voter education and outreach plan, and assessing our plan for vote center and mail ballot drop box locations.

We've recently joined a cross-state data workgroup to explore ways to share voter history to address cross-state voter fraud. Even though we are a member of ERIC, the Electronic

Registration Information Center, many states are not members. Our participation with this workgroup will allow us to cast a wider net by engaging with more states.

Voter education outreach. During the month of March, the voter education outreach division conducted seven outreach events on behalf of the Agency. Events included voter registration drives at various schools and at the Department on Aging and Community Living.

In March, we also registered 2,196 new voters and processed 2,962 registration changes.

In total, we prepared 5,158 voter registration cards to be mailed. Additionally, 38 registered voters moved out of D.C., 12 voters canceled their registration and registered with other jurisdictions, and 574 voters registered in D.C. after canceling their registrations in other jurisdictions.

We are continuing to register voters using our website portal. To date, we have processed over 34,611 applications using the

1 These include new voter registrations portal. 2 and updates to existing registrations. 3 And that concludes my report. Thank you, Mr. Chair. 4 5 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I have a question. I read in the news about certain states, I think, 6 7 exiting the ERIC system. 8 I don't really understand their 9 thinking, but it struck me as very relevant to 10 our jurisdiction in that we're a particularly 11 transient jurisdiction, and I think probably more than any state, have a need to communicate with 12 13 other jurisdictions to ensure that citizens are 14 registered to vote in only one place. 15 And you just mentioned, in lieu of 16 ERIC, a workgroup with other states, and I'm just 17 curious, what is that and will that entail? 18 MS. EVANS: Yes. It's a new 19 workgroup. We are actually trying to address the 20 fact that some member states have exited ERIC, 21 but we want to ensure that we're still getting 22 that rich data, and we have a method of

communicating with states who have either left ERIC or were never members of ERIC.

So it is our goal to engage in efforts in addition to ERIC so that we're getting the information we need to keep our voter rolls current and accurate, but then also to address the possibility of cross-state voter fraud.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, well that's good to hear. I know that this year in particular, we're focused on addressing our voter roll.

There's obviously a process ahead of us in the calendar to move individuals who are no longer active into inactive status, and I think that probably has a lot to do with identifying people who have moved on elsewhere, registered elsewhere, so that by the end of the year, we'll hopefully have some pretty significant numbers moving off of our official voter registration list.

MS. EVANS: Absolutely.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Any

1 questions from anybody? 2 (Pause.) Okay. 3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Moving on 4 then to the General Counsel's report from Terri 5 Stroud. Thank you, Mr. Chair. 6 MS. STROUD: 7 The only item on my agenda is 8 litigation status. We have six active cases, 9 currently. The first is Public Interest Legal Foundation v. Monica Evans in her official 10 11 capacity as the executive director of the board. That's in the U.S. District Court for D.C. 12 13 This was filed under the National 14 Voter Registration Act, and the suit alleges that 15 the Board is out of compliance with the NVRA's 16 public record provision. PILF had requested 17 records from the Board pertinent to ERIC, and 18 that request was denied due to the requested 19 records not being subjected to public disclosure. 20 21 The Board is being represented by the 22 OAG in this matter. All pleadings have been

filed. In September of 2022, the U.S. District Court, Florence Pan, to whom the case was assigned, was appointed to the D.C. Circuit, and the case has been reassigned to Judge Reyes.

The next four matters have to do with enforcement of orders originating in the Office of Campaign Finance having to do with failure to file particular reports' receipts and expenditures. The first is the D.C. Board of Elections v. Marlena Edwards, and all four of these cases are in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia.

This matter was filed in the D.C.

Superior Court on February 15th at a March 20th show cause hearing. Judge Mitchell-Rankin granted the Board's requested and entered a judgment of \$1,650 against Ms. Edwards.

The next matter is D.C. Board of
Elections v. Courtney Snowden. This was filed on
February 15th at a March 21st show cause hearing.
Judge Mitchell-Rankin granted the Board's
requested and entered a judgment of \$1,650

against Ms. Snowden.

The next matter is D.C. Board of
Elections v. Lamont Harrell. This was also filed
on February 15th. A March 17th 2023 show cause
hearing before Senior Judge Dixon (phonetic) was
continued to April 4th to allow the Board to
pursue service of process on Mr. Harrell.

We sent mail to him at his last known address, but that was returned by the U.S. Postal Service. On April 4th, the Court continued this matter to July 5th to allow another chance for service.

The next matter is D.C. Board of

Elections v. Jacque Patterson. This was filed in

D.C. Superior Court on January 25th. The case

has been set for an initial status hearing before

Judge Dayson on April 28th.

And the final matter is Stacia Hall v.

The D.C. Board of Elections. On March 14th,

plaintiffs filed a challenge to the Local

Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act on the

ground that the constitution precludes non-

citizens from voting.

An initial status hearing is scheduled before Judge Puig-Lugo on June 23rd. As this is a challenge to the validity of a provision of the District's election statute, the Board is being represented by the Office of the Attorney General in this matter.

And that concludes the litigation status and my report.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, thank you so much.

All right, and now we'll turn to Cecily Collier-Montgomery for the Office of Campaign Finance.

MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: For the month of March 2023 will be posted at the OCF website, www.ocf.dc.gov, before the close of business today. I will, however, at this time highlight a few items of interest for the public from the report.

First, in the Fair Elections Program
Division, the Office of Campaign Finance as of

this date has authorized a total sum of \$13,557,106.70 for disbursement from the Fair Elections Fund and base amount and matching payments to the 42 candidates who were certified in the program to participate in the 2022 election cycle. The 2022 election cycle closed on November the 8th, 2022.

For the 2024 election cycle during the month of March '23, the OCF certified the candidate, Salim Adofo, on March the 21st, 2023, as the participating candidate in the Fair Elections Program in the June 25th 2024 primary election for the covered office of member the council from Ward 8.

The Agency authorized for a disbursement to the candidate the sums of \$56,244.40 and matching payment and \$20,000 for the base amount payment, which is the first one-half of the authorized \$40,000 statutory amount that is prescribed for this covered office.

I would also mention that the candidate did meet the minimum requirements for

certification for this covered office and basically for the office of ward member of the council, the candidate must obtain at least (audio interference) qualify small dollar contributions from residents of the District of Columbia from at least 150 small dollar contributors with an aggregate total of \$5,000 or more.

The desk reviews (phonetic) in the fair elections program, the fair elections division conducted 46 desk reviews of the January 31st 2023 reports of receipts and expenditures, which should have been filed with the Office, and also issued ten requests for additional information based on the reviews of those financial reports.

We've remitted funds as of March 2023. The total sum of \$686,433.82 has been remitted for deposit in the fair elections fund from the campaign operations of candidates who were certified to participate in the 2022 election cycle.

And for members of the public, I would also indicate that Fair Elections Act requires candidates who are certified to participate in election cycle to return surplus funds at the end of the cycle.

With the post-election full field audits in the fair election division, there are currently 18 post-election audits for the 2022 election cycle, which are ongoing at various stages in the audit process. The audits and the status of each are listed in the OCF report.

I would also indicate that the FEP has completed a total of 16 final audit reports for the 2020 election cycle, which are posted at the website and are available for review by the public.

The FEP also issued 42 post-election audit letters on March 13th, 2023, and March 24th, 2023, to the candidates who were certified to participate in the June 2022 primary election and the November 2022 general election.

Our public information and records

management division for month of March 2023, there was one due date for the filing of reports of receipts and expenditures, and that was the March 31st, 2023, final due date for filing of the ANC summary financial statement by the candidates for advisory neighborhood commission member who participated in the November 2022 general election. The realtime images of the reports that were filed are available again at our website for review by the public.

For the 2024 election cycle during the month of March 2023, there were no new candidates or committees who registered to participate in either the traditional campaign finance program or the fair elections program.

The PIRM division also referred 28 committees to the Office of the General Counsel on March the 3rd, 2023, for the initiation of enforcement action for the failure to file the January 31st, 2023, report of receipts and expenditures. The list of the committees referred is included in our full report, which

will again be posted before the close of business today.

In our traditional campaign finance program for the audits of financial reports, our reports analysis and audit division during the month of March, the traditional program conducted 60 desk reviews of receipts and expenditures, which have been filed during the month of January and issued two requests for additional information as a result of the desk reviews.

There are ongoing audits in the traditional campaign finance program. First, there are four full field audits before the audit branch, which were initiated in February 2023 of the campaign operations of the candidates who were newly elected to office during the 2022 general election and also of any other committees which were active during the 2022 election cycle, which the audit manager selected for audit.

The full field audits are being conducted of the following campaign operations. First, Mendelson for Chairman 2022, Kenyan

1 McDuffie 2022, Eric Goulet, State Board of 2 Education, and Oye for U.S. representative. 3 The audit branch is also in the 4 process of conducting periodic audits of the 5 January 31st 2023 financial report, which were filed by political action committees. There are 6 7 two ongoing reports. The first is the D.C. Engineers PAC. 8 The second is the D.C. for Democracy 9 10 PAC. And that completes the report for the 11 Office of the Director. I would ask the General 12 Counsel, William Sanford, to now give the report 13 for the Office of the General Counsel for the 14 Office of Campaign Finance. 15 MR. SANFORD: Thank you, Director. Good morning, Mr. Chairman and 16 17 distinguished board members, Greenfield and 18 I am William Sandord, General Counsel for 19 the Office of Campaign Finance. 20 The Office of Campaign Finance 21 appeared before the District of Columbia Council

Committee on executive administration and labor

(phonetic) during an oversight hearing on the budget and provided testimony regarding the fiscal year 2024 budget on March 28th, 2023.

Our primary concern during that hearing is to secure sufficient financing for the fair elections program during the 2024 election cycle during fiscal year 2024.

During the month of March 2023, the Office of the General Council received 30 referrals, completed 18 informal hearings which included the following.

Eight orders were issued in which a total of \$10,750 were fines was imposed. Seven orders were issued in which no fines were imposed. And three orders in which the notice of hearings and status of violations were vacated or issued.

During the month of March 2023, the
Office of the General Counsel imposed fines
against the following respondents. Fine of
\$2,450 was imposed against Butler Tamiah
(phonetic) Principle Campaign Committee. A fine

of \$650 was imposed against Oye, U.S. Representative.

A fine of \$350 was imposed against
Citizens for Safer D.C. A fine of \$1,475 was
imposed against Better Leadership D.C. A fine of
\$3,450 was imposed against the Ward 7 democrat.
A fine of \$500 was imposed against Food Service
Political Action Committee.

A fine of \$1,025 was imposed against the Committee to Elect Karim Marshall. And a fine of \$850 was imposed against Friends of Best (phonetic) Principle Campaign Committee.

During the month of March 2023, the Office of Campaign Finance collected a total of \$3,025 from the following respondent committees.

A fine of \$500 was paid by Food Service Political Action Committee.

A fine of \$1,025 was paid by the Committee to Elect Karim Marshall. A fine of \$650 was paid by Oye, a U.S. representative. And finally a fine of \$850 was paid by Friends of Best Principal Campaign Committee.

During the month of March 2023, the Office of the General Counsel issued orders in the final two open investigations. They are as follows.

OCF Docket 2022-009 in the matter of Respondent Tricia Duncan and Benjamin Bregman.

The allegation was receipt of illegal in-kind contributions. The order was issued on the 16th of March 2023 dismissing the complaint.

The second matter was OCF Docket 2022-0012, complaint filed by Eric Goulet. The respondent was Elissa Silverman and the Elissa Silverman for D.C. Principal Campaign Committee. The allegation was a violation of the fair elections act on making an illegal contribution to another principal campaign committee. That order was issued on March 23rd, 2023. And the complaint was dismissed.

During the month of March 2023, there were no request (audio interference) opinion and no show cause proceedings were conducted.

The contents of this report will be

1	published at the OCF website later on on today's
2	date, April 5th, 2023. And that should conclude
3	my report.
4	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you so much.
5	Quick question. The March 16th dismissal of the
6	Duncan Bregman complaint and the March 23rd
7	dismissal of the Goulet complaint, what is their
8	timeline for appeal if they would like to do
9	that? Or has it passed?
10	MR. SANFORD: Well, the complainants
11	are not parties, so they do not have a right to
12	appeal.
13	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. There's no
14	appellate clock
15	MR. SANFORD: There is no appellate
16	route for the complainants in matters that were
17	submitted.
18	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, thanks.
19	MR. SANFORD: Unlike in the initial
20	case with Silverman who was a party, and she had
21	a right to appeal.
22	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. All right,

1 thank you so much. 2 MR. SANFORD: Sure. 3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, that 4 concludes our reports. We'll turn now to comment from the public. It looks like we've got 22 5 people joining us by Zoom. Thank you again for 6 7 joining us. We'll hear from anybody who would 8 like to speak. Let's start with D.C. residents. 9 Anyone who's a personal resident of D.C., just 10 raise your Zoom hand, if you will, and we'll 11 unmute you. MS. BRIZILL: Chairman --12 13 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: And then we'll 14 turn to --15 (Simultaneous speaking) 16 MS. BRIZILL: -- my name is Dorothy 17 I would like to make a public comment. 18 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ms. Brizill, we 19 can hear your voice very faintly, just barely. 20 Let me see if you -- I don't know if you can make 21 an adjustment on your end? 22 MS. BRIZILL: I just got notice that

1 your host unmuted me. Can you hear me better 2 now? 3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Yes, we can hear you a little bit better. And I wanted to start 4 with D.C. local residents. Can you give us your 5 address? 6 7 MS. BRIZILL: 1327 Girard Street 8 Northwest. 9 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. So, why 10 don't you go ahead and make your comment. We try 11 to keep things to three minutes, but there's not 12 a strict clock here. But why don't you go ahead 13 and make your comment, and when you're done, 14 we'll address whatever it is. 15 MS. BRIZILL: I would like to bring to 16 the Board's attention, and I indeed I seek your 17 assistance regarding securing information that is requested from the Board of Elections, namely its 18 19 public information officer. 20 Over the past two, three months, 21 there's been a performance hearing and there's 22 been a budget hearing before the Council. Issues

have arisen. I have followed up with details, emails requesting information, and I have been denied information at every turn, okay.

Let me give you an example. At the performance and budget hearing, the Board of Elections testified that it needed certain budget enhancements, okay. In the written testimony, the only thing that referenced those budget enhancements were 15 additional FTEs. I followed up with an email to Nick Jacobs asking would 15 FTEs do.

The only other reference in the testimony was three FTEs needed at the vote mail processing center at the warehouse, which we know only would be operative during election season.

Moreover, during the performance and budget hearing, issues were raised regarding the conditions at the warehouse and the number of staff working at the warehouse. An allusion was made to problems regarding lack of toilet facilities.

I followed up with an email to Mr.

Jacobs, and he has refused to indicate what the problems are at the warehouse. I am asking that question because if you are processing thousands and thousands of mail-in ballots, does the Board at this time prior to the 2024 election need to find another location, a vacant school building, a vacant D.C. government facility to process those ballots?

Moreover, in the performance hearing and budget hearing, the Board of Elections indicated it was going to revamp its website and improve security with the elections system.

In emails to Mr. Jacobs, he has refused to indicate what the revamp would be, whether or not it's going to be done in-house, whether or not it's going to be contracted, whether or not the BOE has the staff.

My final concern has to do with the maintenance and cleaning of the voter rolls. I have asked specific information as regard what that process would be. I know that you are mandated by law to begin the process by the month

of March.

I specifically wanted, and other people want to know, why and when you are going to begin that process, especially since you have had so many mailed in ballots that have been returned as either not deliverable or not returned at all.

I was surprised to review records on the Federal Election Assistance Commission website that indicated that the D.C. Board of Elections had applied to use \$75,000 out of a million-dollar grant to engage a credit reporting agency to assist in cleaning up the voter roll.

Now, it is universally known that credit reporting agencies, the information on the system, is marginally, marginally accurate at best. Why would the D.C. Board of Elections engage a credit reporting agency to do this important work?

The bottom line, I would like specific answers to my multiple requests to the PIO and the executive director of the Board of Elections

to these questions.

But moreover, the Board, the Board itself, has to assume responsibility for the fact that the staff at the Board of Elections will not respond to emails, will not provide information, and this is contrary to D.C. law, specifically mandated in D.C. law.

MS. EVANS: Thank you, Ms. Brizill.

I can address some of the matters that you raised. The information you requested, excuse me, regarding our enhancement request and warehouse conditions, all of that is included in our official response to the D.C. Council, and our response is posted on the website.

All of the details of the enhancements, that is the same information we provided to the Office on Budget and Performance Management, and the exact same information we provided to the Council, and it articulates all of the positions and the enhancements and warehouse conditions.

As far as revamping the website, we

are still exploring options, and so we do not have a definitive answer as far as whether we will have to contract out with the changes to the website. As soon as those decisions have been made, they will be shared.

As far as maintenance of our voter rolls, we've actually provided a portion on our website that is specifically devoted to maintenance of voter rolls, and so that information is being updated as we have updates to provide to the public.

And finally with the credit reporting agency, Orange County in California has been engaged and has a working relationship with a credit reporting agency to assist in the clean-up and maintenance of voter rolls. It has proven to be a very successful tactic.

It is by no means the only tactic we will use to ensure our voter rolls are updated and maintained, but we are trying to cast the widest net we can to ensure we getting information timely, particularly because all

1 states are not member states of ERIC. Thank you. 2 All right, yes. CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: 3 Thank you, Director Evans. Thank you so much (simultaneous speaking) for your comment --4 5 MS. BRIZILL: Mr. Chairman --6 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Hold on, please. 7 Thank you so much for your comment. 8 really the Board's job to micromanage emails or 9 email requests or responses, but I have seen an 10 enormous amount of effort expended by BOE staff, 11 including the PIO, responding to your request. 12 And it's my observation that their 13 responses have been timely and thorough, 14 notwithstanding the regular request for 15 information and more information, much of which 16 is public, and has been transparent and explained 17 on the record at board meetings and otherwise 18 made available at Council Oversight meetings, et 19 cetera. 20 Although it's not really my role, I am 21 100 percent fully satisfied that every request 22 you've made has been addressed in a timely and

thorough manner, and I want to thank the PIO and the BOE staff generally for all their efforts in that regard.

And then regarding the issues that you've ticked off, we've heard a lot about all these issues over these many months. I've learned a lot, and I know for a fact that there's been great transparency and discussion about, for example, the warehouse which came up in the Council Oversight hearing and budget hearing, improving to the website, and especially regarding voter roll maintenance.

There's been longstanding discussions on that in our monthly meetings and at Council Oversight hearings, and it's quite clear what's happening from this very transparent process.

There's a process that will take place throughout this year to send notices out to voters on the list whose ballots were returned, et cetera, so that in due course after another postcard goes out, there will be a moment later this year where thousands, if not tens of

thousands of voters are moved from the active to the inactive list.

That in turn will reduce the active voter roll, which plays a role in establishing the denominator for voter initiatives and a lot of other things for statistics that are important. But just by way of personal observation, I recently attended a voter registration drive. It was a high school.

I really like voter registrations.

It's a lot of fun to see young people especially registered to vote for the first time, and it's very meaningful, and it's very important from my observation that our citizens are registered to vote. So they have the opportunity to vote if they so choose.

And voting, of course, is not a useit-or-lose-it right. You don't have to vote,
even though you're registered. You don't have to
vote in one cycle or two cycles or three cycles.
We welcome all of our residents on the voter
registration list.

And, you know, we aren't trying -it's not our goal to reduce the number of people
on the registration list. We put a lot of effort
and resource into registering voters. That said,
we're a transient town. We really can't be
compared to states like Oregon or Washington
State.

We have our own very unique circumstance with a lot of people coming and going. Maybe some of those kids will soon be off to college and never actually vote here, who knows. But we balance that out with a process to reduce our voter rolls, move people on to the inactive list.

Even if somebody's on the inactive list, it's not obviously fatal to their right to vote. It would be very easy to them to recapture their active registration, or if need be we have same-day registration as well.

So nobody would be disenfranchised, but all that said, yes, we're obviously focused on the issue of addressing the accuracy of the

voter rolls both internally from all the information we have here in D.C. and externally through the ERIC system and otherwise, and there's a lot of focus on that.

It's been the subject of great discussion with Councilmember Bonds and others. There's been a lot of information released on that in our reports that have been made public. It's something we're obviously addressing.

It's something that's very clearly spelled out in our regulations as well in terms of a process that's being followed. And a lot of work is going into it this year.

And once again, I would like to thank the BOE staff who are hard at work on that issue and will be especially for the rest of this year in advance of the next election cycle. And in terms of the information about that process as this is happening, it's all public.

It's been made public, and the information requests that I've seen have been addressed and will continue to be addressed in a

timely and thorough manner as it has been from everything that I've seen. I just wanted to say it out on the record as well.

And with that, turn to any other public comment that might be out there at this time.

MR. AMENE: And if I may, Chairman.

This is Abel Amene. I am a resident of D.C. at

506 Longfellow Street. I just wanted to talk

about a few things. I am myself a non-citizen.

I'm not registered to vote, and I cannot register

to vote until full implementation of the Local

Residents Voting Rights Act. I'm here to just

encourage continued work on this.

I was heartened to hear the comments earlier by Director Evans, and I also have knowledge of the last item mentioned by the general counsel as well. But I just wanted to continue to encourage implementation of this law and so we can get to the point where we can start to register non-citizens as soon as possible.

I know that's still quite a bit away,

but the sooner we can do that, the sooner we can register folks in time for the elections. I also wanted to point out that I believe the Council has given authority to start using the D.C.'s healthcare finance databases as a source of voter registration, and I wanted to encourage use of that.

Specifically, there's one program under there called the D.C. Health Alliance, which is entirely made up of non-citizens. I just wanted to, not to be the ideas guy, but to really acknowledge that particular database. I think there was discussion of sending mailers.

I would highly encourage sending mailers to every single person on that list since the entire list is known to be non-citizens.

And, yes, generally just encourage implementation of this law as soon as possible, and with the highest speeds. Specifically, to update the methods of registering as soon as funding becomes available so that we can start registering folks.

I've reached out to the director and

offered -- we have quite a few organizations that are focused on immigrants, and we're happy to connect you with those, and I'm very heartened to get a response and to -- hopeful that you'll use us as a resource. There are many organizations that are connected to non-citizens that could be a resource for you. Thank you for that.

MS. EVANS: Yes, and thank you for your comments and also for your efforts to assist us with this as we move forward.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Yes, I also wanted to say thank you, Mr. Amene. It's much appreciated. You know, obviously, our board, our staff implements the law as its been passed, and that's what we're doing. I noticed that, as an aside, there's a lawsuit by Ms. Stacia Hall that General Counsel Stroud mentioned brought before the D.C. Superior Court.

And at some point, that court and probably the D.C. Court of Appeals will opine on the propriety of the D.C. Local Resident Voting Rights act. But our assumption is that unless

and until a court says otherwise, it's law, and we're following it and we're implementing it.

On the implementation side, I heard at the council budget hearing some questions about whether the act is adequately funded. From what I heard, the proposed budget anyway, is reducing our budget at the same that we're being asked to do more under both the Modernization Act as well as the D.C. Local Resident Voting Rights Act.

But I heard Councilmember Bonds very positively address that issue, and I assume that in due course the funding will be put in place to ensure that we have all the financial resources we need to implement the D.C. Local Resident Voting Rights Act, and we will with all the staff and resources that hopefully will be made available to us.

There's obviously a lot to do and a plan for it during the rest of the year, and you're right, when that moment comes, registration is going to be a vital threshold step to bring new voters into the system. So I

1 want you to know we're committed to it. I just 2 wanted to give you my comments. Any other detail or anything else you want to add? 3 MS. EVANS: No, thank you for that 4 5 summary. 6 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. 7 Anybody else out there? 8 MS. McCLURE: Yes, this is Nicole. Ι 9 live at 1345 South Capitol Street. I just have a 10 question, actually. I'm going to circle back to 11 the cross-state workgroup, it's very interesting that you're going to be joining that. 12 13 My questions to that are how big is 14 that workgroup, how many states are involved, 15 what states are involved? Do you guys have 16 golden metrics? Are you looking to create like 17 another version of ERIC so you have two systems 18 running at the same time? And what do you expect 19 the expectation is on the voter rolls, on 20 cleaning it up? 21 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Currently, 22 there are 26 states and the District of Columbia

participating in the workgroup. We've actually only had one meeting, and we really discussed the goal. And the goal is to make sure we have a mechanism to share data, particularly with those states who are not ERIC member states.

Nothing has been finalized as far as how that will work. It's likely this will not be a membership organization such as ERIC where you are working primarily with technology individuals in this space to see what secure mechanisms we can use to share data across states so that we are confident that we are addressing individuals who attempt to vote in multiple jurisdictions.

At this point, I think the focus is going to be on cross-state voting and the potentials of fraudulent voting, but we do plan to eventually look at using the cross group to address list maintenance efforts as well.

But as far as the individual states,

I don't have all 26 before me, but I can

absolutely follow up with you if you're

interested in the states that are participating

1	in the workgroup. Some of them are current ERIC
2	members, some of them are former ERIC members,
3	and some of them were never ERIC members.
4	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, thank
5	you so much for your comment. All right, good
6	questions today. Anybody else? Any other
7	comment from the public?
8	(Pause.)
9	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, well,
10	hearing none and hearing no other business before
11	us, so at this time I move that we adjourn.
12	All in favor?
13	(Chorus of ayes.)
14	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you.
15	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
16	went off the record at 11:22 a.m.)
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## <u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 04-05-23

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.

Court Reporter

near Nous &

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

TUESDAY

JUNE 20, 2023

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Video/Teleconference, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY THOMPSON, Chair KARYN GREENFIELD, Member J.C. BOGGS, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Director TERRI STROUD, General Counsel CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Office of Campaign Finance WILLIAM SANFORD, General Counsel

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Call to Order
Ascertainment of Quorum
Adoption of Agenda/Approval of Minutes
Board Matters
Executive Director's Report
General Counsel's Report
Campaign Finance Report
Public Matters
Adiournment

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	(10:38 a.m.)
3	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: My name is
4	Gary Thompson, the Chair of the Board of
5	Elections. And we have a full quorum here today,
6	with all three of our Board members: J.C. Boggs,
7	Karyn Greenfield. We're all here, so we have a
8	quorum, and we can proceed with business.
9	First thing we do as a quick
10	housekeeping matter is we adopt our agenda, which
11	has been distributed in advance for all to see.
12	It was amended, which I'll explain in a second,
13	but at with that, I would move the agenda.
14	MEMBER BOGGS: Second.
15	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All in favor?
16	MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
17	MEMBER BOGGS: Aye.
18	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Second quick
19	housekeeping thing is we all had a chance to
20	review the minutes from our prior meeting in May,
21	had a chance to make any suggestions. We've all
22	looked at it, so, at this time, I would move that

we adopt our minutes.

MEMBER GREENFIELD: Second.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All in favor?

(Chorus of aye.)

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Minutes are adopted. Next on our agenda is our Board

matters.

And I wanted to summarize, at the outset of this meeting, the status of a new voter initiative that has been submitted, the Make All Votes Count Act of 2024, which appears to have two components, one regarding ranked-choice voting, one regarding open primaries.

It was submitted in time to be considered in this meeting with respect to whether it is a, quote, proper subject, under our laws, but I understand that last week, it was withdrawn and resubmitted, which restarts the clock on public notices and consideration. So it has been moved to our July meeting or discussion. So that's the status of it.

And just to explain, I think, what a

lot of people know, but in case not everybody understands, in DC, of course, the voters are allowed to propose laws. It's not the same as when the DC council proposes a law. There are certain laws and regulations that govern and, to some extent, limit the scope of what a voter initiative can do. This stems from our DC charter itself, which is like our constitution, which makes it a provision for --

(Audio interference.)

(Pause.)

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: They must have gone away. The term initiative, as defined in the charter, means the process by which the electors of the District of Columbia may propose laws, except laws appropriating funds, and present such proposed laws directly to the registered qualified electors of the District of Columbia for their approval or disapproval.

So there's a parenthetical that says except laws appropriating funds. And that, among other requirements to qualify as a voter

initiative to make it onto the ballot has to be considered by our Board in a couple steps.

The very first step that we take is we make sure that the voter initiative follows seven different requirements. And we're not considering that today, but just to sort of review the process for everybody, number 1, it can't conflict with or amend our charter, which is in the Home Rule Act. It can't conflict with the United States Constitution, obviously. has to be properly filed. There has to be a verified statement of contributions filed. can't authorize discrimination in violation of the DC Human Rights Act. It can't negate or limit a budgetary act of the DC Council, or it cannot impermissibly appropriate funds under applicable DC Court of Appeals Ruling.

So one of the parts of this process is, right out of the box, there are two advisory opinions issued with respect to any proposed voters' initiatives. One opinion comes from the Office of the Attorney General, and one opinion

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comes from the Office of the General Counsel of the Council of the District of Columbia. And we received both of those opinions of June 9th. And both of those opinions were issued with respect to the Make All Votes Count Act of 2024 as it was submitted. And I won't try to summarize what these two opinions say, but they are both, almost entirely, concerned with whether the proposed initiative is a law, quote, appropriating funds.

And there are certain DC Court of

Appeals -- that's our highest court -- opinions

that give guidance to us on how to look at that

issue. This Board, itself, has issued opinions

in that regard, over the years. So we have a

body of law, including our own opinions, to

review, but the process starts with these two

advisory opinions which come from these two

respective Counsels.

So we got these opinions. They're public. Other people saw them. I assume that the proposer of the initiative saw these opinions.

One of them, the opinion of the Office of the Attorney General, makes a suggestion regarding the language of the initiative that may or may not allow it to survive scrutiny under this limitation on making appropriation. So it appears they deemed it wise to withdraw the initiative as submitted and resubmit it with this new language that is suggested by the Attorney General Brian Schwalb.

And so, that has now been -- the process has now been followed. What it does is it resets the clock for our consideration because we have to publish the new initiative with the amended language, provide opportunity for public comment, et cetera. So that's why about a week ago, I think we all thought that this would be that hearing. But then, once these opinions came out and the initiative was withdrawn and resubmitted, it has reset the clock for our consideration on the proper subject issue, which will take place in our July meeting, which, because of the clock and the way the schedule

works in terms of 30 days' notice, et cetera, I believe we'll hold on July 18th. So I'm' going to ask General Counsel Terri Stroud to clarify.

(Simultaneous speaking.)

MS. STROUD: It is, actually, that we will publish the notice in the DC Register, allowing people to be notified of the proper subject hearing, which is tentatively scheduled for July 18th.

And the reason why we have scheduled it accordingly is because the Office of the Attorney General and the General Counsel for the Council have 15 business days from the date that they receive the notice of the submission of the initiative to provide advisory opinions regarding the same. And so that is why we're waiting 15 business days to have a meeting on the propriety of the measure. And so that is the reason for the July 18th date.

But it will be published in the DC

Register and the individuals will have notice of

it. And that notice should be published in the

Register on June 30th because it will be sent up to the Register, and it will be published in time for it to appear in the -- not this Friday's edition of the DC Register, but next Friday's edition of the DC Register.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. All that said, if anybody is here to comment on or about this voter initiative, in person or by Zoom, you are welcome to comment. We'll -- we have some other things on the agenda first, but once public comments start, you're welcome to make your comment. We'll take notes. We'll remember it and take it under advisement for our next meeting.

We won't be voting today on this, but you're welcome to make your comment. It may or may not have to do with this little nuance from this Attorney General's opinion that changes the language in a way that has to deal with the finer points of the Court of Appeals test. If it -- it may not have anything to do with that. It may be about other aspects of the voter initiative. So

we'd love to hear from you today.

You're obviously more than welcome to return on -- in July, in our July meeting, to comment further. So we'll open the floor to your comments at that time.

And also, one other sort of final comment about voter initiatives, in case it's not obvious, is what our role is, on the Board, is to ensure that a voter initiative complies with these seven requirements. And then we get into the language that gets on the ballot, and the short summary, and how it's seen by voters, and these are all process-oriented things that we consider.

We do not take a position on the merits of the proposed initiative in any way. We were not -- we're not for it; we're not against it. But we don't mean to suggest, at any point in this process, that we're for or against it. That's strictly for the voters to decide. Our role is just to make sure that the initiative complies with the law and that the wording of the

initiative is fair and balanced and appropriate for voters to, you know, one day read in the voting booth, so --

MS. STROUD: I will just add to that that the notice that we will publish in the DC Register will indicate that with respect to this iteration of the initiative, we will accept proposed testimony for the hearing on the 18th by the close of business on Thursday, I believe it's July 15th, but let me just check. But I think that that is when we have indicated that comments would be due, and individuals can also let us know by that date whether or not they would like to speak on -- regarding the measure, specifically the criteria that the Chair discussed.

And yes, that would be -- actually, it would be Thursday, July 13th, at 4:45 p.m., for the July 18th hearing, which will be at 10:30 a.m. So there will be that opportunity to address and submit written testimony or an indication that you wish to testify at the 18th

1	meeting; there will be that opportunity by the
2	13th of July.
3	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank
4	you.
5	Before proceeding with the Executive
6	Director's report, any other Board matters that
7	anybody would like to raise?
8	MEMBER GREENFIELD: No, I don't have
9	any.
10	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank
11	you so much.
12	With that, Monica Holman Evans, our
13	Executive Director.
14	MS. EVANS: Good morning. The
15	Executive Director Report for the month of May is
16	as follows. First, as far as precinct mapping,
17	as required by regulations, the Board is looking
18	at our current precinct boundaries to divide the
19	district into appropriate voting precincts based
20	on our Election Boards. We are working with
21	Gottlieb Simon to complete this task. Our
22	proposed precinct boundaries are currently being

finalized and will be posted for review.

ANC vacancies, we have 13 ANC vacancies for the 2023/2025 term. These positions are in different stages of being filled. After candidate filing requirements are met, an open vote of registered voters of the affected SMD will be held during regularly scheduled ANC meetings.

We are currently engaged in off-year election planning for 2024. And we are looking, of course, at the requirements of the Elections Modernization Amendment Act and the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act to ensure we are compliant. We are working with our database vendor to determine what is needed to augment our current systems. And we are also talking about the data visualization interface on our website that is required under the EMA. VR Systems is assisting us with these efforts. Additionally, we will acquire additional equipment to assist with our mail ballot processing activities.

And our brochures have been revised

and will be sent to the printer. And again, the following brochures are Voting at the District of Columbia, The Voter Guide for Incarcerated Citizens, Guide for Returning Citizens, College Student Voting Guide, High School Student Voting Guide, Being A Student Election Worker, and Conducting A Voter Registration Drive. We are also working on a brochure that will be used to assist us with outreach to non-citizens in the District of Columbia.

Additionally, we are updating the Election Worker Training Manual, developing a 2024 voter education outreach plan, and assessing our plan for vote center and mail ballot drop box locations. Our plan for the vote center and mail ballot drop box locations will be posted this summer for comment.

As previously mentioned, we joined a cross-state data work group to explore ways to share our voter history, to address cross-state voter fraud. Even though we are a member of ERIC, the Electronic Registration Information

Center, many states are not members. Our participation with this work group will allow us to engage more states. And currently, subgroups have met to discuss the development of a legal MOU and data sharing.

We have also reached out to the

Department of Motor Vehicles to determine if they

are utilizing the state-to-state data-sharing

program to report canceled licenses. Using this

program is another step in identifying DC

residents who move.

We are engaged in conversations with Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina to discuss the best ways to share data and upset -- update information outside of ERIC. All of the most voting history data is in, and all of the deceased and in-state reports have been received from ERIC. We are currently working on crossstate triage. More detailed information regarding our 2024 election planning will be conveyed during a Council roundtable that will be held on Monday, June 26th.

Other administrative matters, voter education and outreach, during the month of May, the Voter Education and Outreach Division conducted eight outreach events on behalf of the Agency. Events included a voter registration drive at Senior Fest in Ward 8 and a voter registration drive at Bread for the City.

We have also successfully connected with a new community partner, DC Greens. DC seeks to build a more just and resilient food system in the district.

And finally, we are preparing a voter education/outreach strategy that will be used in the implementation of the Local Voter Rights

Amendment Act.

As far as our voter registration rolls, in May, we registered 1,172 new voters and processed 2,093 registration changes. In total, we prepared 3,265 voter registration cards to be mailed. Additionally, 30 registered voters moved out of DC, and 20 voters canceled their registrations and registered with other

jurisdictions. And 1,197 voters registered in DC after canceling their registrations in other states.

Online voter registration, we're continuing to register voters using our website portal. To date, we have processed over 35,515 applications using the portal, and these include new voter registrations and updates to existing registrations.

And that concludes my report. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so much, Director Evans.

Also, a note for the record that our Director represented our agency very well at a Congressional Hearing on June 7th, a couple weeks ago, where two different committees of Congress discussed a proposed act that had to do with elections, just in part, reporting to effect, the way we conduct our elections in the District of Columbia, our Executive Director was called to testify at that hearing, along with three other

individuals, and it -- I just want to note for the record that Director Evans really represented our agency very well that day.

With that, General Counsel Stroud.

MS. STROUD: Thank you. And good morning, everyone. The first item on my agenda is a proposed rulemaking. We are submitting, for the Board's consideration, a comprehensive review and amendment to chapters 1 through 2 and 5 through 19 and 99 of Title 3 of the DC Municipal Regulations. The purpose of these regulations, or the amendments thereto, is to have them conform with the Elections Modernization Amendment Act of 2022, which was legislation that was enacted in April of this year.

And the overall purpose of the EMA is to codify and make permanent some of the changes that were made to election administration that arose in light of the pandemic, for example, the addition of drop boxes, the implementation of vote by mail, and some other innovations regarding election administration in the District

of Columbia. And so, this legislation was designed to, again, make those permanent.

And so, we have the -- in the Office of the General Counsel, we have proposed rules that would address the changes to the statute and have amended our regulations accordingly. In addition, there's some other changes that have been implemented. And I will say, for the record, that this is just the first phase of what we're thinking that we will do. We will likely introduce other rulemaking that will address the specifics of vote by mail in the District.

Because there are several provisions in the EMA that have not yet been funded and we expect that to occur in due course. And so, as that occurs, we will update our regulations introduced. We'll make them to address the funding of those provisions.

And so, today, we seek to implement or introduce, for the Board's consideration, the first phase of rulemaking to address the changes to the EMA. And so, that -- with that, I would

ask for a motion from the Board to allow us to submit this rulemaking to the DC Register for publication. And they would be published on June 30th, which would launch a 30-day review period, which would end I think it's July 31st, as the 30th day is after a weekend, a Sunday, and so, the next day would be July 31st. But there's the opportunity to submit comments through the DC Register website or, also, directly to the Board through an email to the Office of the General Counsel. And so, with that, I submit this for the Board's consideration. And I'm happy to

answer any questions, with respect to the rulemaking, that the Board might have.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Yeah, thank you. I'm very pleased to make that motion to submit this proposed rulemaking to the DC Register for publication, public comment, et cetera, as you just described it.

> MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second it.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. I'11

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just -- just to explain just a little bit -- you can tell I like to explain things; I should be a teacher.

You know, when an act is passed by our DC Council or Congress or any legislative body, it -- how does that get translated into action? It happens through regulations that, at the Agency level, tell us, tell the public exactly what's done to follow and implement that law as passed. And it takes a lot of work to take a big act like the Election Modernization Amendment Act of 2022 and translate it with -- in great detail and with consistency with the act, into regulations.

And so, what Ms. Stroud was describing is 37 pages of excruciating detail that changes the language, in some cases, ever so slightly; in some case, new provisions for a lot of the provisions of our regulations' chapters 1 to 2, 5 to 19, and 99. So I just want to commend the amount of work that went into this. This is really meticulous stuff, and it requires a really

high degree of lawyering to, you know, eagle eye that this is being done properly.

So, and I just want everybody to know that this has been -- this has been ongoing for -- this has been an elaborate process that's been ongoing for many months. And we've had a chance to review it carefully and shepherd it and ask questions. So, you know, I just want to commend you for this getting to the point where this is being proposed.

MS. STROUD: And I just want to thank my wonderful staff. It's been a team effort.

Christine Pembroke has -- is awesome, as usual, and so are Karla Garcia, Tonisha Erskine,

Jay Penuel. And like, you know, we've had several team members, Marissa Corrente, vet it to make sure that we are crossing our Ts and dotting our Is, so I just want to highlight everyone who played a role.

And I just also want to say that upcoming rulemakings will address issues that have arisen in the past, with respect to the way

that we conduct business, nominate and petition, challenge hearings. So we're looking at, you know, sort of, another large-scale rulemaking that we will likely introduce in July.

And then beyond that, and we do have some time to, you know, get these things done.

So we've been really looking in depth at regulations that are consistent with the law but may not serve as well in terms of how we administer and process things. So we're looking at lots of things. And so I just wanted to highlight everyone that's playing a role in this.

Yeah, another example that struck me as may be relevant to a voter initiative is there's a new Section 518 called Systematic Voter Roll Maintenance Program: Biennial Mail Canvass is amended as follows. And it sets forth a very meticulous process for how we maintain and improve our voter rolls, starting with the March 31st mailing, which I think is already behind us.

And then it walks through the rest of

the process, depending on whether the voter card is returned undeliverable or accepted. The objective being to get as updated a set of addresses in the system as possible. And if registered voters are no longer living here, then they're moved into an inactive status, and ultimately, off the voter rolls, which is, you know, kind of a serious thing to take somebody off of the voter registration list.

But we are a very transient city.

People come and go. This was one of the things that Congress talked about in the hearing, and we do have a very elaborate, meticulous process.

The way this has to be done is really well laid out in 518.1, .2, .3, .4, et cetera.

So it's something that's in progress as we speak, throughout this calendar year, get to a point where our voter rolls are changed, namely, a certain number of voters will be removed from the rolls, so that when those ballots get mailed late next spring, early next summer, before the primary, you know, hopefully,

1	they'll be as accurate as we could possibly make
2	them, and onward, with the general election.
3	So that's one of the things that's
4	ironed out in here, in some detail. And it's
5	been the subject of a lot of discussion with, I
6	think, some of the people I see here,
7	participating.
8	With regard to our the last voter
9	initiative, number 82, from last year, so we
10	heard everybody loud and clear on that issue.
11	And it's something that we have been very
12	attentive to. And in part, it's reflected in
13	these regulations. That's just me talking more.
14	(Laughter.)
15	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Any Board have
16	a Board comment?
17	MEMBER GREENFIELD: No.
18	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. So
19	I'll call the vote on the motion. All in favor?
20	(Chorus of aye.)
21	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. So
22	that's three to nothing.

MS. STROUD: Thank you. So we will be submitting this initiative or -- initiative -- this rule -- proposed rulemaking to the DC Register. And because we will have it done in time for next week's register, it will be published on June 30th. And again, that will launch a 30-day review period. We will make copies of it available and post it on our website so that members of the public can have access to it. And we'll do that once we send it to the DC Register.

The next item on my agenda is litigation status. And I have five matters to discuss.

The first is Public Interest Legal
Foundation v. Monica Evans in her official
capacity as the Executive Director for the DC
Board of Elections. That matter is in a US
District Court for the District of Columbia. It
was filed in that court for the District of
Columbia under the National Voter Registration
Act. The suit alleges that the Board is out of

compliance with the NVRA's public records provision.

PILF had requested records from the Board which were denied due to they're not being subject to public disclosure. The OAG filed a motion to dismiss back in February. And in the interest of judicial efficiency, that motion was denied. And some of this has to do with the fact that a new judge had been assigned to the case because the previous judge on the matter was reassigned to the DC Circuit.

The motion to dismiss was denied on April 10th, and the Court issues a standing order directing the parties to file a joint status report in 21 days, that updates the Court on any developments, including settlement discussions and to propose a briefing schedule that would address the refiling of motions. That status report was timely filed and was followed by a status conference at which the judge directed the parties to file a further status report on today.

So the next matter is DC Board of

Elections v. Lamont Harrell. And this, in addition to the next matter I will address: DC Board of Elections v. Jacque Patterson, are both OCF fine enforcement matters that were filed in the DC Superior Court.

The Harrell matter was filed on
February 15th. There was a March 17th show cause
hearing before Senior Judge Dixon. That was
continued until April 4th, 2023, to allow the
Board to pursue service of process on
Mr. Harrell. The certified mail that was mailed
to him at his last known address was returned by
the US Postal Service. And so, on April 4th, the
Judge in Chambers granted a further extension
until July 5th, to allow the Board to pursue
service.

The Jacque Patterson matter was filed on January 25th, 2023, at DC Superior Court. On May 19th, the parties appeared at a status hearing that had been scheduled. And following discussions on the record, Judge Dayson granted the Board's motion for enforcement.

The next two matters concern

Stacia Hall v. the Board of Elections. The first matter was in the Superior Court for DC. On

March 14th, the plaintiffs filed a challenge to the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act, which would allow residents in DC who are non-citizens to vote in local elections. And the suit was filed for the reason that the constitution precludes -- on the grounds that the constitution precludes non-citizens from voting.

On May 4th, before the case could be heard, at an initial status conference scheduled for June 23rd, the Office of the Attorney

General, who was representing the Board in this matter, because it is a challenge to a DC Code provision, removed the case to the US District Court for the District of Columbia.

And then, the next matter is that matter but after it was removed to the US

District Court, so that's the fifth matter. On

May 4th, the DC Superior Court -- the case was removed to the US District Court. And on June

1 7th, the Office of Attorney General filed a 2 motion to dismiss the complaint. 3 And that concludes the litigation 4 status, as well as my overall report. 5 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Who's the judge in the federal case? Do we know? It's all right. 6 7 All right. 8 MS. STROUD: I'll look into that and 9 report back. 10 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. And as I've 11 said before, while that lawsuit proceeds regarding whether non-citizens can or can't vote, 12 13 consistent with the US Constitution, we'll 14 continue to follow our DC Counsel's act in that 15 regard and prepare ourselves accordingly with 16 respect to the 2024 election. 17 So, with that, Office of Campaign 18 Finance. Ms. Cecily Collier-Montgomery, thank 19 you. 20 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Good morning. For the record, the full report of the activity 21 22 of the Office of Campaign Finance for the month

of June 2023, will be posted at the OCF's website, www.ocf.dc.gov, before the close of business today. I will, however, highlight a few items of interest from the report, for members of the public.

With respect to community outreach during the month of May, the Office of Campaign Finance presented at four advisory neighborhood commission meetings and also at a branch of the District of Columbia public library. Information on the Agency's Traditional Campaign Finance and Fair Elections program was shared with the participants.

The ANCs and the library branch are as follows: ANC-AE on May the 1st, ANC-6E on May the 2nd, ANC-7D on May 9th, and ANC-3F on May 16th.

We also appeared at the Anacostia Neighborhood

Library on May the 17th.

In our Fair Elections Program

Division, and let me just point out and

acknowledge that the manager of our Fair

Elections Program, Erick Jackson, is present.

But during the month of May '23, I would point out that, with the 2022 election cycle, the Office of Campaign Finance has, as of this date, authorized the total sum of \$13,557,106.70 for disbursement from the Fair Elections Fund in base amount and matching payments to the 42 candidates who were certified in the program to participate in the June 21st, 2022, primary election and to participate in the November the 8th, 2022, general election.

With the 2024 election cycle, we have had two candidates who have registered to participate in the program, and one candidate has been certified. We have, as of this date, disbursed the sum of \$76,244.40 from the elections fund to the certified candidate who is Selene K. Adolfo, Friends of Selene Adolfo, who is -- who has registered to participate in the program as a candidate for a member of the Council from Ward 8.

Also, I would point out that there were no disbursements from the fund during the

month of May to participating candidates in either the 2022 cycle or for the 2024 election cycle. The Fair Elections Division also conducted 36 desk reviews of amended reports and receipts and expenditures which have been filed with the Agency and issued seven requests for additional information letters based on the desk reviews of the reports.

As of May 31st, 2023, the total sum of \$686,433.82 has been remitted for deposit in the Fair Elections Fund from the campaign operations of the candidates who participated in the 2022 election cycle.

With respect to audits in the division, with the 2022 election cycle, there are currently 16, 2020 post-election full field audits which are ongoing, before the Fair Elections Program, at various stages. The details of those audits are listed in our report.

I would also point out that the FEP

Division has issued a total of 18 final audit

reports of the post-election audits initiated for

the 2020 election cycle and that those audits are available for review by members of the public at our website.

With the 2022 post-election full field audit, as I have reported previously, the Agency issued 42 post-election audit letters for the candidates who participated in the primary and also in the November general election. During the month of May 2023, the Fair Elections

Division issued seven preliminary audit finding reports and three final audit reports.

The final audit reports were issued in the matter of Beau Finley from Ward 3. It was a compliance audit, and it was issued on May the 2nd, 2023. Elissa for DC, which was also a final audit report, was a compliance audit. And it was issued on May the 14th, 2023. And Ryan Jones for AG, which was a final audit report and a compliance audit as well and was issued on May the 16th, 2023. Again, the audits are available at our website for review by members of the public.

In the Public Information and Records
Management Division, there are new -- no due
dates for the month of May for the filing of
reports of receipts and expenditures.

With respect to new candidates and committees, we did have one new candidate committee who registered in the Traditional Campaign Finance program. And we did not have any new candidates in the Fair Election program during the month of May 2023.

For the Office of US Shadow

Representative, the candidate Brandaun Douglass

registered with the Office on May the 26th, 2023,

to participate in the primary election. And

again, this candidate registered in our

traditional program.

We also had one committee registration during the month of May. And that was with respect to the new initiative committee. And the committee registered on May the 17th, 2023. The committee is the Make All Votes Count DC. And again, the treasurer for that committee is

Phillip E. Pannell.

We also had candidates and treasurers who completed the mandatory training program during the month of May: Ebbon Allen, candidate for Ward 7 City Council; and Nia M. Thomas (phonetic) treasurer, Friends of Ebbon Allen.

In our Reports, Analysis, and Audit

Division -- and that is our traditional audit

program -- I would indicate that during the month

of May, the division conducted 17 reviews of

reports of receipts and expenditures which had

been filed with the Agency and issued one request

for additional information.

With respect to the audit program, the Traditional Audit program issued one audit and that was Eric Goulet for State Board of Education. The audit was issued on May the 26th, 2023. That was a compliance audit, and it was the audit of a newly elected official from the 2022 election cycle. Again, the audit is available at our website for review by the public.

There are two ongoing audits, which are full field audits, in the Traditional Campaign Finance program. And they both are of newly elected officials. The first is Mendelson for Chairman 2022. And with that audit, the audit fieldwork is complete, and the preliminary audit report, the draft, is under review by the audit manager.

The second is Kenyan McDuffie 2022.

And with that audit, again, the audit fieldwork is complete. And the draft is under review by the audit manager.

And that completes my report for the Officer of the Director, but I would ask that William Sanford who is the general counsel for the agency can send the report for the Office of the General Counsel.

MR. SANFORD: Thank you, Director.

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and distinguished

Board Members Greenfield and Boggs. I am

William Sanford, general counsel for the Office

of Campaign Finance.

During the month of May 2023, the

Office of the General Counsel received two

referrals from the Public Information and Records

Management division, completed six informal

hearings, and issued six orders, which included

the following: three orders in which it totaled

to \$3,000 in fines was imposed, and three orders

in which no fines were imposed.

During the month of May 2023, the

Office of the General Counsel imposed fines

against the following respondents: the fine of

\$1,000 was imposed against the Capital Stonewall

Democratic PAC, a fine of \$1,000 was imposed

against Partisans for Ward 8, and an additional

fine for \$1,000 was imposed against Partisans for

Ward 8.

During the month of May 2023, no new investigations were opened, no request for interpretive opinions were received, and no show cause proceedings were conducted.

The contents of this report will be published at the Office of Campaign Finance's

website later, on today's date, June 20th, 2023.

And that should conclude my report.

All right. CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank I don't have any questions, but I you so much. continue to admire the incredible attention to detail that the Office of Campaign Finance shows, especially with regard to these audits. They're so important to audit the way candidates in the traditional program use funds and in the Fair Elections program, which impacts the way that candidates utilize our public tax dollars. they have to file a lot of reports with a lot of detail, but we scrutinize those reports. these audits are really important to making sure that every T is crossed, every I is dotted, so it's all done appropriately and in compliance with the law. And it's easy for me to say that, explain that in a couple sentences, but the work it takes to accomplish that is really impressive. So, you know, once again, thank you for everything that, you know, your office does and including the investigations as well.

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1	MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: And that
2	concludes my report.
3	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. I
4	think, anything else before we turn to public
5	comment from anybody up here?
6	Okay. Hearing nothing, we have plenty
7	of time, at this point, to hear from members of
8	our public. And I'd like to start with anybody
9	who has come down to see us here in person. If
10	anybody you don't have to, but if anybody
11	wants to take the mic and say a few words, you're
12	more than welcome.
13	
14	Okay. If you change your mind, just raise
15	your hand, let us know.
16	So then, turning to our Zoom
17	attendees, just raise your Zoom hand, and as we
18	see them, we'll go ahead and ask you to speak.
19	And I think that very first hand just came up.
20	We'll have to ask you to unmute.
21	Yeah, go ahead. This is Abel Amene.
22	MR. AMENE: Thank you. I hope you can

hear me well. I'm outside. I'm at work today.

Sorry. I -- okay. I'm assuming you can hear me.

I wanted to comment about the section in the agenda on rulemaking, but before I do, I want to also take up this opportunity to talk about the subject we're going to talk about next hearing, next meeting, which is the ballot initiative. I was -- I want to say that I'm in favor of finding that this is proper subject matter. And the OAG's advisory opinion makes a very clear case for how ballot initiatives that include and are subject of appropriations, including the B section, are proper subject matters. And I will refer you to the OAG's advisory opinion on -- that makes a case for that, including Court opinions and recent legislation passed by the Council.

I want to -- but also talk more indepth and ask a few questions about the
rulemaking process. I understand this rulemaking
you're engaged in currently is focused on the
Election Modernization Act. I do note that the

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Election Modernization Act, just like the Local Resident's Voting Rights Act, was only fully funded very recently and that the most recent budget support act removes the applicant liquidity clause from the election modernization, making it fully funded. And that same budget support act also removes the applicability section from the -- this voting rights act, making that not only that the fact that it's been included in the budget but also removes any subject to appropriations language from the -- from the act.

Both these budget support acts, the Council has also included an emergency and that will make that -- that will implement that sooner than later, and that's currently on the mayor's desk. So I wanted to ask if this rulemaking process, while it's moving forward, will consider rulemaking for the Local Residents Voting Rights Act. And specifically, I'm asking about chapter 5, which as it currently reads, the DCMR does not include non-citizens. It would need to be

updated.

So I wanted to ask when the Board plans to update the DCMR to make the Local Resident's Act applicable and implementable in your rules. Thank you for that. And I'm happy to hear any response to that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so much for your question. That's an excellent question, and I'll ask our general counsel to address it.

MS. STROUD: Yes, thank you. The
Board does intend to or -- we intend to introduce
rulemaking with respect to the Local Resident
Voting Rights Amendment Act soon. As I indicated
earlier, this is just the first rulemaking that
we are doing around legislation pertaining to
elections that has been enacted by the Council.
And so, we're looking at introducing more
rulemaking in our next couple of meetings. And
so, that will be on the agenda as, you know, we
promulgate rulemaking for the Board's
consideration. And it will address the Local

1	Resident Voting Rights Act as well as other
2	legislation dealing with automatic voter
3	registration at the appropriate time. So, yes,
4	that will be something that will be introduced in
5	due course.
6	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: In this calendar
7	year?
8	MS. STROUD: In this calendar year.
9	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: In plenty of time
10	before the 2024 election.
11	MR. AMENE: Thank you very much. And
12	you can understand my excitement because that
13	will mean I will be a voter. So thank you very
14	much, and I will be participating in that
15	process. Thank you.
16	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank
17	you. We really appreciate your comment.
18	I see Nicholas Schiller has a hand
19	raised. Go ahead, Mr. Schiller, well, once
20	you're unmuted.
21	MR. SCHILLER: Thank you,
22	Chairman Thompson. I appreciate you taking my

question today. Nicholas Schiller, 2448
Massachusetts Avenue Northwest, Washington DC.

My question is mostly about -- I guess it's two parts. Part one is I received the updated voter roll from June 1st a couple days ago, and I was very concerned that during the budget hearing in March, the -- there was an announcement that there was going to be an update with respect to the voter roll, how the removal of inactive voters was going to be updated to the Councilmember Bonds.

And I noticed that some of the people, or at least one person in specific, wasn't removed, even though Councilmember Bonds had mentioned that that person was an inactive voter and that they had, you know, filled out the form for the mail-in ballot three different times, but that person hadn't been removed yet. And that person is still on the voter roll.

So my question is, is the voter roll going to be updated in, like, throughout the year? Is there going to be a big point in which

all of them are going to be removed? Because we
-- I haven't really heard much about the 86,000
ballots that were undeliverable. They were
mentioned during that congressional hearing. And
so I'm just very concerned that the update hasn't
been taking place on schedule.

And part two, the Election

Modernization Act, could the General Counsel

expand a little bit more about the process in

which inactive voters will be removed from the

voter roll? Thank you so much for your time, and

I hope you guys are having a wonderful summer

day.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Yes, good morning. I will begin, and then I'll turn it over to our General Counsel.

So we are in different stages of our list maintenance process. And one, you mentioned the 87,000 individuals that -- where we had ballots that were returned. And so, they essentially would be in phase two of removal.

And so, they would be candidates to receive our second mailer.

And so, our process includes two mailers to individuals. The first mailer is a non-forwardable postcard that goes out. That first mailer has gone to the printer, but the second mailer has not gone out yet. And so, that 87,000, they would be included in that batch with the second mailer that goes out. And because that returned ballot would essentially count as that first mailer because ballots are not forwardable.

So we are in the process of removing, and we will likely do that with one large effort. Once we get all of the information in hand, then we'll go through. So that will happen in due course. It will happen prior to any petitions or any ballots that are mailed. And so, we should wrap that up this summer. So I think I answered your questions. If I did not, please --

(Simultaneous speaking.)

MR. SCHILLER: Quickly, about the

1 Election Modernization Act, it outlines some 2 updates; could you explain a little bit more? And that will be published in the register next 3 week I assume? 4 5 MS. STROUD: It will be published on June 30th in the DC Register. And with respect 6 7 to the EMA, the only update was the --8 MR. SCHILLER: Thank you. 9 MS. STROUD: -- the deadline for 10 commencing the canvass was extended. Previously, 11 it would take place in January, but administratively, the Agency recognized that 12 13 post-election, and because of all of the post-14 election processes that have to occur, it was 15 really not workable to have that process 16 completed. And that process -- have it -- that 17 process completed by January of the next year. 18 And that was even the case prior to the 19 implementation of vote by mail, which, you know,

So we had requested that the Council

sort of, like, necessarily had to extend the

process.

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give us an extension in the legislation, with respect to the time in which we had to implement the process, even recognizing that there would be some circumstances under which we would need even more time than that. And there is a provision in 518 that allows for that. But if the question is with respect to -- so that's basically it. I mean, we got an extension of time from January to March 31st, with respect to when the process should begin for the canvass. CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank you. Thank you for the question. I thought I saw another hand up. Tom Donohue, Ward 8, there you go. MR. DONOHUE: Hello, and thank you for -- can everyone hear me okay? CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Sure can. MR. DONOHUE: Okay. Great. Thank Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak. Board, I come to you once again, in

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regards to the, I will say, at this point, antics of ANC-8A. The Board of Elections has sent two letters to the Board or -- excuse me -- to the ANC, clarifying the need for them to host a special meeting to review the potential of a vacancy in ANC-8A-03, which is Holly Muhammad. I have submitted multiple items of supporting documentations, not only to the Board, however -- and also to the ANC.

As of what I know of this moment, no such meeting has been called, nor do they have any intentions on calling it. They have informed us that they do not see that there is a vacancy. However, they do not provide any supporting documentation or any documentation whatsoever to tell us how they came to that unfair and inappropriate conclusion as they didn't take any of my input or ask me any questions, or even, from my understanding, consider the supporting documentation that I had provided.

I'd also like to bring to your attention, during our June meeting, the ANC, upon

my informing the meeting via the chat message option, the members of the ANC deleted all messages that I had put into the chat message to help inform my neighbors of your direction to the ANC to host this special meeting as soon as -- and this is -- this is -- what you're seeing in front of you is the message that I had posted, which included a Dropbox link directly to the letters that you had sent to the ANC.

Momentarily, you'll see that the ANC actually reads the message. She puts up her hands. She doesn't know what to do. And then, she immediately deletes them. She deleted multiple of these messages throughout the course of the meeting, preventing our ANC, my neighbors—they basically are preventing our neighbors from knowing that you folks have sent them a letter stating that they do need to have a special meeting to review the, in my opinion, vacancy that exists in ANC-8A-03 with Holly Muhammed.

As you may know, I've also taken some

additional steps because I am feeling, at this point, a little bit lost as to where we move from here. I even took this -- the unprecedented steps to file a motion in a civil complaint or in a civil complaint I have filed against

Holly Muhammad for defamation and libel -- one is written, and one is verbal -- where, on multiple occasions, Ms. Muhammed has made claims that I am a racist. That I do not like or that I hate women or black women and that I hate Muslims.

None of which, nobody, in the ten years I've been living here, has ever provided any supporting documentation for.

In that civil suit, she was able to be represented by the Office of the Attorney General because she does sit in that seat. It was my concern that Ms. Muhammed would not be eligible for that representation, given the fact that she doesn't live in the location that she says she lives. That location is also owned by a fellow ANC-8A Commissioner, Barbara Clark.

Basically, Holly is using, in my

opinion, that address as her own in order to run for office and to continue running for office. At no point has Holly ever declined or said that she doesn't live there. She even went to the extent of, after filing my civil complaint, she filed a bogus anti-stalking claim against me. And in that court hearing, under oath, she was asked what her address was. She refused to answer, leaving it up in the air to where she lived, to the judge. That anti-stalking case was ultimately dismissed. And it was just completely bogus.

The reason I'm before you today is because there needs to be some sort of action taken, enforceable action taken. It is very clear that the ANC, in their allegiance with each other, has determined that they are not going to be cooperative in hosting a special meeting, which would, in my opinion, with the already submitted documentation to the Board, prove that Ms. Muhammed does not live at that address which is owned by fellow ANC Commissioner Barbara

Clark.

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She has been -- there has been ten different attempts to serve Ms. Muhammad with the civil complaint that I was filing: three attempts by MPD and seven attempts by a professional process server. I even went to the extent of having her served during an actual ANC meeting where you would -- might -- where you -- the likelihood of her being home during a virtual meeting was probably pretty high. When the server, process server arrived, I informed Ms. Muhammed during the meeting that the process server was at her door and to ask her to go to her door and get the paperwork. Ms. Muhammad was not home. This seems to be the case every single time.

There is -- since additional information that have yet to be provided to the Board. However, this is a matter that, you know, that the Board is going to have to step in to.

Otherwise, we're in this loophole of a circle going around and around and around, where the ANC

is not going to hold -- host a meeting, even though the law tells them that they need to. And the Board of Elections refuses to investigate the matter due to it not being clear in the law that you have the opportunity to do so. I think that if mailings come back to an address -- oh go ahead.

(Simultaneous speaking.)

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Yeah, thank you.

I appreciate your comment. I know that you have a lot going on, but some lawsuits that you wanted to mention. I don't think we want to comment on any of that. I think that your core issue seems to be that you have information that you believe suggests that an ANC member is not a resident of the single member district that she was elected to. That's an issue that occurs from time to time in single member districts. It actually happened in my own single member district. So, I appreciate the issue.

I think as you and our Board have identified, the process for addressing that issue

takes place at the ANC level, which makes sense. The ANC should -- it's its own body. It should consider the evidence and make its own determination. And then, if it gets to the point, petition our Board to declare a vacancy. And I know that -- I know that law's been provided to you.

Your problem seems to be that the ANC won't take action. So I don't know what -- if the ANC won't take action in that regard, what there is to do. Maybe, I think you mentioned a court case, but I'll ask our general counsel to comment on that. So I don't think there's -- I don't think we can be involved in that process.

MS. STROUD: Yes, and we have done what I think is the extent of our authority -- what is within the extent of our authority to do, which is we have recommended on two separate occasions, as Mr. Donohue noted, that the matter should be heard in the first instance in the ANC.

And I believe that the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, we had

communicated with them to see whether or not they would be the ones to sort of require the ANC to hold this meeting. And they were not the body.

And we know that you've gone to court.

And I think that there is an opinion from the

Superior Court that said it's -- the ANC does not
have to hold the hearing if it does not find that
there is grounds to hold a hearing. And even if
it did, they could still decide not to issue a
petition that -- seeking that the Board declare a
vacancy pursuant to the position that -- petition
that it submits.

And so, the Board is simply without the authority. If we were to uncover, in the course of our list maintenance process, that there was a vacancy in the ANC, then we could take action with respect to that, but that is not this. We have not received any information through any list maintenance process that

Ms. Muhammed does not reside in the ANC -- in that single member district rather. And so --

would make to that is the spirit of that law -of that part of the law that says that if you
get a mailer back that says that the person
doesn't live there, the spirit of that, I think,
says that, you know, if you are to obtain
information that suggests that of a voter or -doesn't live in a particular area or in a single
member district or, you know, that that be
investigated.

Because it's not a returned mailer, you're saying that that doesn't give you the authority to do an investigation, which, frankly, to me, sounds silly when you have signed, sworn documents from a process server that says that, you know, they spoke to neighbors, and it's very well documented that Ms. Muhammed does not live there.

You know, I think that the spirit of the whole mailer, you're going to, you know, you're going to accept a returned mailer, but you're not going to accept sworn statements that somebody doesn't live there is comical, with all

1 due respect. You're going to accept a mailer, but you're not going to accept sworn statements. 2 3 I think that, you know, that is -- sworn statements is heavier, way heavier than a mailer. 4 5 Go ahead, sir. CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Mr. Donohue, thank 6 7 you so much. We understand the issue really 8 We'll take your comments under advisement 9 and reconsider whether our Board may have some 10 role in this -- in a process like this. 11 initial review and, I guess, and our second 12 review concluded that we do not. But, you know, 13 we heard you loud and clear. And, you know, 14 we'll take another look and take all your 15 comments under advisement. So thank you so much 16 for --17 MR. DONOHUE: I do have one additional 18 question. The OANC, they do have the option of 19 withholding their allotment. 20 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I don't -- I can't 21 comment on that. I mean, I know that there's 22 this -- there was a gentleman there named

Gottlieb Simon for years, when I was a
commissioner, and I think there's a new person
there now at the Office of ANC, so you can go
down there and meet with them. You know, there
are
MR. DONOHUE: I would also say that,
during the process of you changing these laws and
making
CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you. Yeah,
we don't I mean, we don't need to discuss what
you might
MR. DONOHUE: I mean, there is a
problem with the law here, but I
CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: We're focused on
our role in the process, and we'll reconsider and
take your comments under advisement. So thank
you.
Let's see if there are any other
hands. Will they go to the top necessarily? We
have to scroll down, make sure.
Okay. So our next meeting is July
18th, where I believe we will consider whether

1 the voter initiative has resubmitted --2 MS. BRIZILL: Mr. Chairman, this is Dorothy Brizill, and I wanted to make a comment. 3 CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: 4 Thank you. Ms. Brizill, please, go ahead. 5 MS. BRIZILL: Mr. Chairman, I just had 6 7 two matters I wanted to raise with you. One is a 8 housekeeping matter on the Board of Elections 9 website. On the Board of Elections website, 10 there is a banner across the top that has a --11 the title, ballot measures. And under that, it 12 provides for the posting of initiative measures 13 and referendum. And indeed, it then goes on to 14 say current measures. Why doesn't the Board of Elections 15 16 post this current initiative that is before the 17 Board and also indicate what is in the DC 18 Register, informing citizens of how they can 19 appear before the Board or submit comments on the 20 proposed initiative? MS. STROUD: Hi. 21 This is 22 Terri Stroud. The Board will post it, in

addition to it being published in the DC Register, which it is required to do under the law.

MS. BRIZILL: What is particularly concerning is that in order to comment on it, you have to give the Board of Elections several days' notice, and you don't know that unless you peruse the DC Register.

Also, I would appreciate that, going forward, since you say you're going to be revising the website, that that is done.

My second matter has to do with a hearing that is scheduled for next Monday, before the City Council. I would like Ms. Evans to give me an updated report on what the conditions are at the warehouse. I noted and received a copy of an enhancement request from her that was sent to the executive office of the mayor, seeking a half a million dollars to make some capital improvements in the warehouse buildings. Can she give me an update on what the situation is, specifically regarding the toilet situation and

the lighting and the ventilation?

MS. EVANS: Yes, good afternoon,
Ms. Brizill. There are no updates. We did not
receive the enhancement request, but we are
working with DGS about alternatives. But nothing
has been decided, and there are no updates at the
moment.

MS. BRIZILL: Well, you say you're working with DGS regarding alternatives; what does that mean?

MS. EVANS: They came and met with us at the warehouse, toured the space. We were able to ascertain our needs as far as space requirements, our needs as far as the number of people who are working there, and our needs as far as equipment. They were -- they took all of that information down, and they are exploring options. And so, once they have some options, we will move forward. So, at this point, the ball is essentially in their court now that they have a full appreciation of what we need for that operation center at the warehouse.

1 MS. BRIZILL: Can you give me some 2 idea of when that visit occurred? Was it in the 3 past week? MS. EVANS: I believe, if you allow me 4 5 just a moment, I can tell you when that was. believe that meeting was on Tuesday -- I mean, 6 7 I'm sorry -- on Friday the 2nd of June. 8 MS. BRIZILL: The alternatives they 9 are exploring are improvements to the interiors 10 of the buildings or relocating the warehouse out 11 of those two buildings on V Street Northeast? 12 MS. EVANS: They're exploring both 13 options. 14 MS. BRIZILL: And so the half a 15 million dollars you're trying to get from the 16 mayor's office would do what? Is that for 17 relocation or is that for capital improvements? 18 MS. EVANS: That was for improvements. 19 That is not an official capital improvement 20 That came through as an enhancement request. 21 request. And so, if we need to do a capital 22 improvement request, then it would be a more

1	comprehensive ask, and it will likely be closer
2	to \$1 million.
3	MS. BRIZILL: So what was the half
4	million dollars intended for then?
5	MS. EVANS: That was for some initial
6	updates that would allow us to at least remain in
7	the space temporarily until a more permanent
8	solution was identified, in particular, lighting,
9	security, and bathrooms.
10	MS. BRIZILL: So you wouldn't have to
11	rent Porta-Johns anymore?
12	MS. EVANS: That was what the request
13	was for, correct.
14	MS. BRIZILL: Thank you.
15	CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you
16	so much, Ms. Brizill.
17	I'm looking for any other hands that
18	are up, and I don't see anybody. So it's been
19	about an hour, 20 minutes. So anything else
20	before we adjourn the meeting?
21	All right. With that, I would move we
22	adjourn.

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                    MEMBER GREENFIELD:
                                         Second.
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                    CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. All in
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       favor?
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                    (Chorus of aye.)
                    CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right.
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                                                      Thank
       you, everybody.
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                    (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
 8
       went off the record at 11:54 a.m.)
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#### <u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 06-20-23

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.

Court Reporter

near Nous &



elections management

## **Voter Applications Forms**



Tamara Holmes
Product Owner

**VoterFocus**\*

#### **Contents**



**Getting Started** 

Exploring Fields on the Voters
Application Form

<u>Processing a New</u> <u>Voter Registration</u> for Non-Citizens

Processing an Incomplete
Application for Non-Citizens

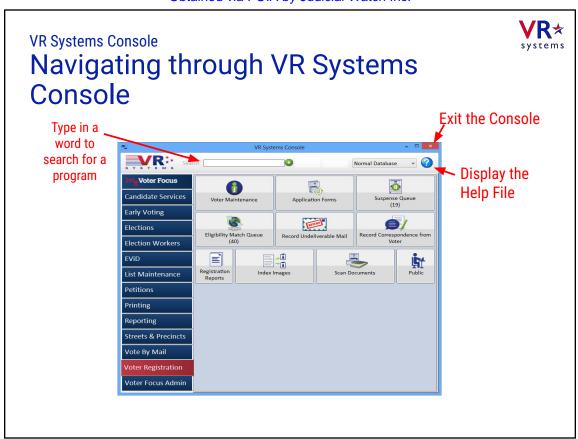
- Processing a Returned Incomplete Application for Non-Citizens
- Invalid Address
- Denied Applications
- QA Queue
- Pending Applications Report

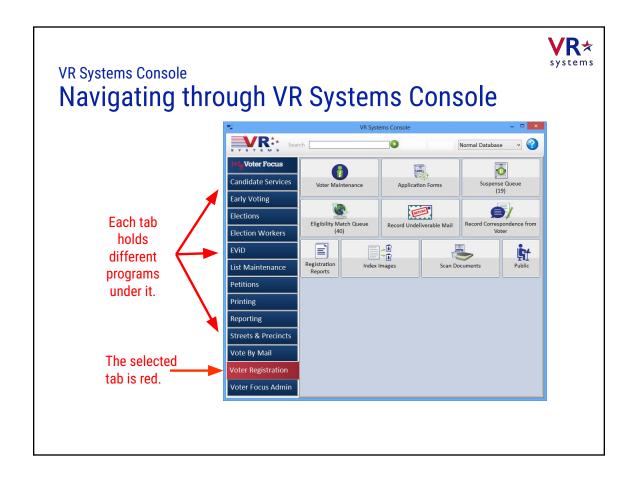
## **Getting Started**

### **VR**★ systems

#### **VR Systems Console**

- Navigating through VR Systems Console
  - My Voter Focus tab
  - Help File
  - Search

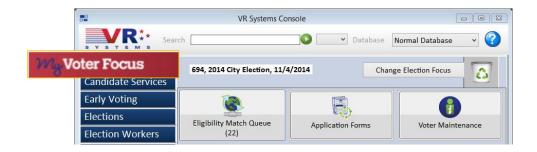




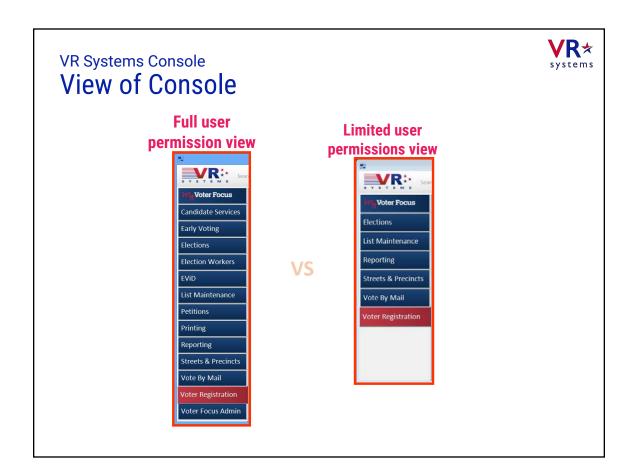
VR Systems Console

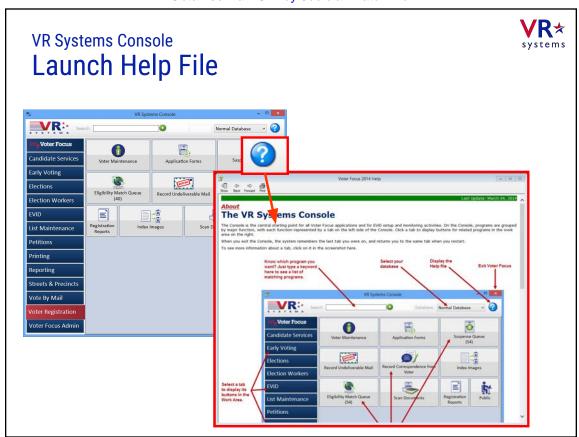
My Voter Focus tab

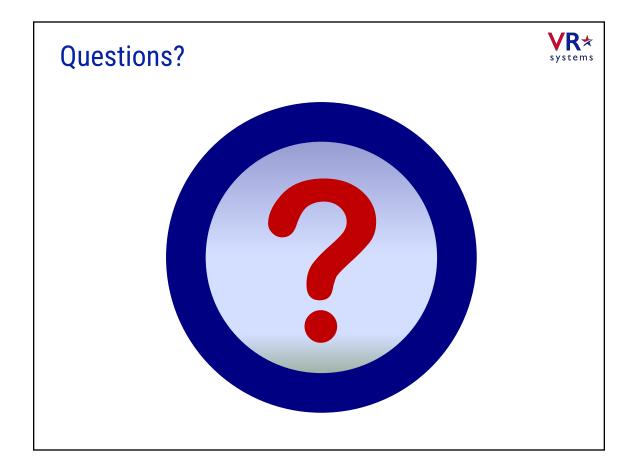




Use the My Voter Focus tab to hold your most frequently used programs.



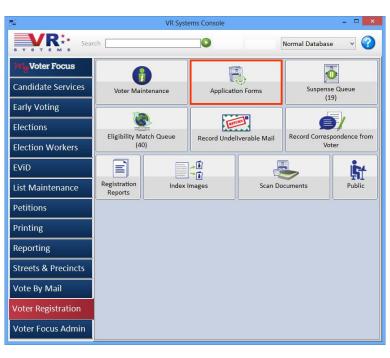


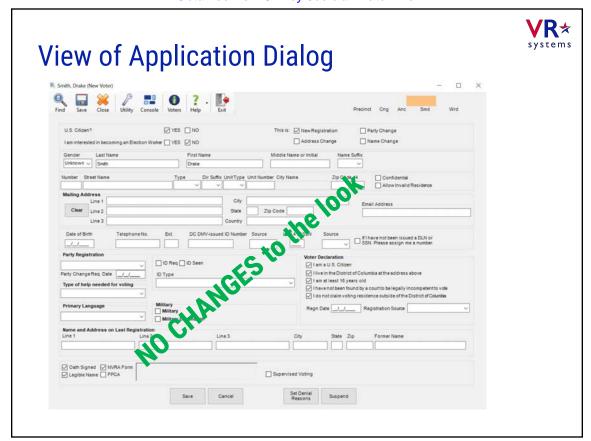


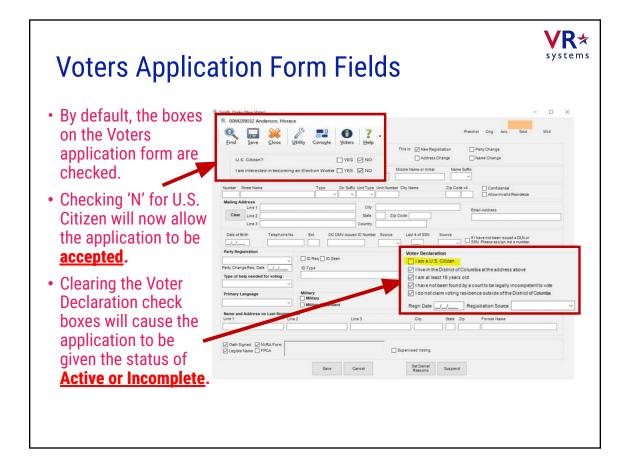
# **Exploring Fields on the Voters Application Form**

## Explore the Form Fields Click the Application Forms button



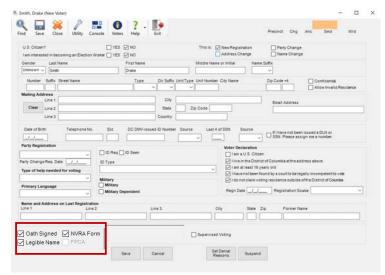






**VR**≯ systems

- By default, the boxes on the Voters application form are checked.
- Clearing the other check boxes will cause the application to be given the status of Incomplete.



#### **Voters Application Form Fields**

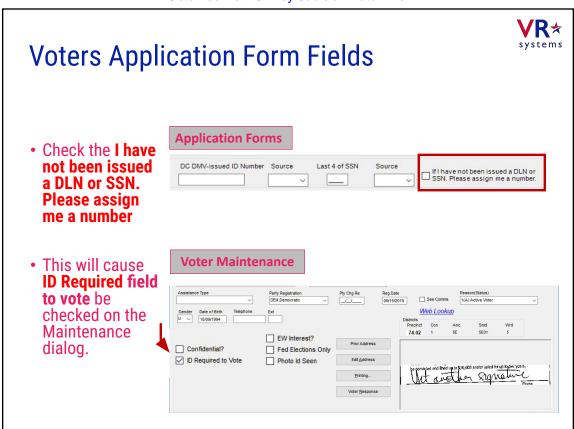


DMV -Issued ID Number & Last 4 SSN

Have corresponding **Source** fields. (Optional)

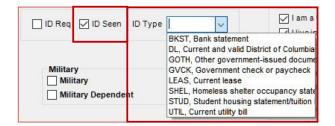
- Form: the information came from the NVRA form.
- Proof: a BOE employee has seen the applicant's Driver License or Social Security Card.
- HSMV: Used only by DMV.

						_				
i.S. Citizen?	t in bannesinn an	Election Worker	YES NO		This is: New Registrat		Party Change Same Chang			
	Last Name	December 1	First Nam		Middle Name or Initial	Name Suffix				
inknown 🗸	Smith		Drake			- 4				
Number Su	luffix Street Nam		Type	Dir Suffix U	Unit Type Unit Number City Name	Zip Co	de +4	Confi	dential Invalid Res	idence
ailing Addres	ne 1			City						
	ne 1			State	Zip Code	Em	all Address			
	ne3			Country						-
	_	Number So	ource ~	Last 4 of SSN	I Source	have not bee	en issued			
	_	Number So	ource	Last 4 of SSN	Source If I	have not be	en issued	i a DLN o		
DC DM	V-issued ID	Number So	ource V	Last 4 of SSN	Source If I	have not be	en issued	i a DLN o		
DC DMN	_	Number So	ource V	Last 4 of SSN	Source If SS	have not be	en issued	i a DLN o a numbe		
DC DMN	V-issued ID	Number So	ource V	Last 4 of SSN	Source If SS	have not be N. Please as	en issued sign me	i a DLN o a numbe		
DC DMN	V-issued ID	Number So	ource V	Last 4 of SSN	Source If SS	have not be N. Please as	en issued sign me	i a DLN o a numbe		
Name and Add	V-issued ID	Number So	ource V	Last 4 of SSN	Source If I	have not be N. Please as	en issued sign me	i a DLN o a numbe		





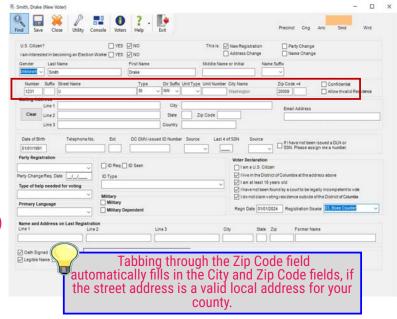
 If the voter provided ID, check the ID
 Seen box and select the ID
 Type seen.



#### VR\*

#### **Residence Address**

- Nbr = House number
- **Suf** = House number suffix (1/2 or B)
- Dir = Street direction (N Main ST)
- Street Name
- **Type** = ST, AVE, RD, etc.
- Dir Suf = Street direction (Main ST N)
- Unit Type/Nbr = APT, LOT, BLDG, etc.

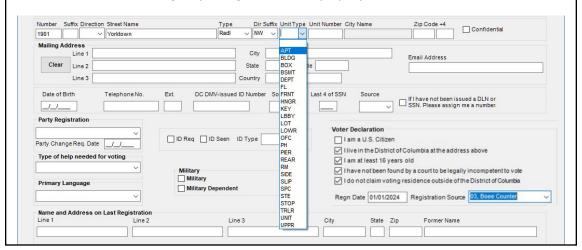


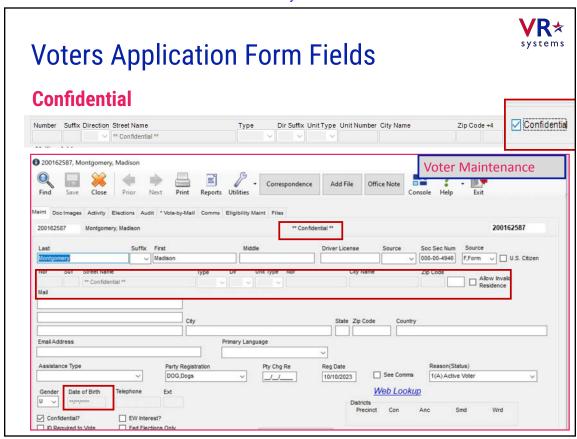


#### **Voters Application Form Fields**

#### **Apartment Number**

- Voter Focus sees these as 3 different addresses:
  - 1234 N Main St 103
  - 1234 N Main St #103
  - 1234 N Main St # 103
- Household sorting for printing will not work properly if addresses are inconsistent.







#### **Mailing Address**

- Enter a mailing address only if different from the residence address.
- The Clear button lets you remove mailing address if voter submits application without a mailing and existing record has mailing.

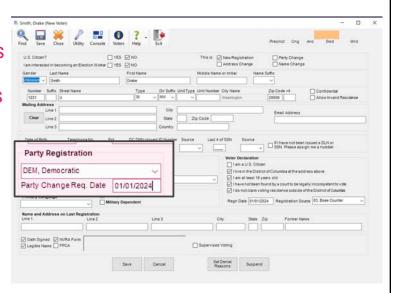


- For military addresses, enter:
  - APO/FPO/DPO in the City field
  - AE in the State field



#### **Party Change Req. Date**

 If a party change is effective before book closing but is entered after book closing, enter the date the change was requested.

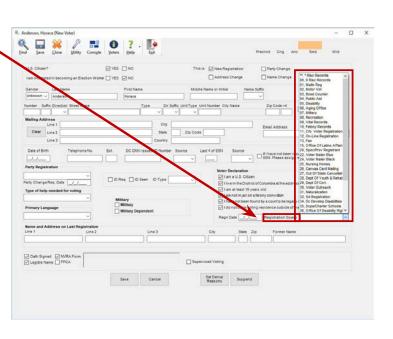


#### **Voters Application Form Fields**



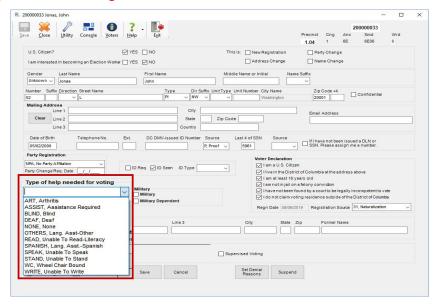
#### **Registration Source**

- The Registration Source is the place where the voter submitted their application.
- The list of sources is maintained in the System Maintenance application.





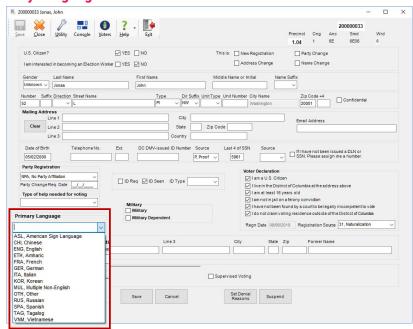
#### Type of help needed for Voting

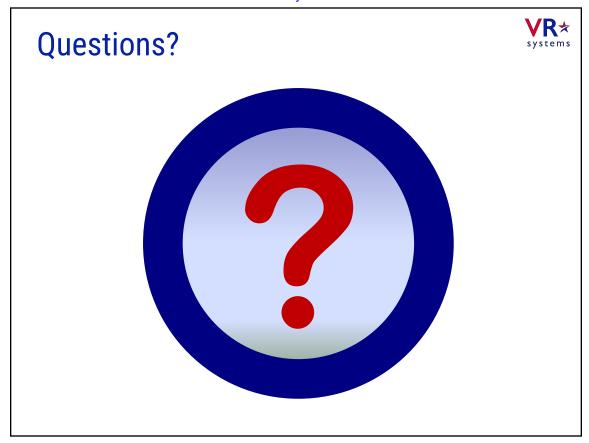


#### **Voters Application Form Fields**



#### **Primary Language**





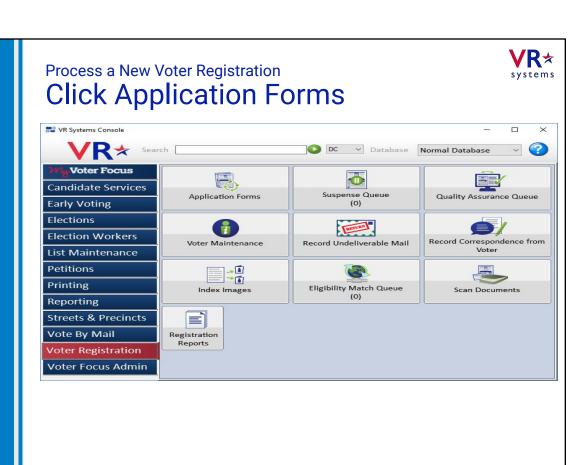
Processing a New Voter Registration for Non-Citizens



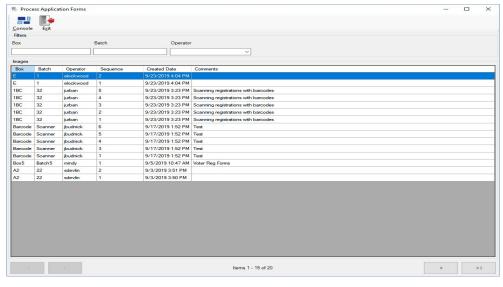
#### **Process a New Voter Registration**

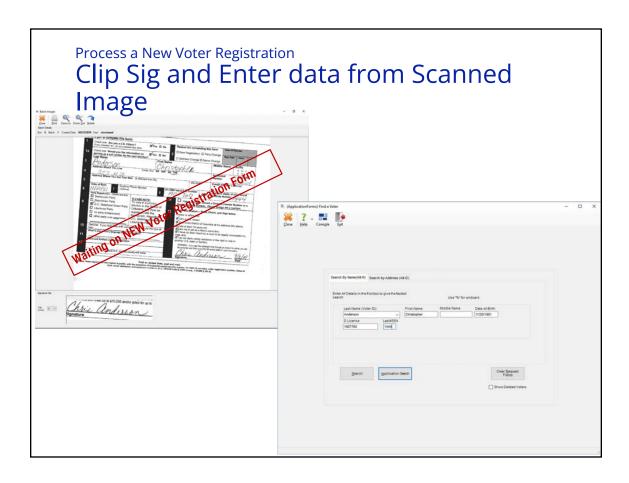
New voter registrations are applications for people who:

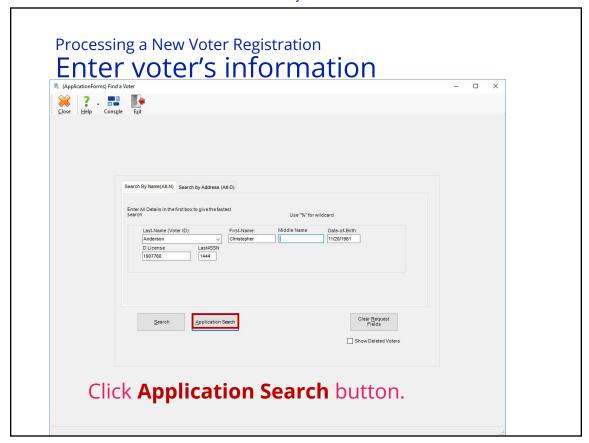
- · Are first-time DC registrants.
- Moved from another state to DC.
- Have an Ineligible record in DC and are registering again.
- Local non-citizens DC registrants.



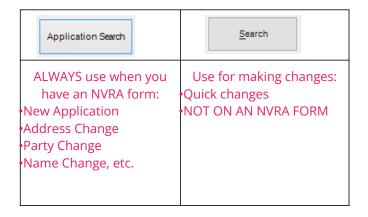


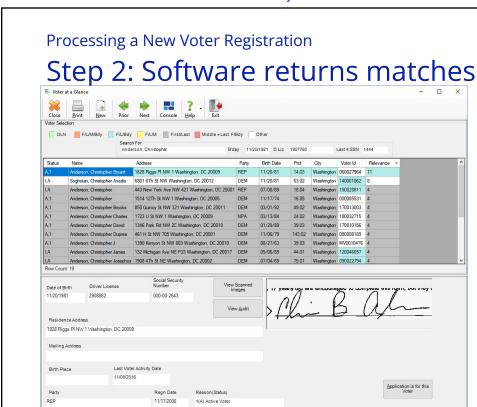






#### Use the Application Search Button





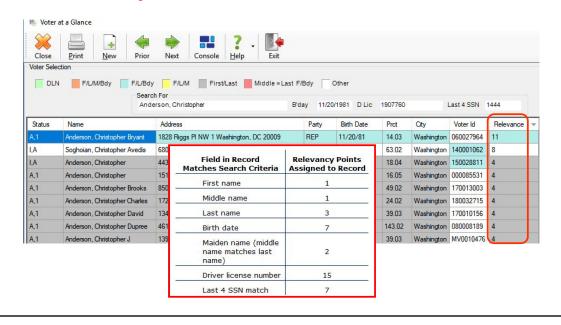
#### Processing a New Voter Registration

#### ...Software returns matches

			Search Res	ults	5				
	Relevance		Color-code	d		Sorted			
	ank points assi for fields match search criteri	Color-coded to show match type			Sorted by birthdate or Name (can be changed)				
286000	DLN F/L/M/Bdy rch For ders on, Christopher	/   F/I	L/Bdy F/L/M Fir	st/Last	Midd	le = Last Last	4 SSN 144	Other	
C1-4		A -1 -1		D-4	Diale Dea	Dest	Ct.	Matania	Dalaura
200000000000000000000000000000000000000	Name	Address		Party	Birth Date	Prct	City	Voter Id	Relevance
.1	Anderson, Christopher Bryant	1828 Riggs	PI NW 1 Washington, DC 20009	REP	11/20/81	14.03	Washington	060027964	11
1	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Soghoian, Christopher Avedis	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St	NW Washington, DC 20012	REP DEM	11/20/81 11/20/81	14.03 63.02	Washington Washington	060027964 140001062	11 8
1 A	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Soghoian, Christopher Avedis Anderson, Christopher	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St 443 New Yo	NW Washington, DC 20012 rk Ave NW 421 Washington, DC 20001	REP DEM REP	11/20/81 11/20/81 07/08/89	14.03 63.02 18.04	Washington Washington Washington	060027964 140001062 150028811	11 8 4
.1 A A .1	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Soghoian, Christopher Avedis Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St 443 New Yo 1514 12Th S	: NW Washington, DC 20012 wk Ave NW 421 Washington, DC 20001 St NW 1 Washington, DC 20005	REP DEM REP DEM	11/20/81 11/20/81 07/08/89 11/17/74	14.03 63.02 18.04 16.05	Washington Washington Washington Washington	060027964 140001062 150028811 000085531	11 8 4 4
.1 A A .1	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Sogholan, Christopher Avedis Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Brooks	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St 443 New Yo 1514 12Th 3	NW Washington, DC 20012 rk Ave NW 421 Washington, DC 20001 St NW 1 Washington, DC 20005 St NW 321 Washington, DC 20011	REP DEM REP DEM DEM	11/20/81 11/20/81 07/08/89 11/17/74 03/01/92	14.03 63.02 18.04 16.05 49.02	Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington	060027964 140001062 150028811 000085531 170013003	11 8 4 4
.1 A A ,1 ,1	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Soghoian, Christopher Avedis Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Brooks Anderson, Christopher Charles	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St 443 New Yo 1514 12Th S 850 Quincy 1723 U St N	NW Washington, DC 20012 rk Ave NW 421 Washington, DC 20001 St NW 1 Washington, DC 20005 St NW 321 Washington, DC 20011 IW 1 Washington, DC 20009	REP DEM REP DEM DEM NPA	11/20/81 11/20/81 07/08/89 11/17/74 03/01/92 03/13/84	14.03 63.02 18.04 16.05 49.02 24.02	Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington	060027964 140001062 150028811 000085531 170013003 180032715	11 8 4 4 4 4
.1 A A A ,1 ,1 ,1	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Sogholan, Christopher Avedis Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Brooks	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St 443 New Yo 1514 12Th : 850 Quincy 1723 U St N 1346 Park F	t NW Washington, DC 20012 wk Ave NW 421 Washington, DC 20001 St NW 1 Washington, DC 20005 St NW 321 Washington, DC 20011 W 1 Washington, DC 20009 Rd NW 2C Washington, DC 20010	REP DEM REP DEM DEM DEM NPA DEM	11/20/81 11/20/81 07/08/89 11/17/74 03/01/92 03/13/84 01/29/89	14.03 63.02 18.04 16.05 49.02 24.02 39.03	Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington	060027964 140001062 150028811 000085531 170013003 180032715 170010156	11 8 4 4
A A A	Anderson, Christopher Bryant Soghoian, Christopher Avedis Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Brooks Anderson, Christopher Charles	1828 Riggs 6801 6Th St 443 New Yo 1514 12Th : 850 Quincy 1723 U St N 1346 Park F	NW Washington, DC 20012 rk Ave NW 421 Washington, DC 20001 St NW 1 Washington, DC 20005 St NW 321 Washington, DC 20011 IW 1 Washington, DC 20009	REP DEM REP DEM DEM NPA	11/20/81 11/20/81 07/08/89 11/17/74 03/01/92 03/13/84	14.03 63.02 18.04 16.05 49.02 24.02	Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington	060027964 140001062 150028811 000085531 170013003 180032715	11 8 4 4 4 4

## Processing a New Voter Registration .....Software Returns Matches

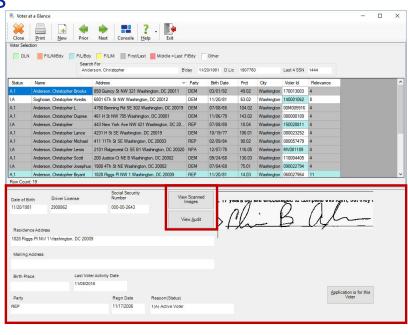
Sorted by Relevance

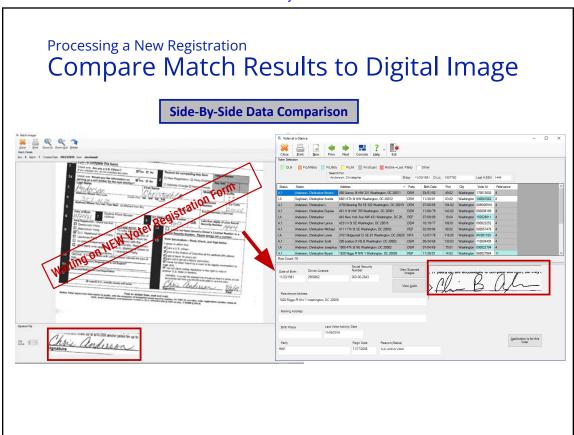


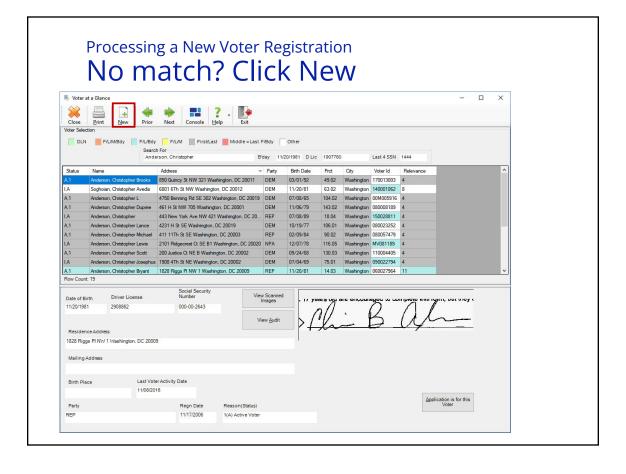
## Processing a New Voter Registration .....Software Returns

**Matches** 

- Select potential match by clicking on voter's name.
- View Scanned images and audit for more details.
- Compare signature, driver's license and SSN.

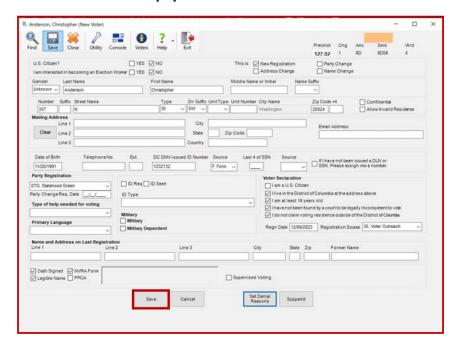




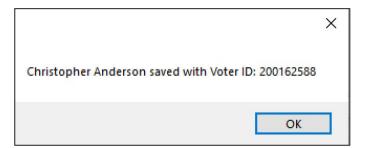


#### Processing a New Voter Registration

#### .....Enter Application Form Data

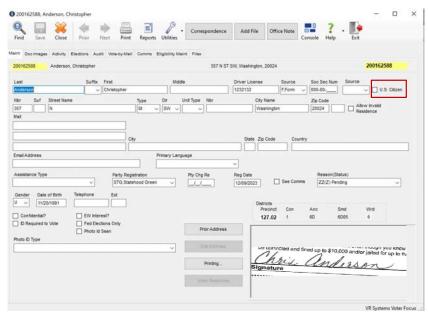


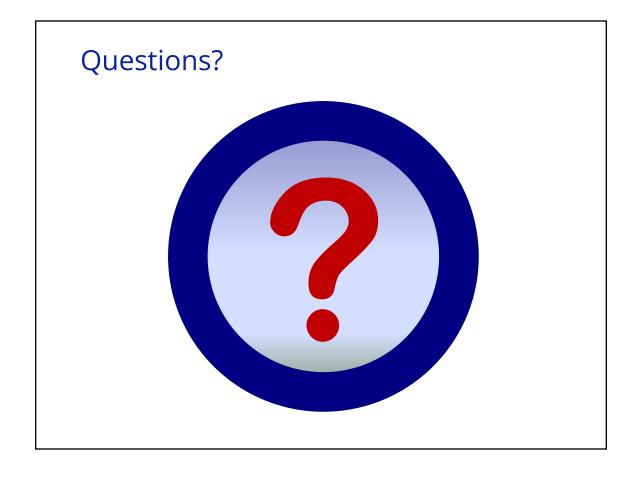
## Processing a New Voter Registration Voter ID Assigned



## Processing a New Voter Registration Maintenance Record is now Pending

 Voter will have a Pending status ZZ(Z) until the application has been reviewed in the QA process.





# Processing an Incomplete Application

#### Processing an Incomplete Application

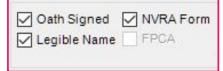
#### What makes an application incomplete?

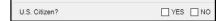
When the checkbox(es) are not checked on the VF Application Form:

- 1.No Signature = Oath Signed
- 2.Illegible Name = Legible Name
- 3.Not a valid form = NVRA Form

#### OR:

- 1.Invalid Mailing Address
- 2.Did not provide both DLN/ID and last 4 digit SSN.
- 3. US Citizen at the top of the Application Form is left blank.
- 4. 'I am a US Citizen' declaration checked along with' No' check box for US Citizen.





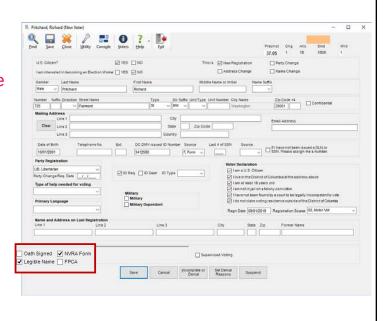
## No Signature

**Processing an Incomplete Application** 

#### Processing an Incomplete Application

#### No Signature

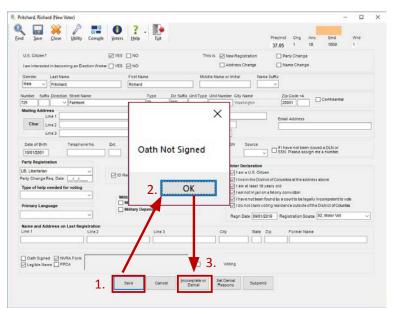
- If the application form is unsigned, clear the applicable box on the application dialog (that is, Oath Signed).
- 2. Fill out the dialog with the remaining information.



#### **Processing an Incomplete Application**

#### No Signature

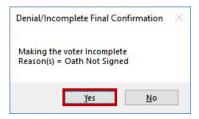
- 1. Click **Save** on the application.
- 2. Dialog appears listing the incomplete reason(s). Click **OK**.
- 3. To process as an incomplete application, click Incomplete or Denial.



#### **Processing an Incomplete Application**

#### No Signature

7. Incomplete reason is stated.

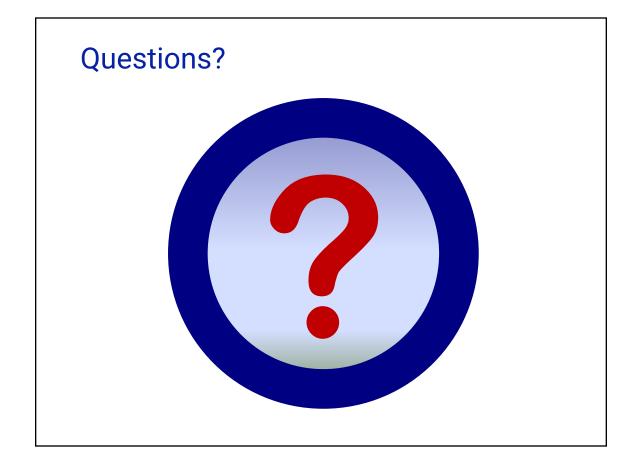


8. Voter is assigned a Voter ID number.

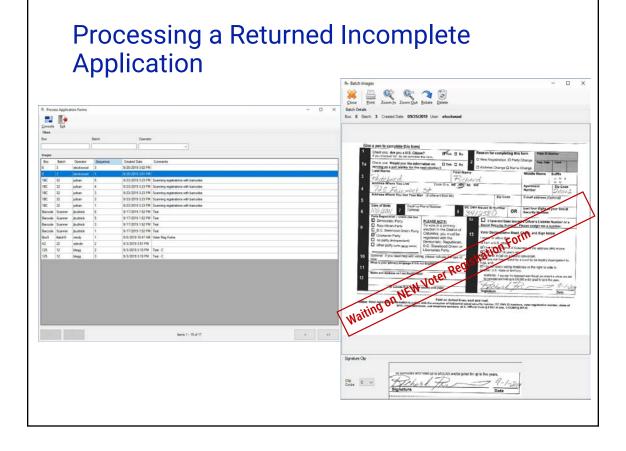


## Processing an Incomplete Application No Signature

 An incomplete registration letter is scheduled to print and is waiting in the Notices queue.



## Processing a Returned Incomplete Application



## Processing a Returned Incomplete Application Search for incomplete application

 Enter the voter's name and DOB in the search fields.

Or enter the

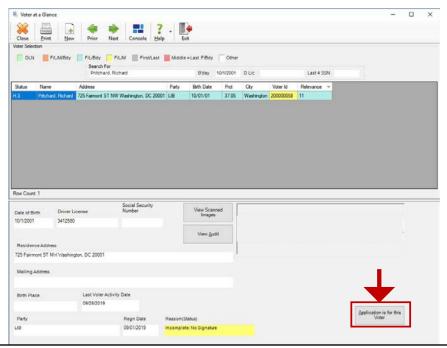
voter ID and click **Application Search** to go directly to the application.



# Processing a Returned Incomplete Application Search results for Incomplete record Weter at a Gince | Veter at a Gince | Park | Park | Provided | Park | Provided | Park | Provided | Park | Pa

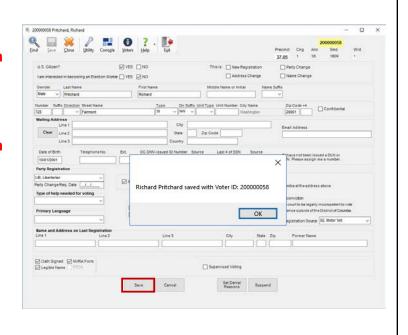
Incomplete: No Signature

## Processing a Returned Incomplete Application Select the Incomplete record



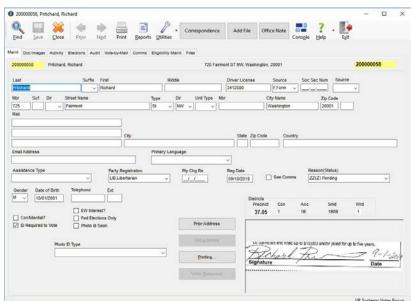
## Processing a Returned Incomplete Application Enter missing data & save

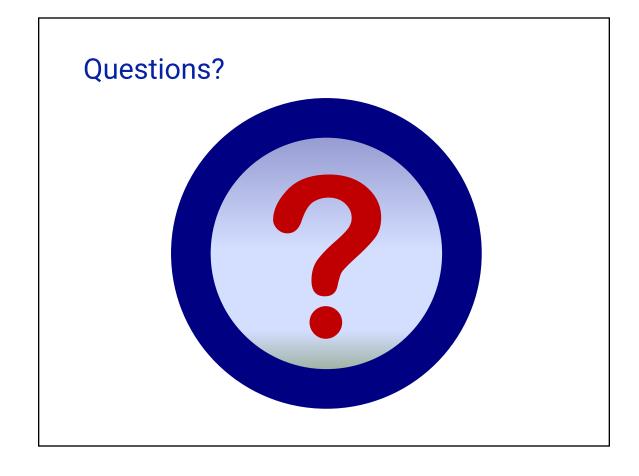
- · Enter missing data:
  - The Registration
     Date is the date
     of the
     Completed
     Application.
  - The Registration Source is the Completed registration source (returned).
- Click Save. Voter will keep the same Voter ID number.



## Processing a Returned Incomplete Application Voter's Status will change to Pending

- Voter still has voter status color-coded yellow.
- It now meansZZ(Z)Pending.



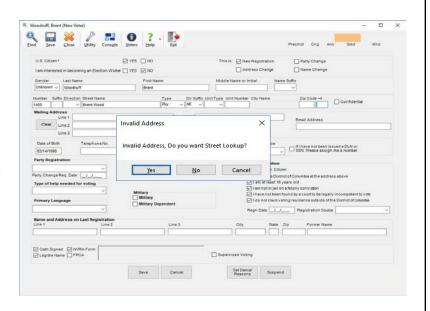


## **Demonstration: Brent Wood PKY**

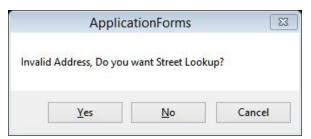
- A voter has submitted an Application with the address "Brent Wood PKY".
- Let's use the Invalid Address feature to find this address in the street table.

# Invalid Address Street Lookup

- Click Yes.
- Use the Invalid Address feature to search for the address.



## **Invalid Address**

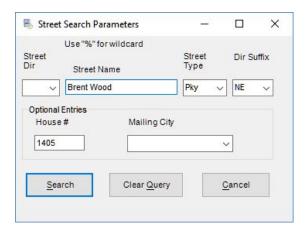


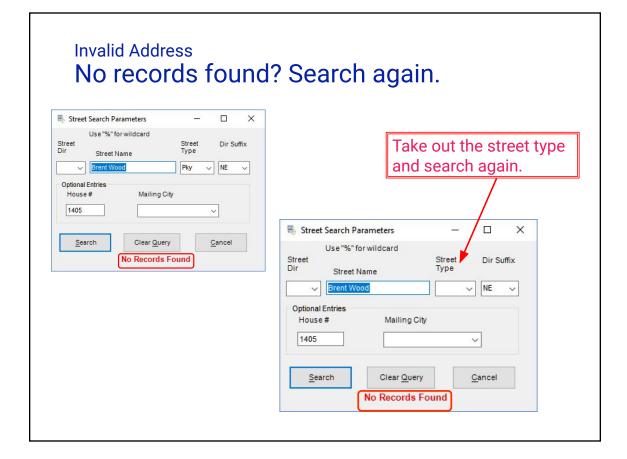
Yes takes you to Street Lookup.

**No** lets you re-enter the address—perhaps you misspelled it.

**Cancel** will let you move on—maybe voter has left residence address blank or maybe the address is just wrong.

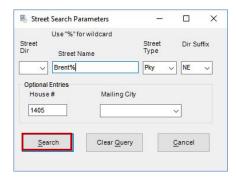
# Click Search in the Street Search Parameters dialog





# Still no records found? Use wildcard & Search Again

Remove 'Wood' and add the wildcard %.

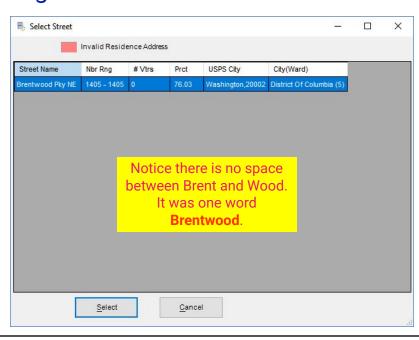


Then... search again.

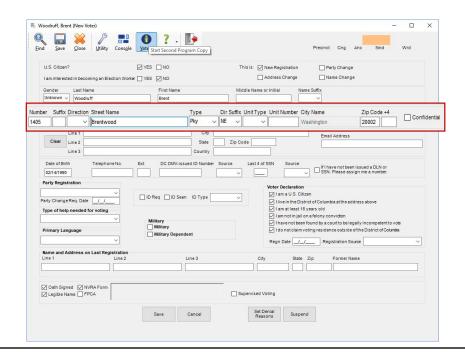
67

#### Invalid Address

# Results found! Click on the street segment.

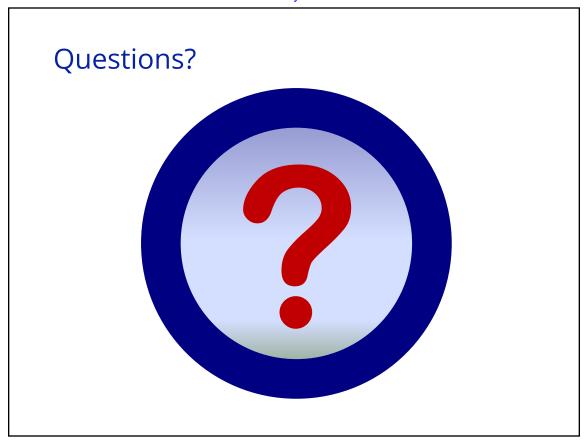


#### ...and Voter Focus will do the rest!



# You might still get an invalid address

- 1. Check the street number range.
- 2. Is the Residence Number located in the segment you selected?
- 3. Make sure you choose the correct street type.
- 4. Use the % (wildcard) to refine your search.



# **Denied Applications**

## **Denied Applications**

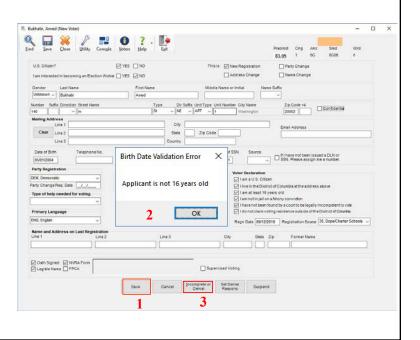
An application will be automatically denied if the applicant is:

- · Under 16 years old
- · Set Denial Reasons
- Any item under the Voter Declaration is not checked other than 'I am US Citizens'

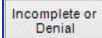
# Denied Applications Under 16

Incomplete or Denial

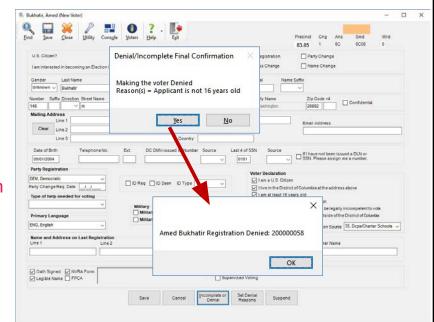
- Press Save button and the software will verify required fields.
- 2. Message appears Click **OK** on the *Applicant* is not 16 years old message.
- 3. Click Incomplete or Denial.



# Denied Application Under 16



- 3. Click **OK** on the 'Making the voter Denied' Message.
- 4. Click **OK** on Registration Denied.



**Denied Application** 

# Any Voter Declaration Item(s) Unchecked but I am a U.S. Citizen

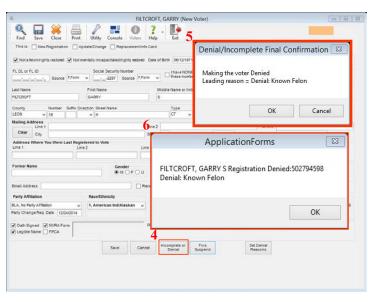
I am a U.S. Citizen Will no longer deny applications							
I live in the Distri	ct of C	Columbia at the addres:	s above				
l am at least 16 y	ears	old					
] I am not in jail on	a felo	ony conviction					
] I have not been f	ound	by a court to be legally	incompetent to vote				
I do not claim vo	ing r	esidence outside of the	District of Columbia				
Regn Date 09/01/2	010	Registration Source	32, Sd Registration				

#### **Denied Application** Set Denial Set Denial Reasons Reasons 1. Enter applicant's ☑ YES ☐ NO Party Change This is: New Registration Address Change ested in becoming an Election Worker 🗌 YES 💹 NO ☐ Name Change information. 2. Click Set Denial Denial Reasons at 4 of SSN Source SSN Flease assign me a number. Reason. Denial: Identified as deceased Voter Declaration ☑ I am a U.S. Citizen Denial: Deemed Mentally Incompetent Denial: Fictitious Person Denial: Residential Address Not Legal Address Denial: ID number not verifiable 3. Check the I do not claim voting residence outside of the District of Columbia denial reason. Click OK. Set Denial Suspend OK

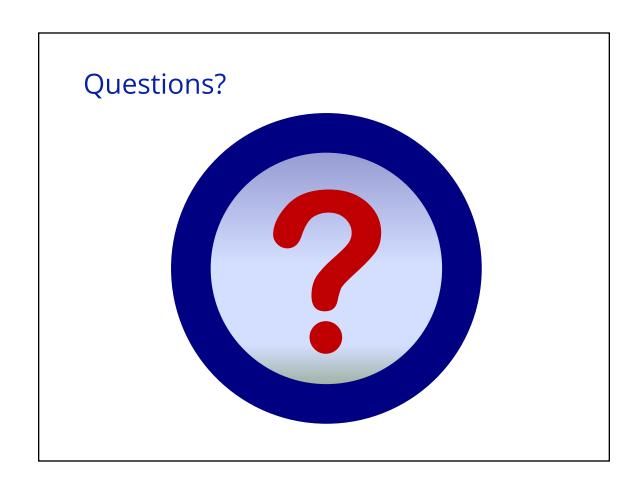
#### **Denied Application**

### Set Denial Reasons

- 4. Click Incomplete or Denial.
- 5. Click **OK** on the Denial/Incomplet e Final Confirmation dialog.
- 6. Application is denied. Click **OK** button.



#### **Denied Application** Set Denial **Set Denial Reasons** Reasons · Election offices can X automatically deny the Denial Reasons application for any of Denial: Identified as deceased Denial: Deemed Mentally Incompetent the reasons shown Denial: Fictitious Person here. Denial: Residential Address Not Legal Address Denial: ID number not verifiable For new registrations only. · A denial letter will be scheduled for the voter.



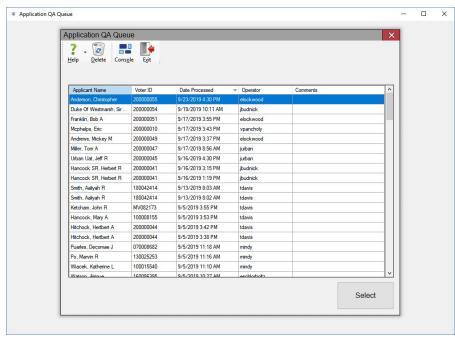
Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

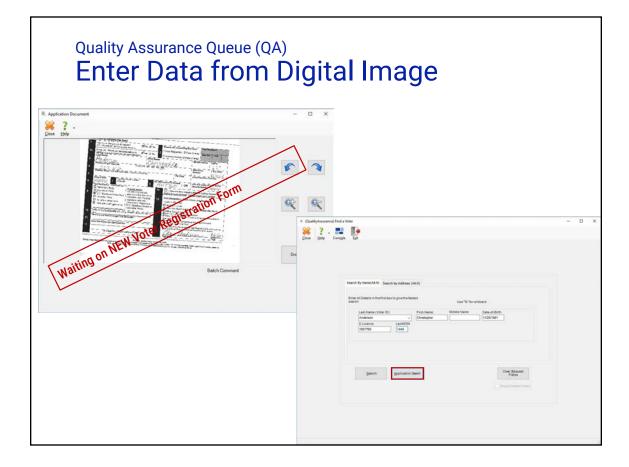
# Quality Assurance Queue (QA)

# Quality Assurance Queue (QA) VR Systems Console







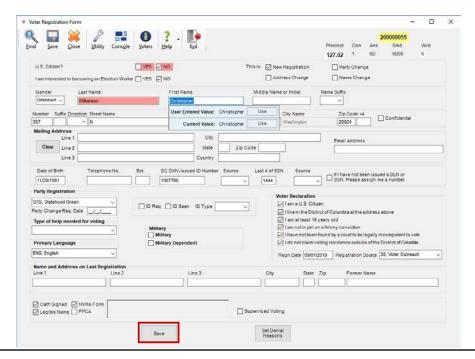


## Quality Assurance Queue (QA) Click Application Is For This Voter ■ Voter at a Glance DLN F/L/M/Bdy F/L/Bdy F/L/M First/Last Middle = Last F/Bdy Other Last 4 SSN Party Birth Date Prot City Voter Id Relevance on, Christopher 357 N ST SW Washington, DC 20024 STG 11/20/81 127.02 Washington 200000055 0 rvicted and fined up to \$10,000 and/or jailed for up to five years. Date of Birth Chris anderson 11/20/1981 Residence Address 357 N ST SW Washington, DC 20024 Mailing Address

Application is for this Voter

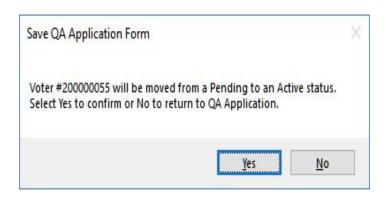
#### Quality Assurance Queue (QA) Tab Through Fields, Comparing Digital **Image** ■ Voter Registration Form Find Save Close Utility Console Voters Help Exit 127.02 1 Party Change Ø YES □ NO U.S. Citizen? This is: New Registration I am interested in becoming an Election Worker 🔲 YES. 🔀 NO Number Suffix Dire User Entered Value: Anderson Use pe Dir Suffix Unit Type Unit Number City Name | Suffix | S Zip Code +4 Confidential Email Address 11/20/1981 □ ID Req □ ID Seen ID Type □ Party Change Req. Date \_\_/\_/\_ ✓ I live in the District of Columbia at the address above ✓ I am at least 16 years old ✓ I am not in jail on a felony conviction ☑ I have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote ☑ I do not claim voting residence outside of the District of Columbia Regn Date 09/01/2019 Registration Source 30, Voter Outreach ENG. English ☑ Oath Signed ☑ NVRA Form ☑ Legible Name ☐ FPCA Supervised Voting Set Denial Reasons

# Quality Assurance Queue (QA) Red Values = Changed Values



# Quality Assurance Queue (QA) Saved QA Application



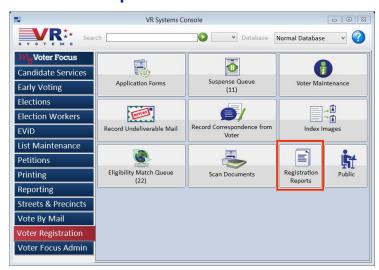


# Pending Applications Report



# **Pending Applications Report**

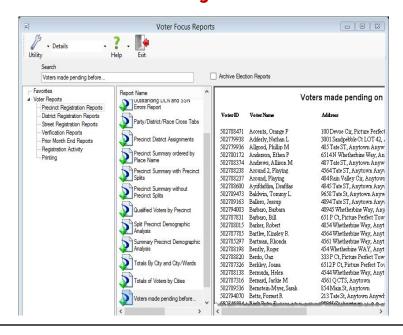
To check for applications that are pending.



# **Pending Applications Report**

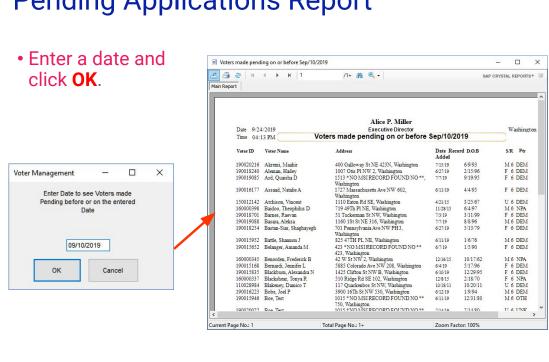


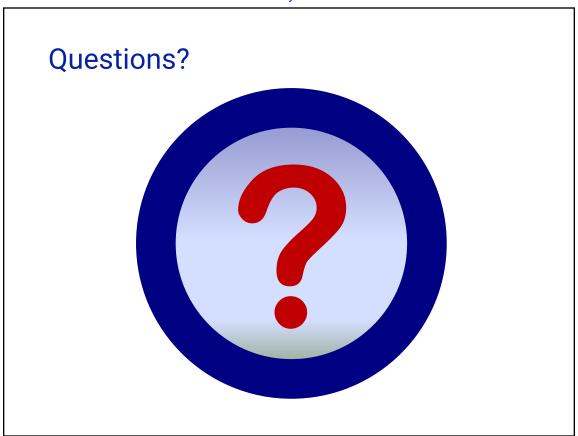
Select Voters made Pending before.



# **Pending Applications Report**







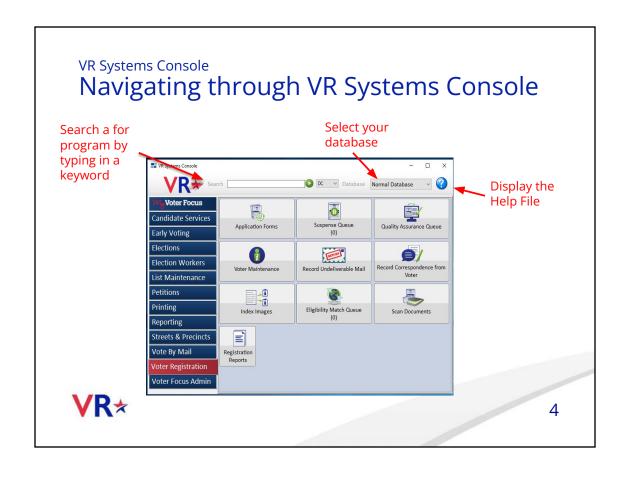


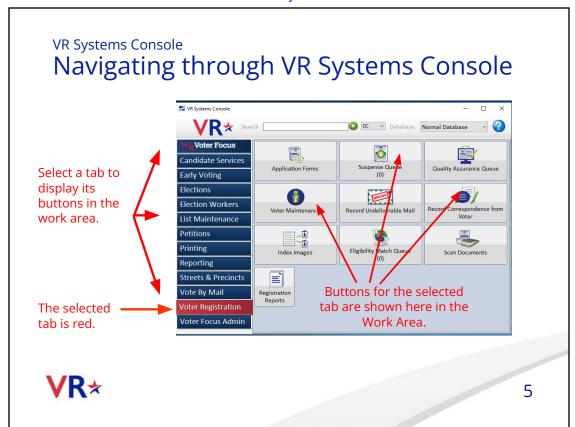
## Contents

- The VR Systems Console
- Search for a Voter's Record
- A Quick Tour of a Voter Registration Record
- Change a Voter's Registration Status
- Change a Voter's Residence Address
- Schedule Documents to Print
- Print Address Labels
- Correspondence from a Voter
- Voter Moved Out of State
- Undeliverable Mail

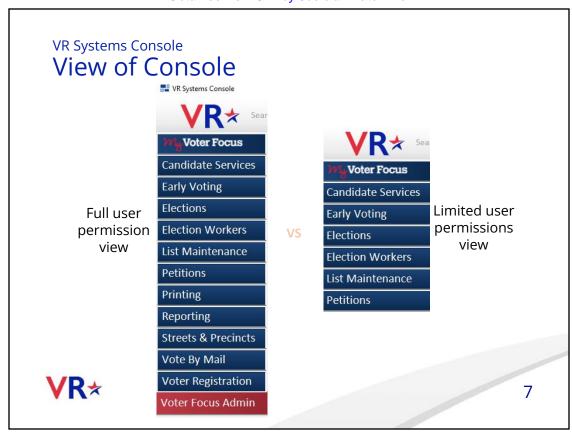


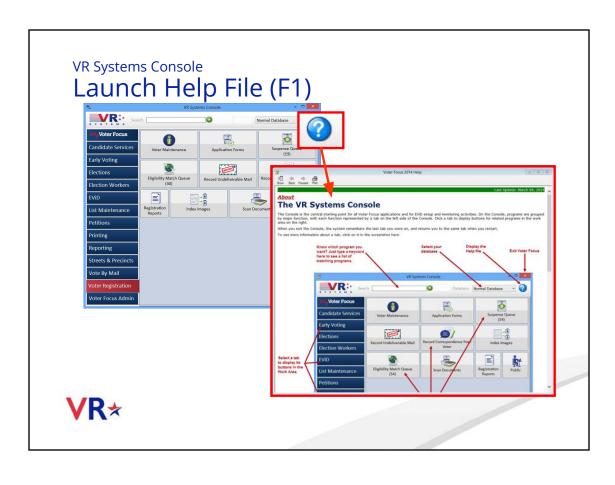








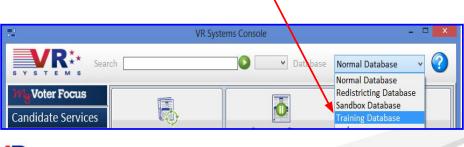




#### **VR Systems Console**

# **Training Database**

- Used for training and testing.
- This database must be created when the State creates their training database.
- To access, select **Training Database** from the drop-down list, on the VR Systems' Console.





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## VR Systems Console

## Sandbox Database

- Used for training and testing.
- •To access, select **Sandbox Database** from the drop-down list, on the Console.

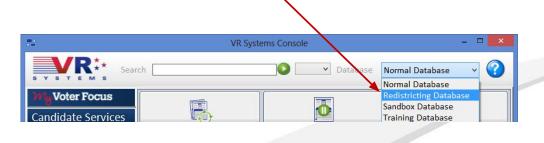




#### **VR Systems Console**

## **Redistricting Database**

- Can be used after congressional redistricting to update street segment, precinct, and district data, and perform testing on the new set up.
- Can be copied to production (Normal) database.
- To access, select Redistricting Database from the drop-down list, on the VR Systems' Console.



# **VR Systems Console**

- Voter Focus applications are started from the Console.
- Single-click to start an app.
- You might not see all these buttons based on the permissions you have.

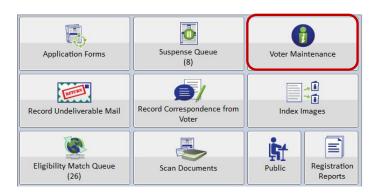




#### **VR Systems Console**

# Available Apps Depend on Permissions

- A user sees only the applications they have permission to access.
- Permissions are controlled in Voter Focus Admin.



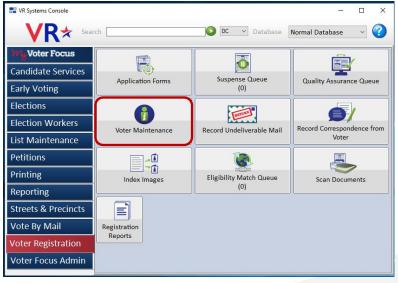


13

# Search for a Voter's Record



#### Click the Voter Maintenance Button

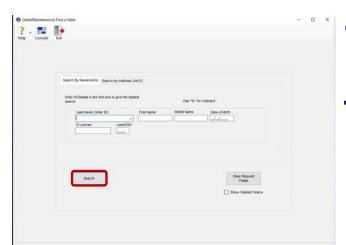




15

Search for a Voter's Record

# Find a Voter Dialog

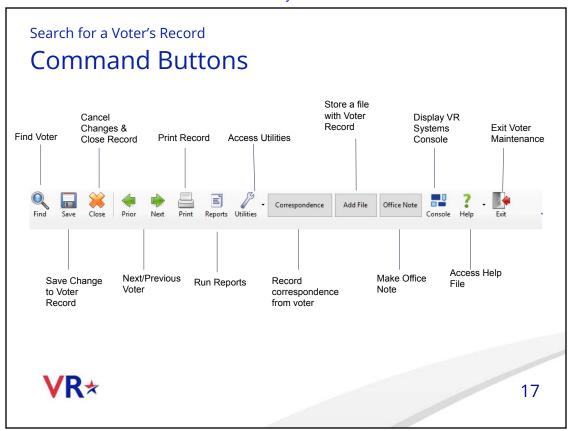


Search:

Searches your Voter Focus database.

 Pressing Enter on your keyboard is the same as clicking Search.

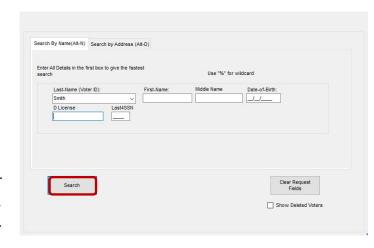






## Step 1: Perform a Local Search

- Type one or more of these:
  - Last name
  - Voter ID
  - Birth date
  - Florida driver license number
- Click Search or press the Enter key.





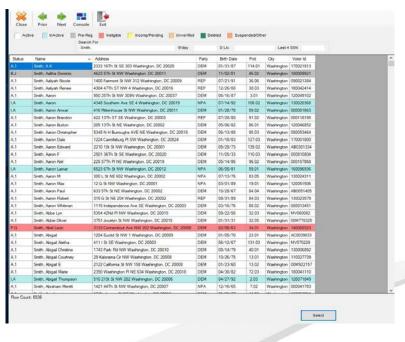
19

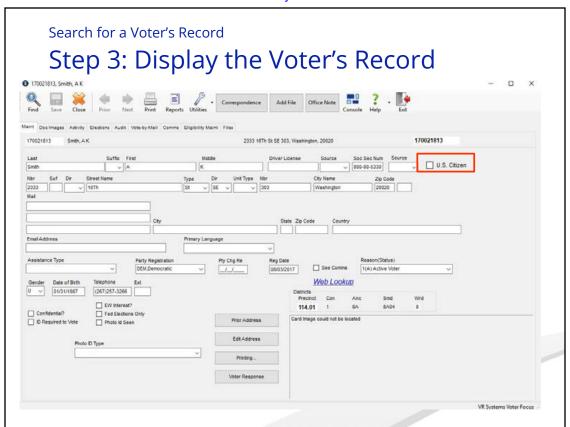
#### Search for a Voter's Record

# Step 2: Select Voter from Search Results

- Colors indicate status of voter's record or application.
- See the color key at the top of the dialog.
- To display a record, click in their line.





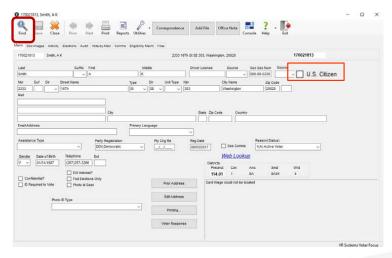




## Find a Voter Dialog

 Find a Voter dialog returns.
 When you click the FIND icon:







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# Search for a Voter's Record Search Options

- Search by Name tab
  - Name (full or partial)
  - Birth date
  - Voter ID
  - Driver license number
  - Last 4 Social
- Search by Address tab
  - (full or partial)





## Date of Birth Search



- Enter birth date.
- Entry of first 2 numbers of year not required.
   Voter Focus enters them for you.
- Click Search.



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#### Search for a Voter's Record

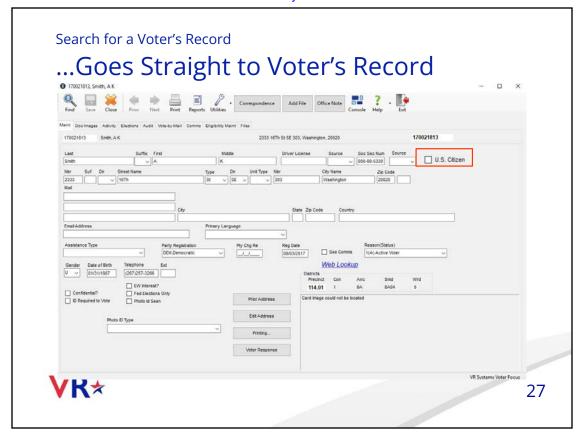
#### Voter ID Search...

- Enter the Voter ID.
- Sometimes called the registration number or the certificate number.

Click Search.







# Search for a Voter's Record Local Address Search... Click Search by Name(ALN) Search by Address (ALD) Pope Suffex Click Search by Address tab. Enter street name. Click Search.

## ...Local Address Search Results...

- Here are results for a Local Search by Address for 12th.
- Double click a result to list all voters residing in that street segment.
- Street segments in red are not residential, so won't have voters.

Street Name	Nor Rng	#Vin	Prot	USPS City	City(Ward)
12Th PINE	212 - 212 ()	2	88.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	214 - 214 ()	1	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	216 - 216 ()	1	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	218 - 218 Z ()	2	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	229 - 229 Z ( )	4	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	222 - 222 ()	3	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	224 - 224 Z ( )	2	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th RINE	228 - 228 Z ( )	0	88.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	228 - 228 ()	2	88.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	230 - 230 Z ( )	2	86,01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	232 - 232 Z ()	3	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	234+234()	8	88.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	236 - 236 ( )	2	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	238 - 238 ()	2	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	239 - 239 ()	7	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	240 - 240 ()	6	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	241 - 241 ()	6	86.01	Washington,20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	242-242()	8	86.01	Washington, 20002	District Of Columbia (6)
12Th PINE	4200 - 4200 ()	2	67,05	Washington,20017	District Of Columbia (5)
12Th PINE	4202 - 4202 ( )	3	67.05	Washington,20017	District Of Columbia (5)
12Th PINE	4204 - 4204 ()	3	67.05	Washington,20017	District Of Columbia (5)
12Th PINE	4206 - 4208 ()	4	67.05	Washington,20017	District Of Columbia (5)
12Th PINE	4298 - 4298 ( )	2	67.05	Washington,20017	District Of Columbia (5)

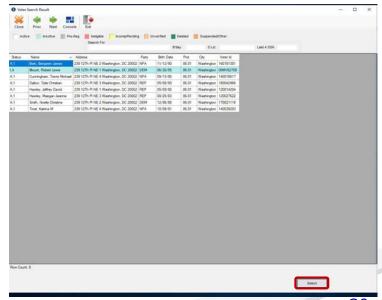


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#### Search for a Voter's Record

## ...Voters in the Segment Selected

- Selecting the street brings up the list of voters residing there.
- From here, click a voter to display their record.





#### Partial Name Search

- Wildcard is %:
- Smith, J% will give you:
  - John Smith
  - Ionathan Smith
  - Johnny Smith
  - Jane Smith
  - Julie Smith
- You can use the wildcard in Last Name, First Name, or Middle Name fields.



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First-Name

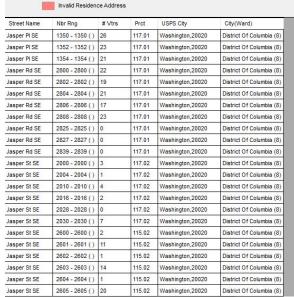
J%

Search for a Voter's Record

#### Wildcard Street Search

Use % in Street Name field to broaden the search.





Search By Name(Alt-N) Search by Address (Alt-D)

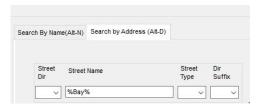
Enter All Details in the first box to give the fastest

Last-Name (Voter ID):

Smith



# Using Double Wildcard: %bay%



 Inserting the wildcard character before and after *Bay* returns all street segments containing the characters *bay* anywhere in the street name.

	Invalid Residence Address							
Street Name	Nbr Rng	# Vtrs	Prct	USPS City	City(Ward)			
Bay Ln SE	3800 - 3800 ()	4	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3801 - 3801 ()	9	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3802 - 3802 ( )	4	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3803 - 3803 ( )	2	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3804 - 3804 ()	2	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3805 - 3805 ()	3	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3806 - 3806 ()	0	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Bay Ln SE	3807 - 3807 ()	2	103.04	Washington,20019	District Of Columbia (7)			
Day I a CE	2000 2000 / 1	2	402.04	Machineton 20010	District Of Columbia (7)			



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Search for a Voter's Record

# Search by Exact Address

 Use Mailing City drop-down menu to choose city, if necessary.









#### Quick Tour of Voter Record

# Step 1: Let's Find a Voter

- We will access the local record for A.K. Smith
- We will search using his voter ID: 170021813
- And then click
   Search.





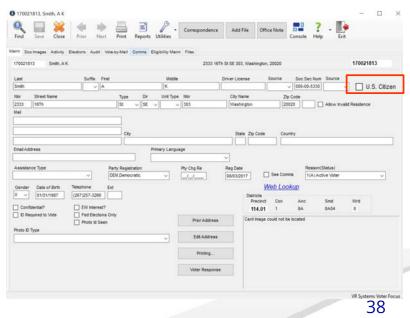
37

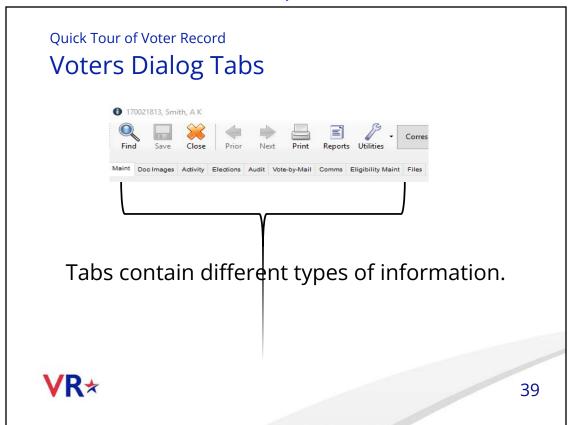
#### Quick Tour of Voter Record

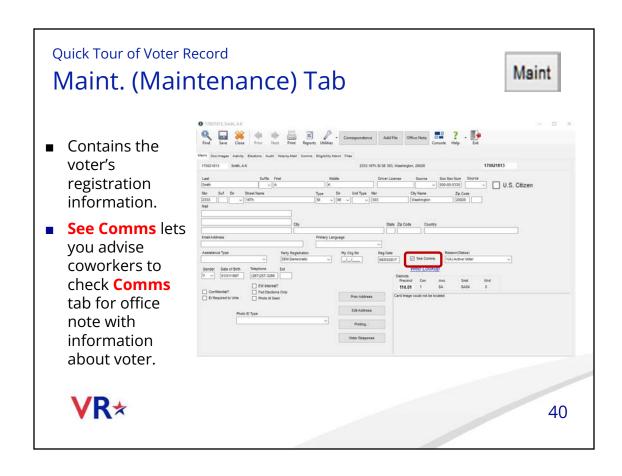
# The Maintenance Dialog

- Now we'll take a closer look at the organization of the voter record in Voter Focus.
- The record is displayed in what we call the Maintenance dialog.

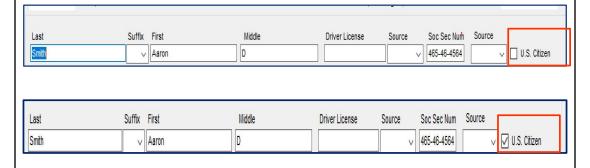








## **ALERT:** New Field on Voter Maintenance



**Blank box for US Citizens**- Non-Citizens **Check box-** All Citizens will default to a check box.



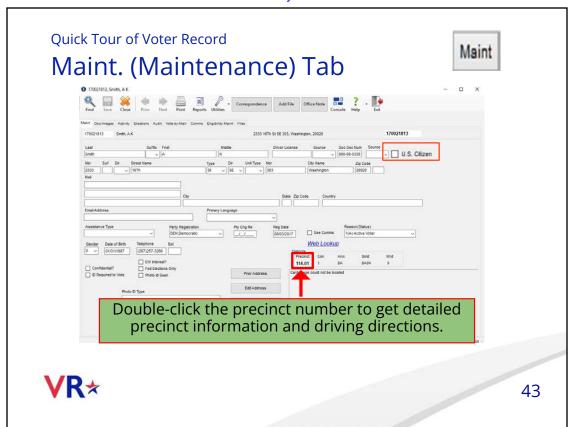
41

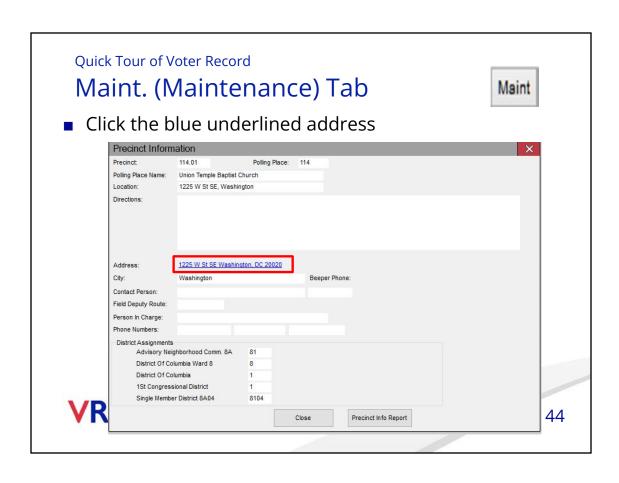
## **ALERT: New Audit Field**

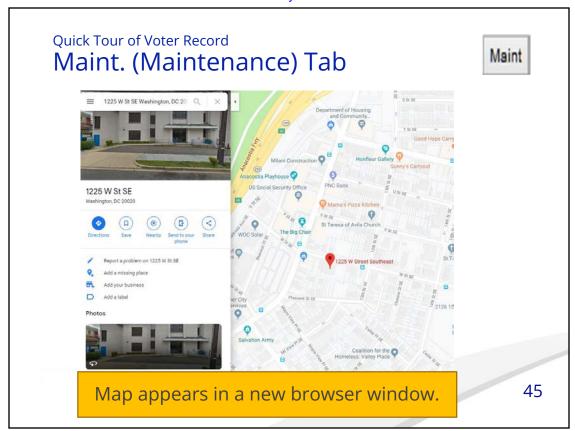


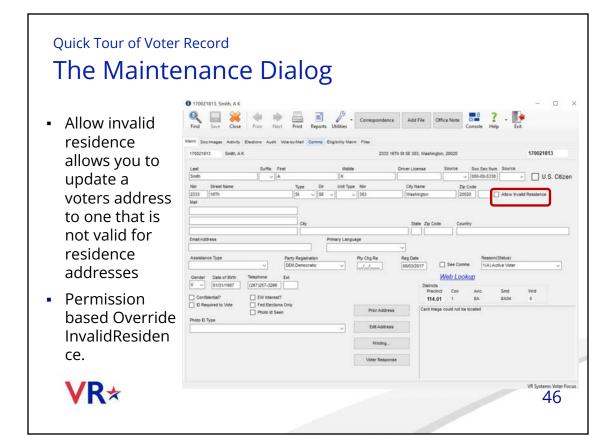
**NEW Field**- Citizens Values Y- US Citizen N- Not a Citizen

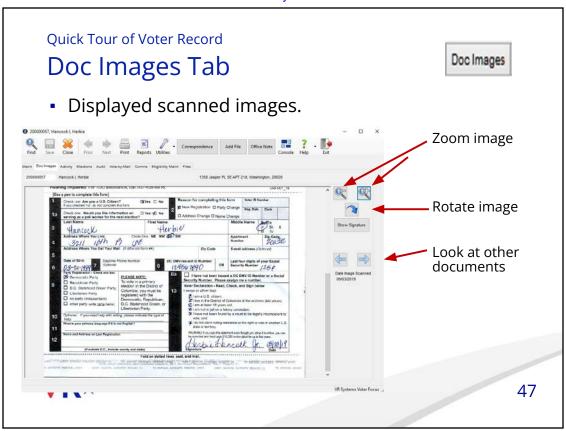


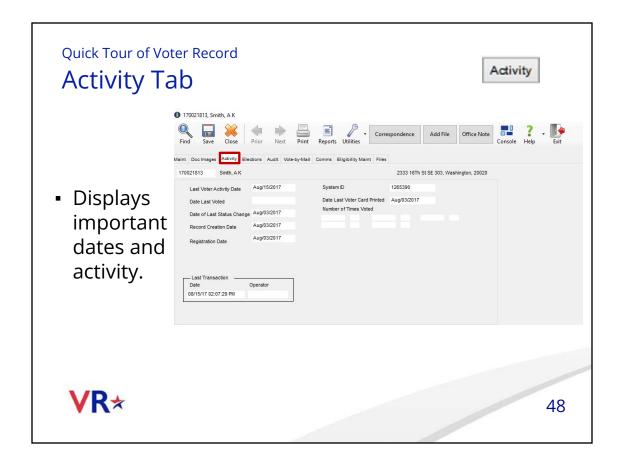


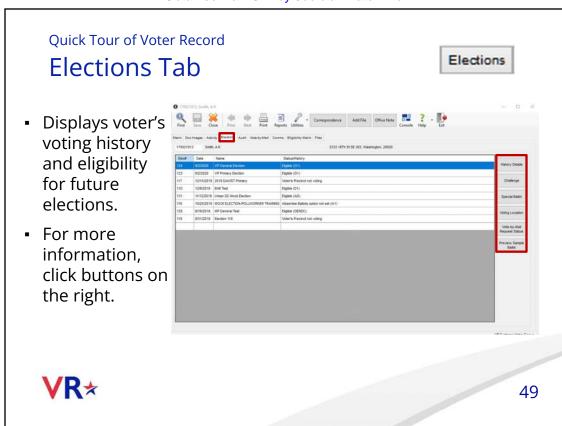


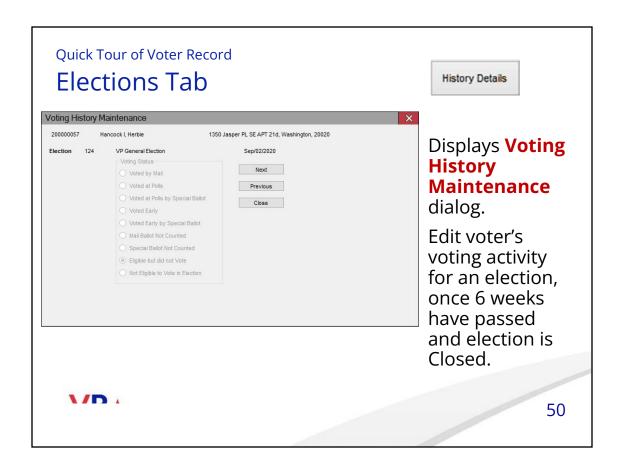


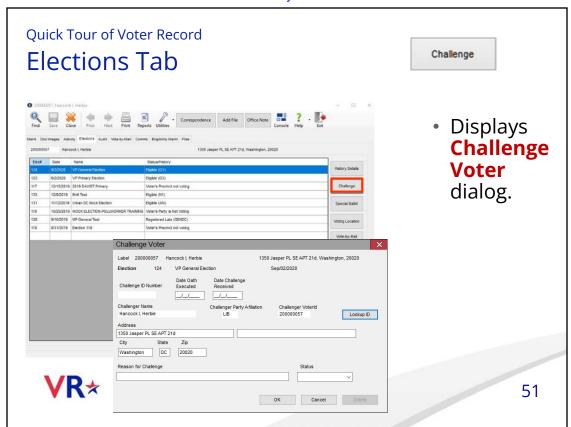


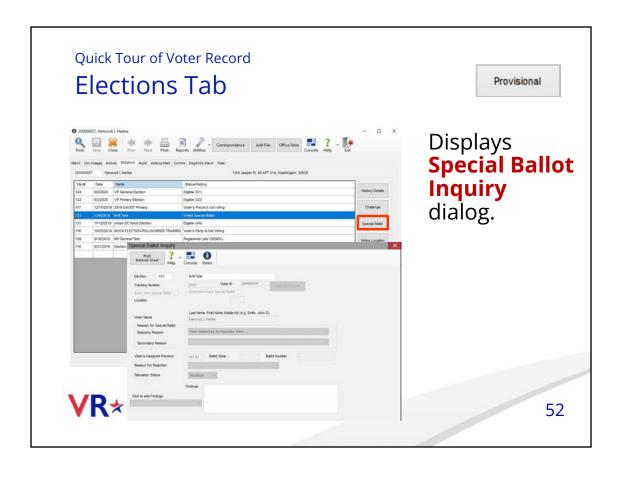


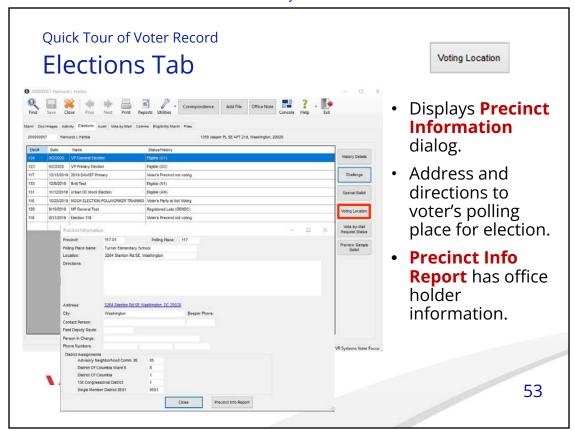


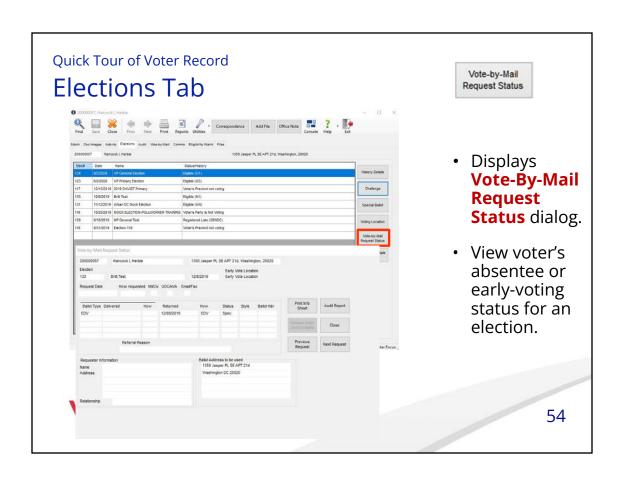


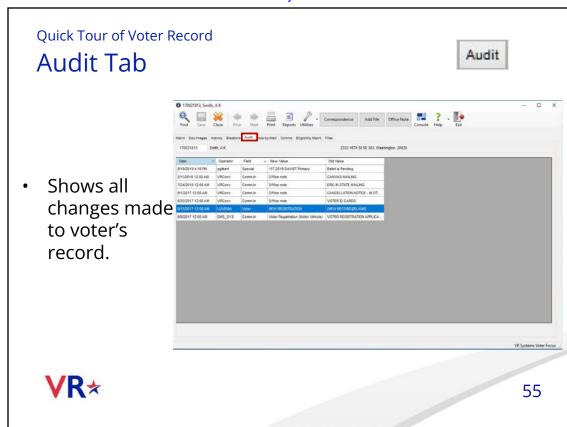


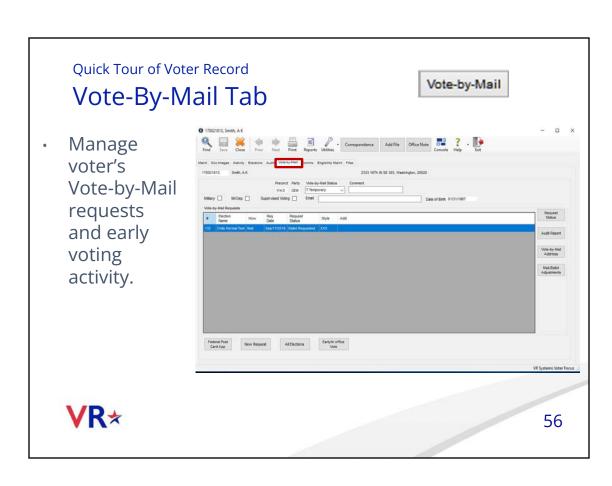












#### Quick Tour of Voter Record

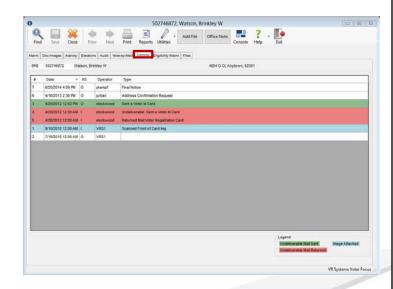
## Comms. (Communications) Tab

Comms

- Displays communications to voter and from voter.
- A Blue background – image attached
- Green

   undeliverable
   mail sent
- Red undeliverable mail returned



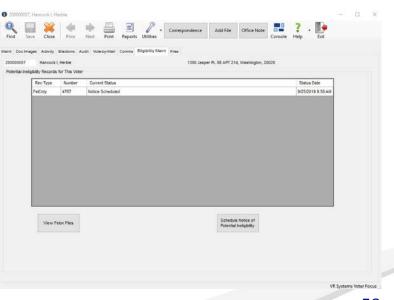


57

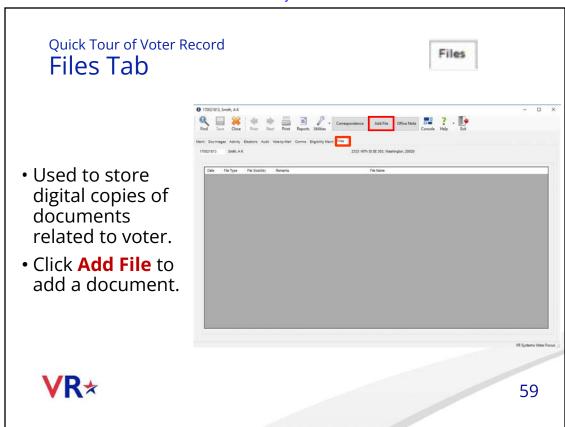
# Quick Tour of Voter Record Eligibility Maint. Tab

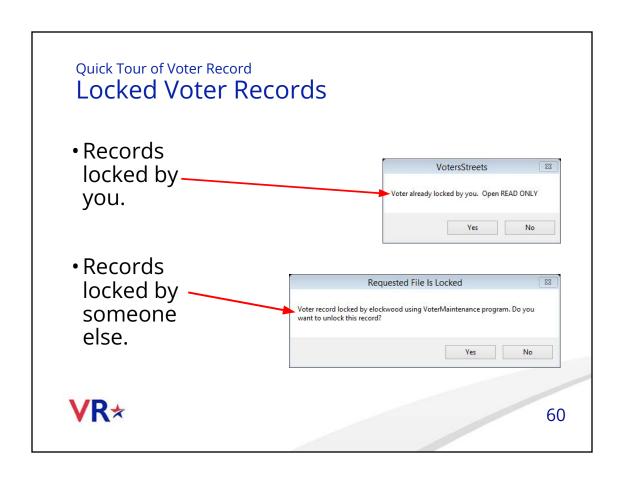
Eligibility Maint

- Show
   Decease,
   Duplicate,
   Mentally
   Incomp.
   matches.
- Only certain users can do this.



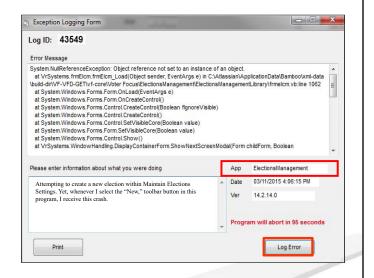




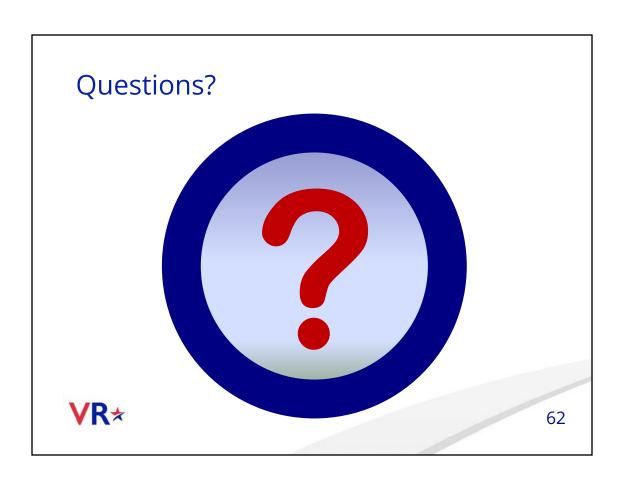


## Quick Tour of Voter Record **Exception Logging Form**

- Received when there is an issue with the software.
- Include a detailed message:
  - Process Steps
  - Voter's ID number
  - Any extra comments that will help.







# Change a Voter's Registration Status



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#### Change a Voter's Status

## **About Voter Statuses**

Code	Description	Color
Α	Active	White
I	Inactive	Aqua
Р	Ineligible	Red
В	Pre-registered 17-year-old	Gray
D	Deleted or Denied	Dark green
S	Suspended	Orange
Н	Incomplete	Yellow
Н	Incomplete (because unverified)	Peach
Z	Pending	Yellow

#### Change a Voter's Status

## Why Change a Voter Status?

- Office Errors
  - Software run made voter active, inactive or ineligible.
  - Office user manually changed to the voter status.



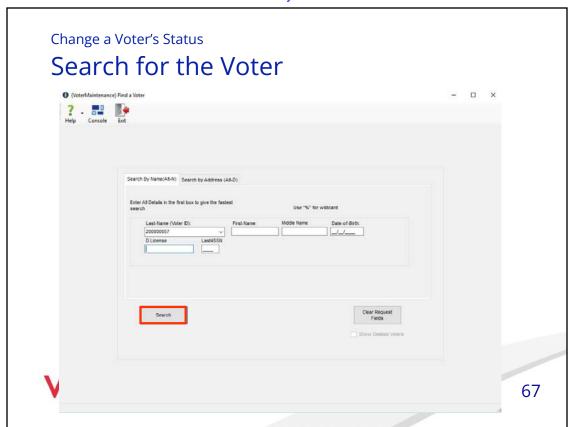
65

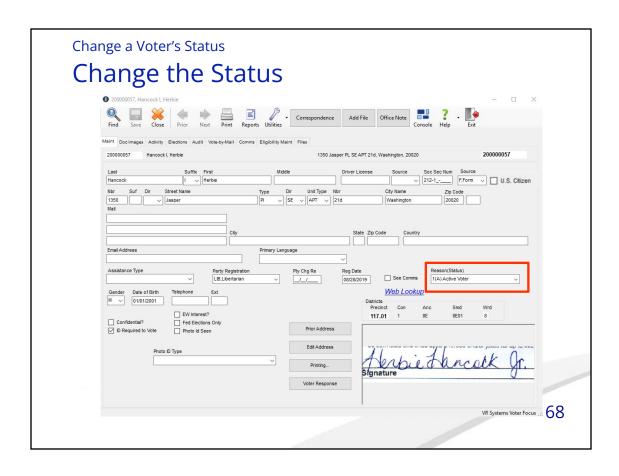
#### Change a Voter's Status

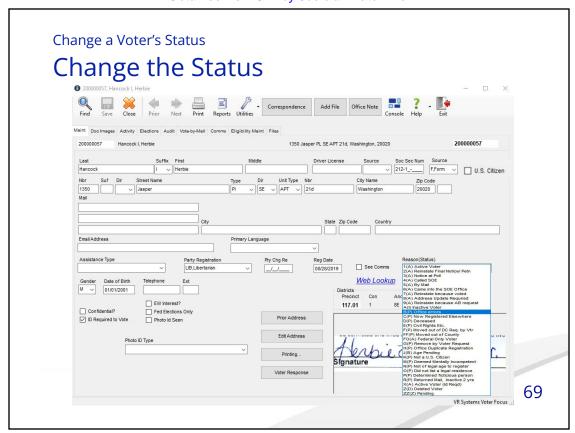
## Process a Status Change

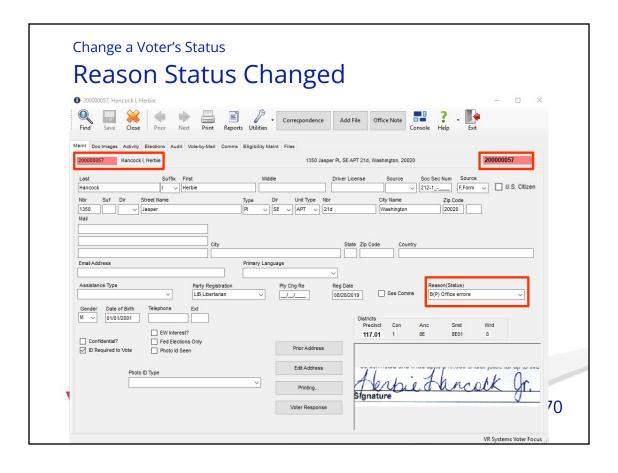
- 1. Search for the voter.
- 2. Change their status
- 3. Enter an office note explaining the change.
- 4. Save the record.

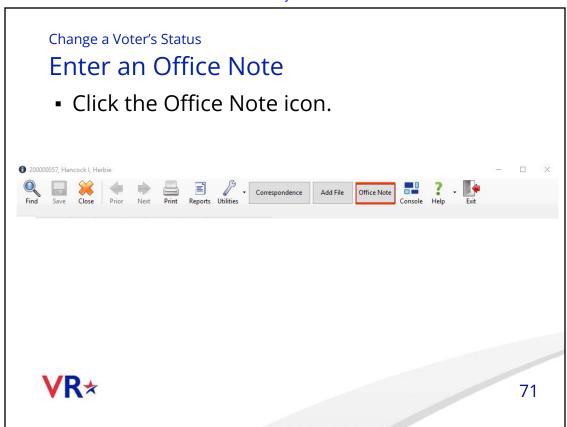


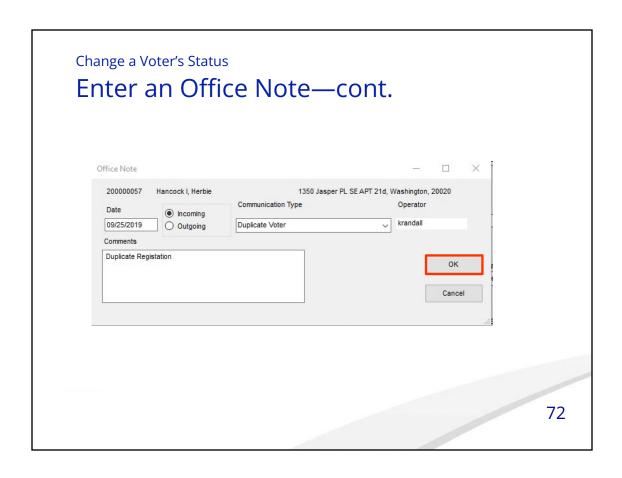


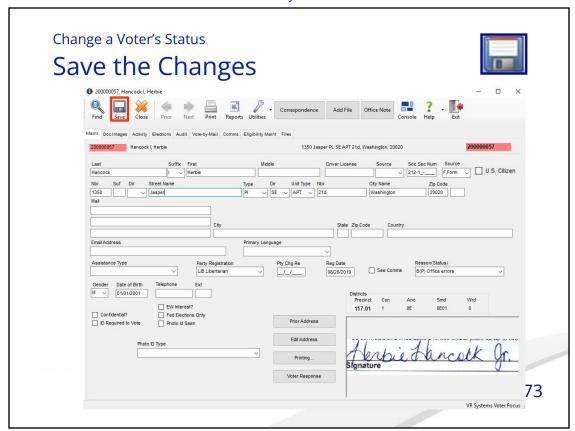


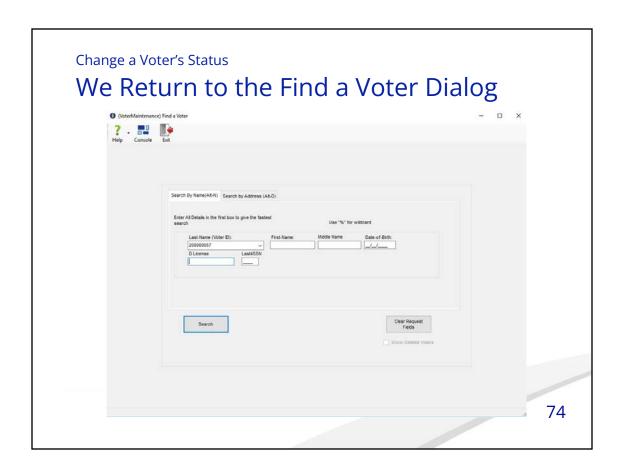


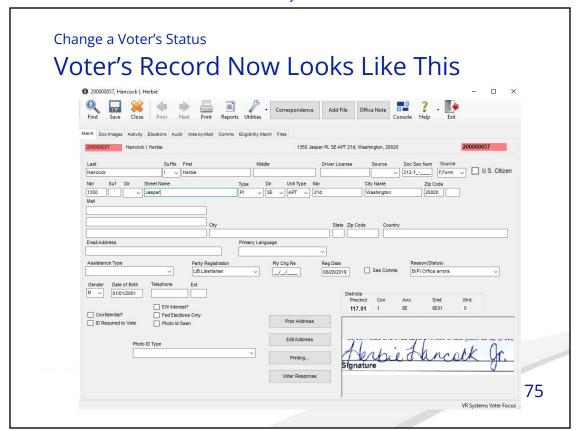


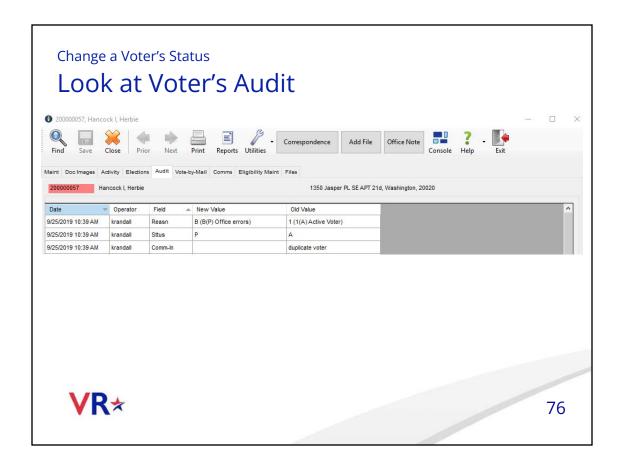










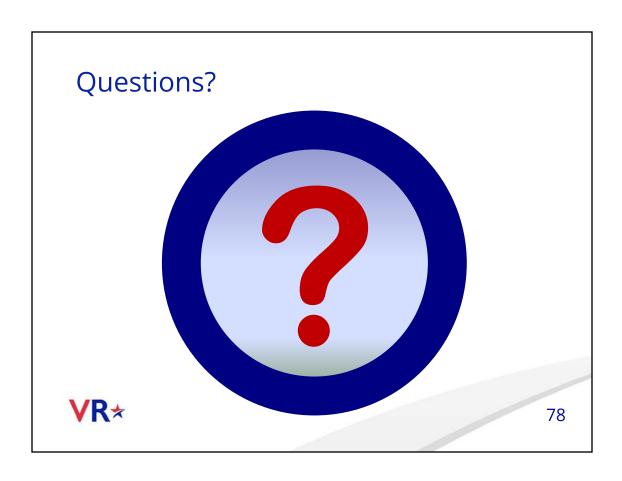


#### Change a Voter's Status

## Review

- 1. Search for the voter.
- 2. Change their status.
- 3. Enter an office note.
- 4. Save the record.





# Change a Voter's Residence Address



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## Change a Voter's Residence Address

- Local record, Voter Response OR
- Correspondence from Voter
  - Covered later in presentation



Change an Address: Voter Response

#### Access Record via a Search

- Search button is for voter record changes and cleanup.
- Corrections to the voter's record. (WHOOPS! I forgot the apartment number!)
- QA: Perhaps the voter's party was entered or changed incorrectly.
- Address changes **NOT** from an application form.
- Process works for invalid residences as well



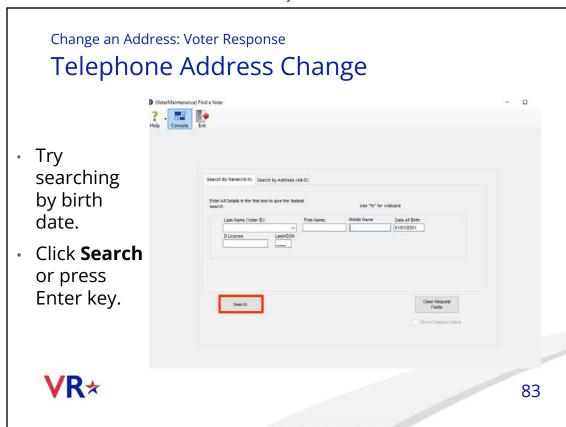
81

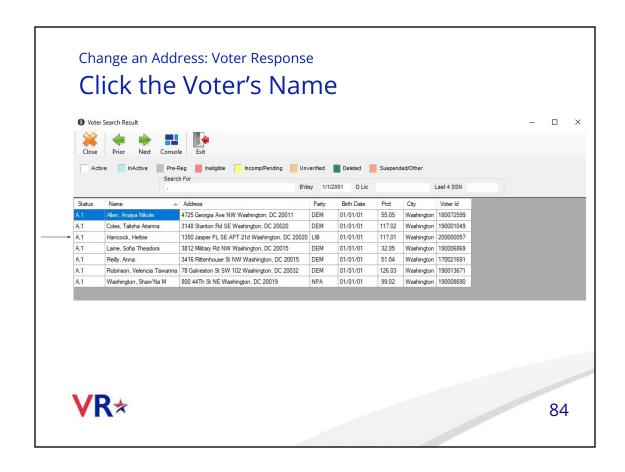
Change an Address: Voter Response

## Process an Address Change

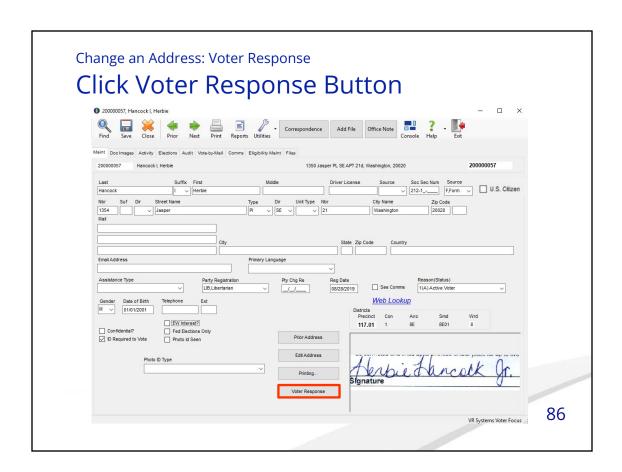
- 1. Search for voter (**Search**).
- 2. Type in new address.
- 3. Click **Voter Response** button.
- 4. Select a reason for the change.
- 5. Save the voter's record.

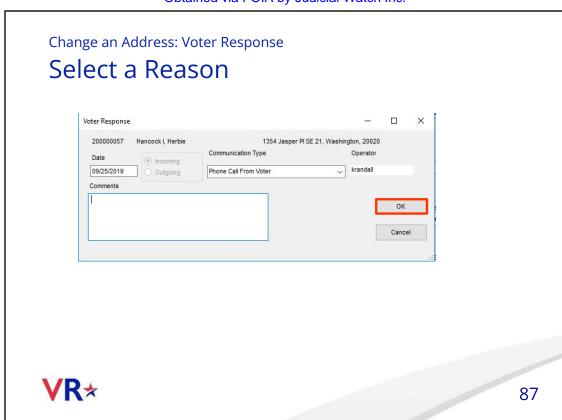


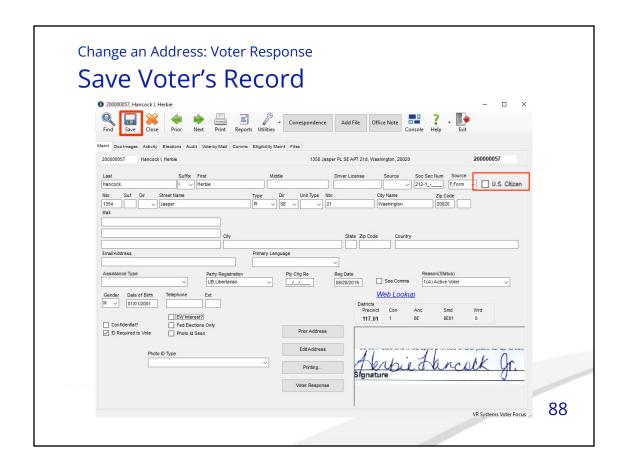


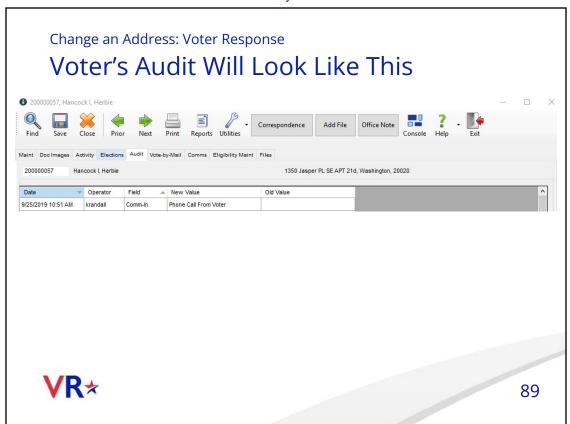


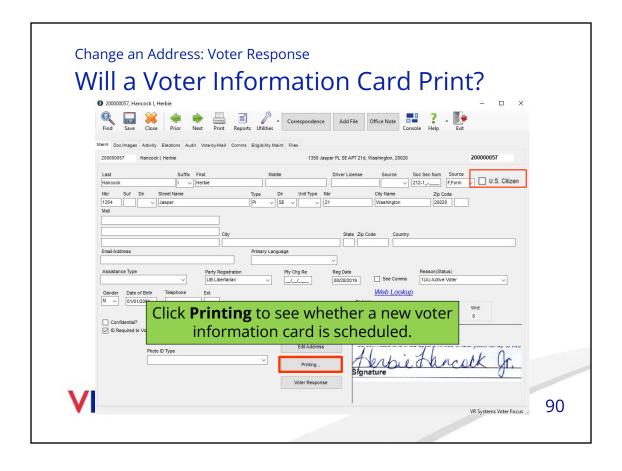
#### Change an Address: Voter Response **Enter the New Address** Find Save Close Prior Neat Print Reports Utilities Find Save Close Prior Neat Print Reports Utilities City and Zip faint DocImages Activity Elections Audit Vote-by-Mail Comms Eligibility Maint Files Code fields are filled in automatically Type Dir Unit Type Nbr PI ✓ SE ✓ 21 for valid local addresses. Tab through the address Web Lookup fields to fill in the City and 117.01 1 ☑ ID Required to Vote Photo Id Seen Zip Code fields. **VR**\* VR Systems Voter Focus











Change an Address: Voter Response Card is Scheduled to Print Schedule Document Printing Change of Address 9/25/2019 10:53:38 AM N AB Temp Away/Forwarding temp address away AB\_BaL\_Rej\_No\_Sign Absentee Notice Absentee Notice Absentee Notice Reminder Address Change Notice Address Confirmation Request Address Label Address Out of County Address Out of State DOB Update App - Petition DymoLabel Print Immediately Voter Card Registration Receipt Schedule Unschedule Close Voter Label Document Printing

Change an Address: Voter Response

#### Review

- 1. Search for voter.
- Type in new address. If address is protected, click **Edit Address** and type in new address.
- 1. Click **Voter Response**.
- 2. Select a reason for the address change.
- 3. Save the voter's record.



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#### Change an Address

#### Remember...

#### **Office Note**

- Any type of message that does not come directly from the voter.
- Cancellation notice, decease notice, office error correction.
- Maybe used for Undeliverable Mail and Mail Returned by Voter.

## **Voter Response**

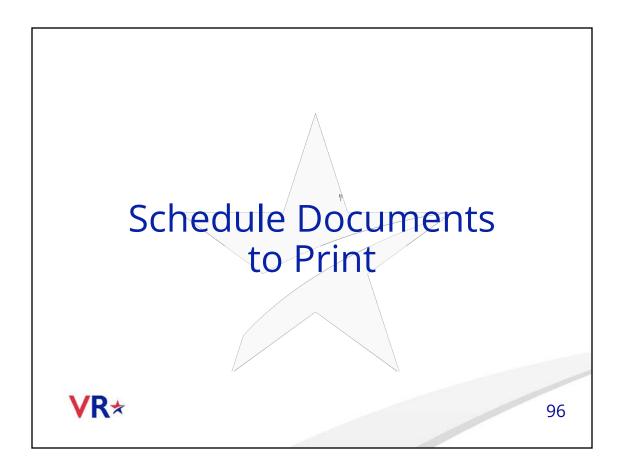
- Anything that comes directly from the voter
- Telephone address change, personal letter, voter surrenders old card, etc.
- Updates Voter Activity



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## Change an Address Voter Response | Office Note 1 200000057, Hancock I, Herbie Find Save Close Prior Next Print Reports Utilities Correspondence Add File Office Note Console Help Exit Maint Doc Images Activity Elections Audit Vote-by-Mail Comms Eligibility Maint Files Hancock I. Herbie 1350 Jasper PL SE APT 21d, Washington, 20020 Last Suffix First Hancock I ✓ Herbie Reg Date 08/28/2019 See Comms 1(A) Active Voter Web Lookup Districts Precinct Con Anc Smd Wr 117.01 1 8E 8E01 8 M ~ 01/01/2001 EW Interest? ☐ Contidential? ☐ red Elections of ☐ Photo Id Seen Herbie Hancock 94 VR Systems Voter Focus





## Printing Button Schedules Documents to Print

To print an individual document for a voter:

- Make sure you use the **Search** button to find the voter's record.
- Examples of documents:
  - Replacement voter information card
  - Voter label
  - Address confirmation request

**Hint:** Any change to a voter's record that affects data shown on the voter card *automatically* schedules printing of a voter card and label (if option is set to print labels). You must press the Voter Response button.



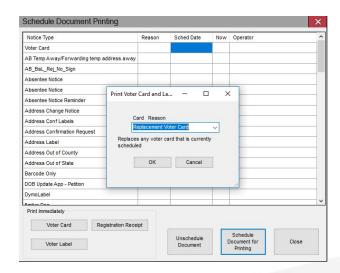
97

## **Schedule Documents** In Voter's Record, Click Printing... 1 200000057, Hancock I, Herbie Save Close Prior Next Print Reports Utilities Correspondence City Name Washington Reg Date 08/28/2019 See Comms Web Lookup M ~ 01/01/2001 EW Interest? 117.01 Confidential? ☑ ID Required to Vote Photo Id Seen Serpie Hancock 98 VR Systems Voter Focus

#### **Schedule Documents**

#### Schedule a Voter Card to Print

- Click Voter Card.
- Click Schedule Document for Printing.
- Choose Card Reason:
   Replacement Voter Card.
- · Click OK.



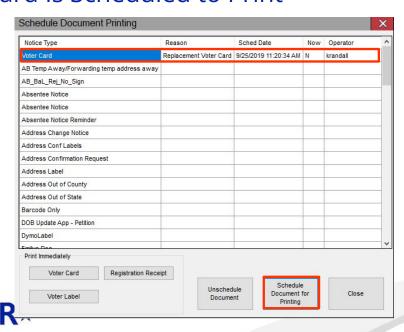


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#### Schedule Documents

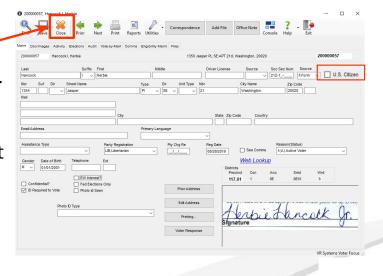
## Card Is Scheduled to Print



#### **Schedule Documents**

## Close the Voter's Record

- Click X to close out of voter's record.
- Voter is now scheduled for a replacement card.





#### **Schedule Documents**

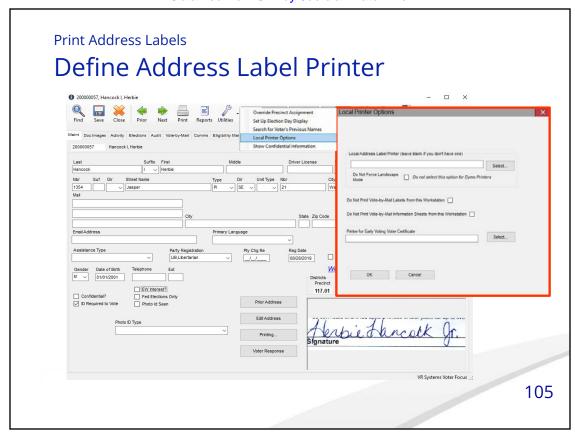
## Review: Replacement Information Card

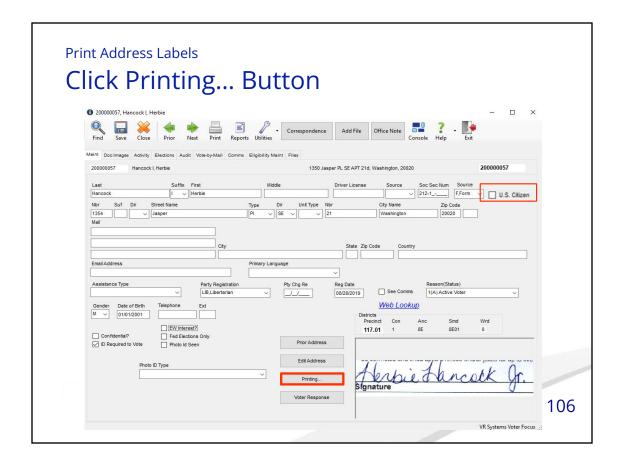
- Search for a voter locally.
- 2. Click **Printing**.
- 3. Click on item to print (voter information card, label, address confirmation request).
- 4. Click Schedule Document for Printing.
- Select reason (such as Replacement Voter Card)
- 6. Click Close.
- 7. Click X to close the voter's record.





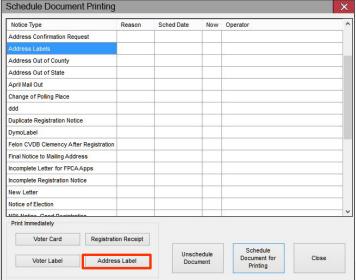






#### **Print Address Labels**

## Click Address Label Button





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#### Print Address Labels

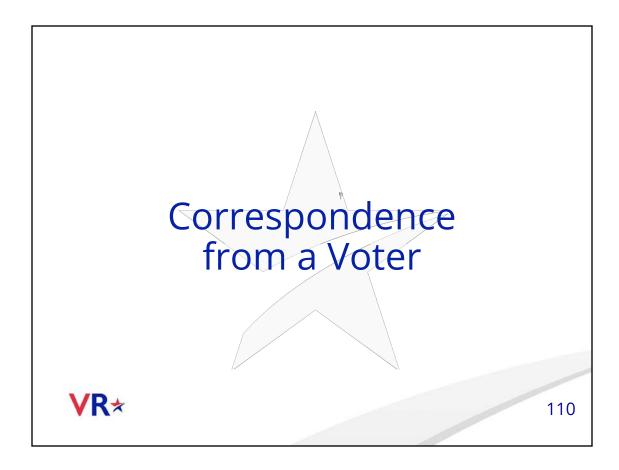
## Select Address Type

- Select the address type.
- Address will default in fields.
- If a temporary address, you must enter the address manually.







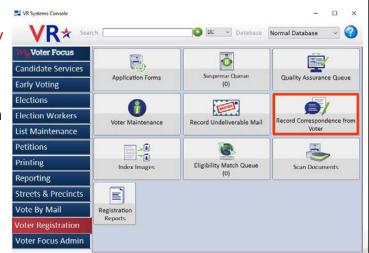


## What is Correspondence from a Voter?

Any correspondence by a registered voter

#### **Examples:**

- Address Confirmation
- Final Notice
- Update to Record
- Telephone address change





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## Correspondence from a Voter

- 3 different functions:
  - Card Returned, Record Response
  - Address Change Inside State
  - Moved out of State, Remove from Register

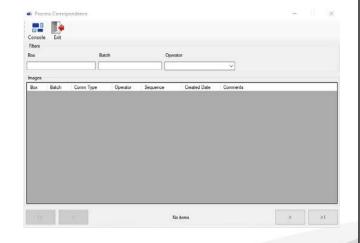


#### Card Returned, Record Response

## Mail Returned by Voter, no Change

#### Box & Batch Process

- 1. Retrieve scanned image from queue
- 2. Search for Voter Record



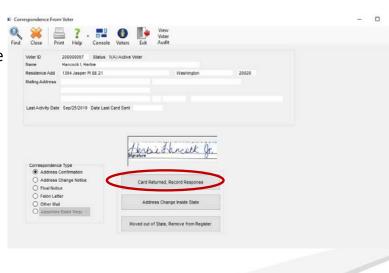


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#### Card Returned, Record Response

### Mail Returned by Voter, no Change

- 1. Select card type returned by voter.
- 2. Click Card Returned, Record Response.
- 3. Voter activity date is updated.



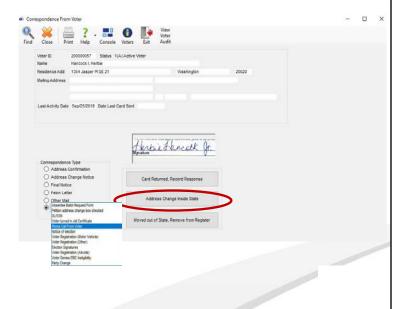


Address Change Inside State

## Telephone Address Change

Select **Telephone address change**.

Click Address Change Inside State.



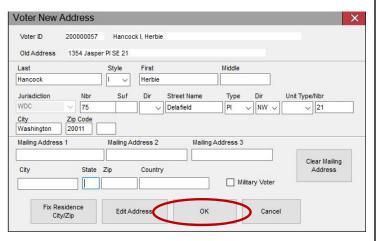


Address Change Inside State

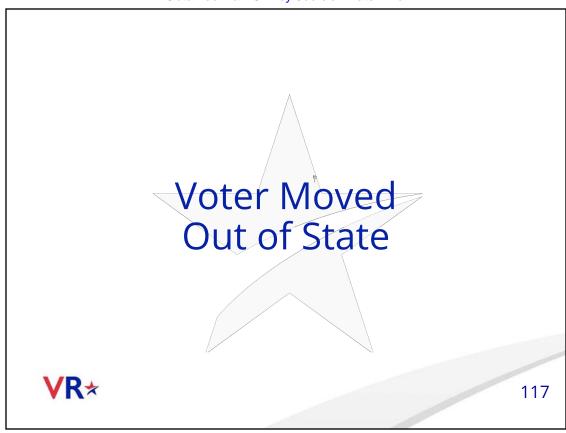
### Telephone Address Change

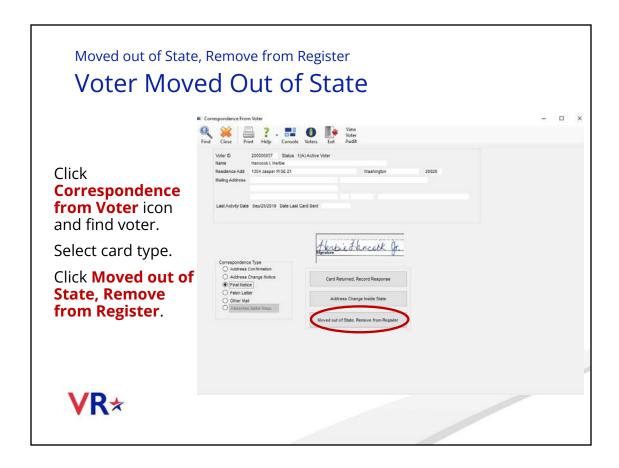
Enter new address. Click **OK**.

Use for inside county change and move into county.









Moved out of State, Remove from Register

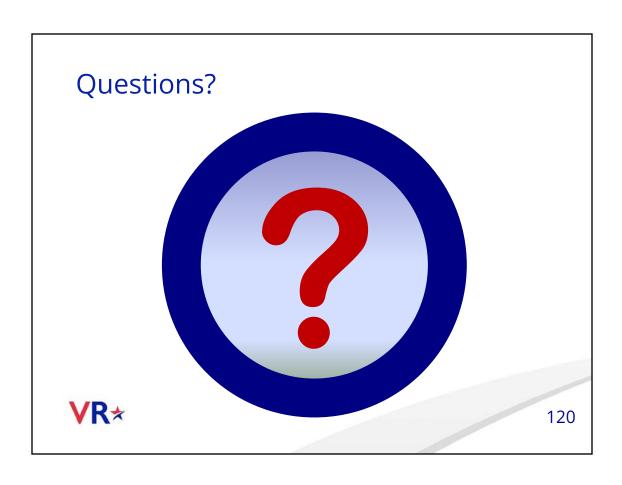
### Voter Moved Out of State

 Warning message: Voter will be removed from the voter rolls. Continue?











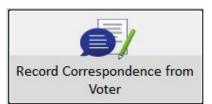


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#### Undeliverable Mail

### What is Undeliverable Mail?

- Any mail sent by the DCBOE to a registered voter that is <u>returned</u> to the elections office by the US Postal Service.
- When the elections office processes undeliverable mail, a Final Notice (2<sup>nd</sup> notice) is automatically scheduled by Voter Focus.





#### Undeliverable Mail

## Types of Undeliverable Mail

- Voter Information Cards
- Individual Sample Ballots
- "Return to Sender"
- "Moved to ..."
- Post Office 'yellow sticky labels' with different address
- MAIL UNTOUCHED BY VOTER'S HAND





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### Undeliverable Mail with an Address Change

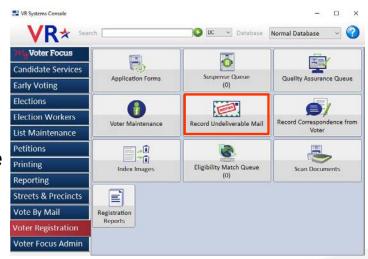
- Postal Service 'yellow sticky labels' with different address.
- Process as a third-party address change.
- Third-party address changes, including those coming from undeliverable mail, are covered in a separate course.
- This course covers only undeliverable mail without an address change.



Undeliverable Mail

#### How to Process

- Cancel out of Find a Voter dialog.
- 2. Click **Record Undeliverable Mail** icon.





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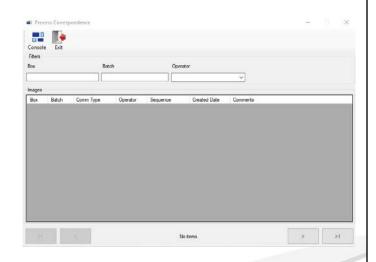
**Undeliverable Mail** 

### How to Process—cont.

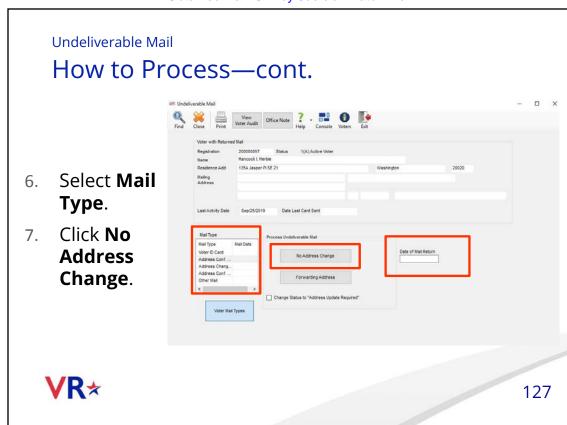
Box & Batch Process

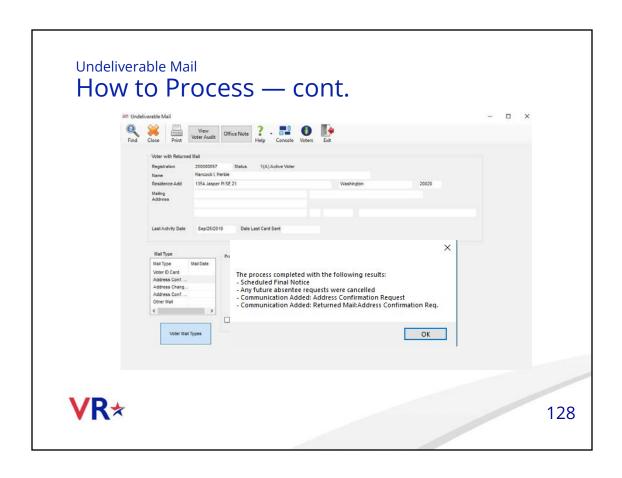
Retrieve scanned image from queue

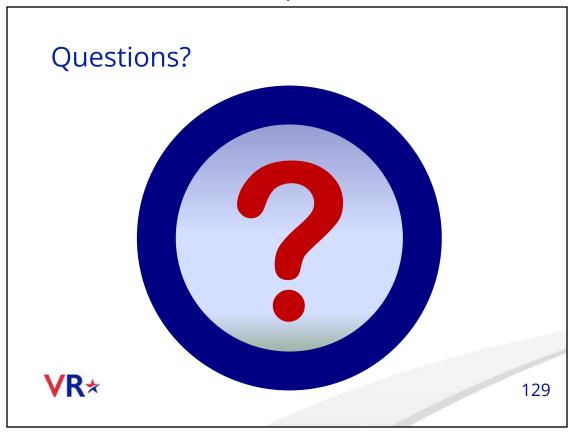
Search for Voter Record











## **Review: Mail Processing**

### Undeliverable Mail/ Third-Party Address Change



Any mail sent by the DCBOE to a registered voter that is returned to the DCBOE by the U.S. Postal Service

# Correspondence from Voter



Any correspondence from a registered voter



# **2024 Registration Clerk Vote Center SOP**

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### **PROCESSING ACTIVE VOTERS**

#### **Checking in a Regular Voter**

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" or "Scan Barcode" on the Poll Pad.
  - Touch Scan Barcode button.
  - Place DMV issued ID or registration card on the tray with the barcode facing up and towards vou.
  - If the barcode is recognized, the Poll Pad will automatically search for the voter.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- 7. Say the voter's name, address, and party affiliation out loud.
- 8. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 9. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 10. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 11. Touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 12. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the Poll Worker Confirmation screen to print the ballot ticket.
- 13. Hand the voter the ballot ticket from the printer.
- 14. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand station or the Ballot Marking Device.

### **Processing Inactive Voters**

#### **Inactive Voter with correct address**

#### **Checking in an Inactive Voter**

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Say the voter's **name**, **address**, and **party affiliation** out loud.
- 7. Touch "CORRECT ADDRESS."
- 8. Touch "OK" to change from inactive to active.
- 9. Say the voter's **name**, **address**, and **party affiliation** out loud.
- 10. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 11. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 12. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 13. Touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 14. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the Poll Worker Confirmation screen to print the ballot ticket.
- 15. Hand the voter the ballot ticket from the printer.
- 16. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand station or the Ballot Marking Device.

### **Processing Inactive Voter**

### Incorrect address in Poll Pad with Valid ID/ Proof of Residence

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. If you are unable to locate the voter with the name and address given. Ask the voter to confirm their date of birth.
- 7. Once you match the record found in the poll pad with **name** and **date of birth** select the correct voter from the search results.
- 8. Ask the voter for **ID/ Proof of Residence** for their current address.
- 9. If the Voter provides acceptable ID/Proof of Residence, touch the "Incorrect Address" button.
- 10. On the **Election Day Registration screen**, update the voter's First Name and/or Last Name. if not updating their name, skip this screen by touching the "**NEXT**" button to continue.
- 11. On the Voter Address screen, touch either the old house number or the button under Unit Type that says **CLEAR FORM** to delete the old address.
- 12. On the **Voter Address screen**, fill out the House #. Type the first two to three letters on the Street Name line; a drop-down menu will appear. Select the correct street name.
- 13. When the correct street is touched, the remaining fields will automatically be filled in. Press "NEXT" to continue.
- 14. A screen will drop-down asking if there is a unit number linked to the address.
  - a. If there is no unit number, touch the "Understood" button.
  - b. If there is a unit number, touch the "Enter Unit Number" button to enter Unit Type and Unit Number. Then press "NEXT" to continue.
- 15. On the **Proof of Residence** screen, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button. Select from among the three options provided by the voter.
- 16. After you have entered the required information from the drop-down box, touch the "NEXT" button in the upper right-hand corner.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- 17. On the **Residency Verification Screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "NEXT" button.
- 18. Select from the drop-down menu the type of **ID/Proof of Residence** provided by the voter.
- 19. Depending on the type of **ID/Proof of Residence** selected, enter the information indicated in the chart underneath the box that appears, and then touch the "NEXT" button to continue.
- 20. On the **Voter Signature of Confirmation screen,** turn the Poll Pad to the voter and ask them to review the information on the screen to verify that it is correct.
- 21. If the voter would like to listen to the OATH shown in the gray on the screen, have them touch the "LISTEN TO OATH" button.
- 22. If the information is correct, have the voter sign above the signature line in the grayed out Oath area.
- 23. Turn the Poll Pad back to you so that you can review the signature. If the signature is on the screen, touch the "NEXT" button.
- 24. On the Poll Worker "Signature of Confirmation screen", sign your initials in the box and touch the "SUBMIT" button.
- 25. Touch the "ACCEPT" button that shows up on the page. The Voter Confirmation screen appears.
- 26. Confirm the voter's information by reciting the voter's name, address and party affiliation aloud; then touch "ACCEPT" to continue.
- 27. On the Signature Confirmation screen, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 28. On the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen**, touch the "**SUBMIT**" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The ballot ticket will print.
- 29. Hand the voter the ballot ticket from the printer.
- 30. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand printer or Ballot Marking Device machine.

### **Processing an Inactive Voter**

### Incorrect address in Poll Pad without Valid ID/ Proof of Residence

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. If you are unable to locate the voter with the name and address given. Ask the voter to confirm their date of birth.
- 7. Once you match the record found in the poll pad with **name** and **date of birth** select the correct voter from the search results.
- 8. Ask the voter for **ID/Proof of Residence** for their current address.
- 9. If the voter does not have **ID/Proof of Residence** to provide or that **ID/Proof of Residence** is not valid, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 10. Check #2 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 11. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 12. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 13. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 14. Touch "Incorrect Address."
- 15. On the **Election Day Registration screen**, use the SBE to update the voter's First Name and/or Last Name. if not updating their name, skip this screen by touching the "**NEXT**" button to continue.
- 16. On the Voter Address screen, touch either the old house number or the button under Unit Type that says **CLEAR FORM** to delete the old address.
- 17. On the **Voter Address screen**, fill out the House #. Type the first two to three letters on the Street Name line; a drop-down menu will appear. Select the correct street name.
- 18. When the correct street is touched, the remaining fields will automatically be filled in. Press "NEXT" to continue.
- 19. A screen will drop-down asking if there is a unit number linked to the address.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- a. If there is no unit number, touch the "Understood" button.
- b. If there is a unit number, touch the "Enter Unit Number" button to enter Unit Type and Unit Number. Then press "NEXT" to continue.
- 20. On the **Proof of Residence screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button. Select from among the three options provided by the voter.
- 21. After you have entered required information from the drop-down box, touch the "NEXT" button in the upper right-hand corner.
- 22. On the **Residency Verification Screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "NEXT" button.
- 23. Select from the drop-down menu the type of ID/ Proof of Residence provided.
- 24. Select No ID SHOWN from the drop-down menu and press the green "NEXT" button to continue.
- 25. On the **Voter Signature Confirmation screen**, you will see a red banner which displays SPECIAL BALLOT across the top of the screen. Turn the Poll Pad to the voter and ask them to review the information on the screen to verify that it is correct.
- 26. If the voter would like to listen to the OATH shown in the gray on the screen, have them touch the "LISTEN TO OATH" button.
- 27. If the information is correct, have the voter sign above the signature line in the grayed out Oath area.
- 28. Turn the Poll Pad back to you so that you can review the signature. If the signature is on the screen, touch the "NEXT" button.
- 29. On the Poll Worker "Signature of Confirmation screen", sign your initials in the box and touch the "SUBMIT" button.
- 30. Touch the "ACCEPT" button that shows up on the page. The Voter Confirmation screen appears.
- 31. Confirm the voter's information by reciting the voter's name, address and party affiliation aloud; then touch "ACCEPT" to continue.
- 32. On the **Signature Confirmation screen**, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 33. On the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen**, touch the "**SUBMIT**" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The Special Ballot ticket will print.
- 34. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket from the printer.
- 35. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

### **Processing Same Day Registration/ No Voter Record found**

#### Valid ID/ Proof of Residence Provided

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. If the voter is not found, **Ask for ID/Proof of Residence**.
- 6. If the voter provides valid ID/proof of residence, press the "**REGISTER**" button that appears in the upper right corner next to **START OVER**.
- 7. Follow the prompts that appear on the "Eligibility Verification screen".
  - Ask the voter: Do you live in the District of Columbia?
- 8. On the "Election Day Registration screen", fill out the First Name, Last Name, and Date of Birth fields.
- 9. Ask the voter their party. \*\*If the voter is not part of either the DC Statehood Green, Democrat, or Republican parties, DO NOT continue with the registration process\*\*. If the voter does select from one of the three major parties, touch the party and press "NEXT" to continue.
- 10. On the **Voter Address screen**, fill out the House #. Type the first two to three letters on the Street Name line; a drop-down menu will appear. Select the correct street name.
- 11. When the correct street is touched, the remaining fields will automatically be filled in. Press "NEXT" to continue.
- 12. A screen will drop down asking if there is a unit number linked to the address.
  - a. If there is no unit number, touch the "Understood" button.
  - b. If there is a unit number, touch the "Enter Unit Number" button to enter Unit Type and Unit Number. Then press "NEXT" to continue.
- 13. On the **Proof of Residence** screen, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button. Select from among the three options provided by the voter.
- 14. After you have entered required information from the drop-down box, touch the "NEXT" button in the upper right-hand corner.
- 15. On the Residency Verification Screen, touch the arrow under the gray "NEXT" button.
- 16. Select from the drop-down menu the type of **ID/Proof of Residence** provided by the voter.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- 17. Depending on the type of **ID/Proof of Residence** selected, enter the information indicated in the chart underneath the box that appears, and then touch the "NEXT" button to continue.
- 18. Skip the Previous Out of State Information Screen 6.
- 19. On the **Voter Signature of Confirmation screen,** turn the Poll Pad to the voter and ask them to review the information on the screen to verify that it is correct.
- 20. If the voter would like to listen to the OATH shown in the gray on the screen, have them touch the "LISTEN TO OATH" button.
- 21. If the information is correct, have the voter sign above the signature line in the grayed out Oath area.
- 22. Turn the Poll Pad back to you so that you can review the signature. If the signature is on the screen, touch the "NEXT" button.
- 23. On the Poll Worker "Signature of Confirmation screen", sign your initials in the box and touch the "SUBMIT" button.
- 24. The Poll Pad will return back to the search screen.
- 25. Select the correct voter's information from the search screen.
- 26. When the Citizen Question Appears, ask the vote if they are a US Citizen.
  - a. If the voter is a U.S. Citizen, select the "U.S. CITIZEN" button and ask the voter to read and sign the oath.
  - b. If the voter is a Non-U.S. Citizen, select the "NON CITIZEN" button and ask the voter to read and sign the oath.
- 27. Turn the Poll Pad back to you and touch "Accept and Sign" button at the top right-hand corner.
- 28. On the "Voter Confirmation screen", confirm the voter's information by reciting the voter's name, address and party affiliation aloud; then touch "ACCEPT" to continue.
- 29. On the **Signature Confirmation screen**, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 30. On the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen**, touch the "SUBMIT" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The ballot ticket will print.
  - a. If the voter is a U.S. Citizen, go to step 32.
  - b. If the voter is a Non-U.S. citizen, take the black Sharpie and cross an "X" through the barcode on the ballot ticket. Go to step 32.
- 31. Hand the voter the ballot ticket.
- 32. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand printer or Ballot Marking Device machine.

### Processing Same Day Registration/ No voter record found

#### **NO Valid ID/ Proof of Residence Provided**

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. If the voter is not found, **Ask for ID/Proof of Residence**.
- 6. If the voter does not have **ID/Proof of Residence** or the **ID/Proof of Residence** is not valid, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 7. Check #1 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 8. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 9. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 10. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 11. Press the "REGISTER" button that appears in the upper right corner next to START OVER.
- 12. Follow the prompts that appear on the "Eligibility Verification screen".

Ask the voter: Are you a U.S. Citizen?

Ask the voter: Do you live in the District of Columbia?

(insert Screenshot)

- 13. On the "Election Day Registration screen", fill out the First Name, Last Name, and Date of Birth fields.
- 14. Ask the voter their party. If the voter is not part of either the **DC Statehood Green**, **Democrat**, **Republican** parties, **DO NOT** continue with the registration process if voter does not select from one of the three major parties. Touch the party and press "**NEXT**" to continue.
- 15. On the **Voter Address screen**, fill out the House #. Type the first two to three letters on the Street Name line; a drop-down menu will appear. Select the correct street name.
- 16. When the correct street is touched, the remaining fields will automatically be filled in. Press "NEXT" to continue.
- 17. A screen will drop down asking if there is a unit number linked to the address.
  - a. If there is no unit number, touch the "Understood" button.
  - b. If there is a unit number, touch the "Enter Unit Number" button to enter Unit Type and Unit Number. Then press "NEXT" to continue.
- 18. On the **Proof of Residence** screen, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button. Select from among the three options provided by the voter.
- 19. After you have entered the required information from the drop-down box, touch the "NEXT" button in the upper right-hand corner.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- 20. On the **Residency Verification Screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button.
- 21. Select from the drop-down menu the type of **ID/Proof of Residence** provided by the voter.
- 22. Select No ID SHOWN from the drop-down menu and press the green "NEXT" button to continue.
- 23. Skip the Previous Out of State Information Screen 6.
- 24. On the **Voter Signature Confirmation screen**, you will see a red banner that displays SPECIAL BALLOT across the top of the screen. Turn the Poll Pad to the voter and ask them to review the information on the screen to verify that it is correct.
- 25. If the voter would like to listen to the OATH shown in the gray on the screen, have them touch the "LISTEN TO OATH" button.
- 26. If the information is correct, have the voter sign above the signature line in the grayed out Oath area.
- 27. Turn the Poll Pad back to you so that you can review the signature. If the signature is on the screen, touch the "NEXT" button.
- 28. The Poll Pad will return back to the search screen.
- 29. Select the correct voter's information from the search screen.
- 30. When the Citizen Question Appears, ask the vote if they are a US Citizen.
  - a. If the voter is a U.S. Citizen, select the "U.S. CITIZEN SPECIAL BALLOT" button and ask the voter to read and sign the oath.
  - b. If the voter is a Non-U.S. Citizen, select the "NON CITIZEN SPECIAL BALLOT" button and ask the voter to read and sign the oath.
- 31. Turn the Poll Pad back to you and touch "Accept and Sign" button at the top right-hand corner.
- 32. On the "Voter Confirmation screen", confirm the voter's information by reciting the voter's name, address and party affiliation aloud; then touch "ACCEPT" to continue.
- 33. On the Signature Confirmation screen, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 34. On the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen**, touch the "**SUBMIT**" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The Special Ballot ticket will print.
  - a. If the voter is a U.S. Citizen, go to step 36.
  - b. If the voter is a Non-U.S. citizen, take the black Sharpie and cross an "X" through the barcode on the ballot ticket. Go to step 36.
- 35. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket.
- 36. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

### Name and/or Address does not Match Voter Record

### Valid ID/ Proof of Residence provided

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. If you are unable to locate the voter with the name and address given. Ask the voter to confirm their date of birth.
- 7. Once you match the record found in the poll pad with **name** and **date of birth** select the correct voter from the search results.
- 8. Ask the voter for **ID/ Proof of Residence** for their current address.
- 9. If the Voter provides acceptable ID/Proof of Residence, touch the "Registration Update" button at the bottom of the screen.
- 10. On the **Election Day Registration screen**, update the voter's First Name and/or Last Name. if not updating their name, skip this screen by touching the "**NEXT**" button to continue.
- 11. On the Voter Address screen, touch either the old house number or the button under Unit Type that says **CLEAR FORM** to delete the old address.
- 12. On the **Voter Address screen**, fill out the House #. Type the first two to three letters on the Street Name line; a drop-down menu will appear. Select the correct street name.
- 13. A screen will drop down asking if there is a unit number linked to the address.
  - a. If there is no unit number, touch the "Understood" button.
  - b. If there is a unit number, touch the "Enter Unit Number" button to enter Unit Type and Unit Number. Then press "NEXT" to continue.
- 14. On the **Registration Identification** screen, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button.
- 15. On the **Proof of Residence screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button. Select from among the three options provided by the voter.
- 16. After you have entered the required information from the drop-down box, touch the "NEXT" button in the upper right-hand corner.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- 17. On the **Residency Verification Screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "NEXT" button.
- 18. Select from the drop-down menu the type of **Proof of Residence** provided by the voter.
- 19. Depending on the type of **ID/Proof of Residence** selected, enter the information indicated in the chart underneath the box that appears, and then touch the "NEXT" button to continue.
- 20. On the **Voter Signature of Confirmation screen,** turn the Poll Pad to the voter and ask them to review the information on the screen to verify that it is correct.
- 21. If the voter would like to listen to the OATH shown in the gray on the screen, have them touch the "LISTEN TO OATH" button.
- 22. If the information is correct, have the voter sign above the signature line in the grayed out Oath area.
- 23. Turn the Poll Pad back to you so that you can review the signature. If the signature is on the screen, touch the "NEXT" button.
- 24. On the Poll Worker "Signature of Confirmation screen", sign your initials in the box and touch the "SUBMIT" button.
- 25. Touch the "ACCEPT" button that shows up on the page. The Voter Confirmation screen appears.
- 26. Confirm the voter's information by reciting the voter's name, address and party affiliation aloud; then touch "ACCEPT" to continue.
- 27. On the Signature Confirmation screen, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 28. On the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen**, touch the "**SUBMIT**" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The ballot ticket will print.
- 29. Hand the voter the ballot ticket from the printer.
- 30. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand printer or Ballot Marking Device machine.

### Name and/or Address does not match Voter Record

### No Valid ID/ Proof of Residence Provided

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. If you are unable to locate the voter with the name and address given. Ask the voter to confirm their date of birth.
- 7. Once you match the record found in the poll pad with **name** and **date of birth** select the correct voter from the search results.
- 8. Ask the voter for **ID/ Proof of Residence** for their current address.
- 9. If the voter does not have **ID/Proof of Residence** or the **ID/Proof of Residence** is not valid, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 10. Check #2 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 11. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 12. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 13. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 14. Touch the "Registration Update" button at the bottom of the screen.
- 15. On the **Election Day Registration screen**, update the voter's First Name and/or Last Name. if not updating their name, skip this screen by touching the "**NEXT**" button to continue.
- 16. On the Voter Address screen, touch either the old house number or the button under Unit Type that says **CLEAR FORM** to delete the old address.
- 17. On the **Voter Address screen**, fill out the House #. Type the first two to three letters on the Street Name line; a drop-down menu will appear. Select the correct street name.
- 18. When the correct street is touched, the remaining fields will automatically be filled in. Press "NEXT" to continue.
- 19. A screen will drop-down asking if there is a unit number linked to the address.

- 20. If there is no unit number, touch the "Understood" button.
- 21. If there is a unit number, touch the "Enter Unit Number" button to enter Unit Type and Unit Number.

  Then press "NEXT" to continue.
- 22. On the **Proof of Residence screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "**NEXT**" button. Select from among the three options provided by the voter.
- 23. After you have entered the required information from the drop-down box, touch the "NEXT" button in the upper right-hand corner.
- 24. On the **Residency Verification Screen**, touch the arrow under the gray "NEXT" button.
- 25. Select from the drop-down menu the type of ID/ Proof of Residence provided.
- 26. Select No ID SHOWN from the drop-down menu and press the green "NEXT" button to continue.
- 27. On the **Voter Signature Confirmation screen**, you will see a red banner that which displays SPECIAL BALLOT across the top of the screen. Turn the Poll Pad to the voter and ask them to review the information on the screen to verify that it is correct.
- 28. If the voter would like to listen to the OATH shown in the gray on the screen, have them touch the "LISTEN TO OATH" button.
- 29. If the information is correct, have the voter sign above the signature line in the grayed out Oath area.
- 30. Turn the Poll Pad back to you so that you can review the signature. If the signature is on the screen, touch the "NEXT" button.
- 31. On the Poll Worker "Signature of Confirmation screen", sign your initials in the box and touch the "SUBMIT" button.
- 32. Touch the "ACCEPT" button that shows up on the page. The Voter Confirmation screen appears.
- 33. Confirm the voter's information by reciting the voter's name, address and party affiliation aloud; then touch "ACCEPT" to continue.
- 34. On the **Signature Confirmation screen**, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 35. On the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen**, touch the "**SUBMIT**" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The special ballot ticket will print.
- 36. Hand the voter the special ballot ticket from the printer.
- 37. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

## Processing a Non-U.S Citizen Voter

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- 7. A prompt screen with **NON CITIZEN** will appear with three options that say **PROCESS VOTER** and **CLOSE.**
- 8. Read the statement on the screen to the voter.
- 9. If the voter confirms they would like to vote, select the **PROCESS VOTER** button.
- 10. Say the voter's name, address, and party affiliation out loud.
- 11. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 12. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 13. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 14. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 15. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen** to print the ballot ticket.
- 16. Take the Black sharpie and cross an "X" through the barcode.
- 17. Hand the voter the ballot ticket.
- 18. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand station or the Ballot Marking Device.

## Marked as "Voter Has Already Voted"

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- A prompt screen with VOTER HAS ALREADY VOTED will appear with two options that say SPECIAL BALLOT and CANCEL.
- 8. If the voter would like to vote, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 9. Check #4 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 10. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 11. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 12. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 13. Touch the SPECIAL BALLOT button.
- 14. Say the voter's **name**, **address**, and **party affiliation** out loud.
- 15. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 16. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 17. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 18. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 19. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the Poll Worker Confirmation screen to print the Special Ballot ticket.
- 20. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket from the printer.
- 21. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

## Marked as "Mail-in Ballot Return"

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- 7. A prompt screen with **VOTER RETURNED A MAIL-IN BALLOT** will appear with two options that say **SPECIAL BALLOT** and **CANCEL.**
- 8. If the voter would like to vote, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 9. Check #5 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 10. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 11. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 12. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 13. Touch the **SPECIAL BALLOT** button.
- 14. Say the voter's name, address, and party affiliation out loud.
- 15. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 16. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 17. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 18. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 19. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen** to print the Special Ballot ticket.
- 20. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket from the printer.
- 21. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

### **ID Required**

### Voter Marked as "ID Required" with ID/Proof of Residence

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- A prompt screen with ID REQUIRED/PROOF OF RESIDENCE will appear with three options that say
   SHOWED CORRECT ID, NO ID, and CANCEL.
- 8. If the voter provides valid ID/Proof of Residence, touch the **SHOWED CORRECT ID** button.
- 9. Say the voter's **name**, **address**, and **party affiliation** out loud.
- 10. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 11. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 12. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 13. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 14. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the Poll Worker Confirmation screen to print the ballot ticket.
- 15. Hand the voter the ballot ticket from the printer.
- 16. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand station or the Ballot Marking Device.

### Voter Marked as "ID Required" without ID/Proof of Residence

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- 7. A prompt screen with ID REQUIRED/PROOF OF RESIDENCE will appear with three options that say SHOWED CORRECT ID, NO ID, and CANCEL.
- 8. If the voter does not have **ID/Proof of Residence** to provide or that **ID/Proof of Residence** is not valid, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 9. Check #6 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 10. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 11. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 12. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 13. Touch the NO ID button.
- 14. Say the voter's name, address, and party affiliation out loud.
- 15. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 16. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 17. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 18. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 19. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the Poll Worker Confirmation screen to print the Special Ballot ticket.
- 20. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket from the printer.
- 21. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

## Voter Marked as "Ineligible by Party"

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Select the correct voter from the search results.
- 7. A prompt screen with **INELIGIBLE BY PARTY** will appear with two options that say **SPECIAL BALLOT** and **CANCEL.**
- 8. If the voter would like to vote, take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address.
- 9. Check #7 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 10. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 11. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed it accurately.
- 12. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 13. Touch the SPECIAL BALLOT button.
- 14. Say the voter's name, address, and the new party affiliation the voter claims FROM THE SBE out loud.
- 15. If the voter's information is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 16. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 17. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 18. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 19. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the Poll Worker Confirmation screen to print the Special Ballot ticket.
- 20. Take the black sharpie and draw an "X" through the party.
- 21. Using the SBE, in section 3 "Primary Election box", write the voter's new Party on the Special Ballot ticket.
- 22. Write the updated party on the Special Ballot ticket.
- 23. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket.
- 24. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

\*\*Please do not change Voter's party.\*\*

## **Voter Claims Different Party**

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. Ask the voter for their address.
- 6. Say the voter's name, address, and party affiliation out loud.
- 7. Voter acknowledges party listed in the poll pad is incorrect and wishes to change to a new party.
- 8. Take the Special Ballot Referral form and print the voter's current name and address
- 9. Check #7 for the reason a voter must cast a Special Ballot.
- 10. Give the voter a Special Ballot Envelope (SBE) and ask the voter to complete the entire right side and return it to you.
- 11. Review the right side of the SBE to make sure that the voter has completed in accurately.
- 12. The Registration Clerk completes the left side of the SBE.
- 13. Touch the Special Ballot Button at the bottom of the screen
- 14. SELECT THE REASON: Voter Claims Different Party.
- 15. List the party change in the **DETAILS BOX**.
- 16. Touch "APPLY"
- 17. On the Voter Confirmation Screen verify that SPECIAL BALLOT banner appears at the top of the screen and touch "ACCEPT".
- 18. On the Signature Confirmation screen, have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 19. On the Poll Worker Confirmation screen, touch the "SUBMIT" button in the upper right corner of the screen. The ballot ticket will print.
- 20. Use a black sharpie to draw an "X" through party and barcode on the Special Ballot ticket.
- 21. Using the SBE, in section 3 "Primary Election box", write the voter's new Party on the Special Ballot ticket.
- 22. Hand the voter the Special Ballot ticket from the printer.
- 23. Direct the voter to the Ballot On-Demand station.

\*\*Please do not change Voter's party.\*\*

### **Confidential Voters**

- 1. Touch "Manual Entry" on the Poll Pad.
- 2. Ask the voter for their name.
- 3. Type in the voter's last name and first name.
- 4. Touch the "Search" button. (You can touch either the "Search" button to the right of the first name field, or the one on the on-screen keyboard.)
- 5. If the address says \*\*Confidential\*\*, ask the voter to confirm their date of birth.
- 6. If the date of birth is correct, select that voter's information on the screen.
- 7. A prompt screen with **CONFIDENTIAL VOTER** will appear with two options that say **CONTINUE** and **CANCEL.**
- 8. If the voter confirms they would like to vote in-person, touch the **CONTINUE** button.
- 9. Say the voter's name, party and date of birth out loud.
- 10. If the voter's party is correct, touch THE "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 11. On the Signature Confirmation screen have the voter sign on the signature line.
- 12. Turn the Poll Pad back around towards yourself.
- 13. Touch the "ACCEPT" button on the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
- 14. Touch the "SUBMIT" button on the **Poll Worker Confirmation screen** to print the ballot ticket.
- 15. Hand the voter the ballot ticket from the printer.
- 16. Offer the voter the choice to vote at the Ballot On-Demand station or the Ballot Marking Device.

From: Antonio Laso

**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:44 PM

**To:** Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org> **Cc:** Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** Re: Information request.



From: Marissa Corrente

**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:29 PM

**To:** Antonio Laso **Cc:** Christine Pembroke

**Subject:** FW: Information request.



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Eleazar Cruz G. [mailto:lealtad150@gmail.com]

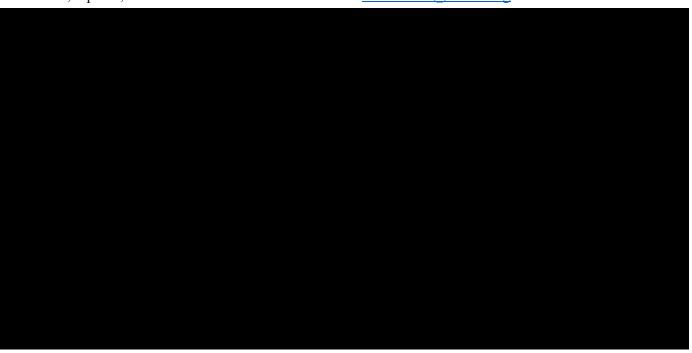
**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:27 PM

To: Marissa Corrente < < MCorrente@dcboe.org >

**Subject:** Re: Information request.



On Thu, Apr 18, 2024 at 3:24 PM Marissa Corrente < MCorrente @dcboe.org > wrote:



Kind regards, Marissa

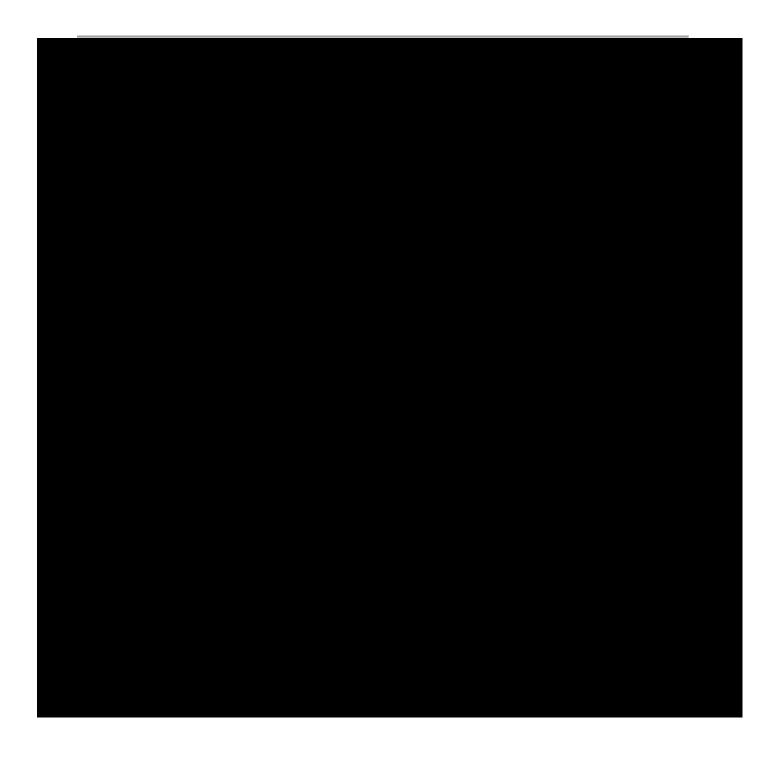
Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Director

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 11:30 AM

To: Marissa Corrente < <a href="MCorrente@dcboe.org">MCorrente@dcboe.org</a>>

**Subject:** Fw: Information request.



From: Terri Stroud

**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 12:55 PM

To: Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org>; Director

<director@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** RE: Information request.

I think that works; gracias!

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Christine Pembroke < CPembroke @dcboe.org >

Date: 4/18/24 12:49 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >, Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >, Director

<director@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Information request.



From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 12:36 PM

**To:** Marissa Corrente < < MCorrente@dcboe.org >; Director < director@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke

<CPembroke@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Information request.



## Terri

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >

Date: 4/18/24 7:59 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >, Director < director@dcboe.org >, Christine Pembroke

<<u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: RE: Information request.

Best, Marissa

Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Terri Stroud

**Sent:** Monday, April 15, 2024 4:25 PM

To: Marissa Corrente < <a href="Mcorrente@dcboe.org">Mcorrente@dcboe.org</a>; Director < <a href="mailto:director@dcboe.org">director@dcboe.org</a>; Christine Pembroke

<<u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>

**Subject:** Re: Information request.



Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: <a href="mailto:tstroud@dcboe.org">tstroud@dcboe.org</a>
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:55 PM

To: Director; Terri Stroud; Christine Pembroke

Subject: RE: Information request.



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Director

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 11:30 AM

To: Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >

**Subject:** Fw: Information request.

Monday, April 15, 2024

Hi, Marissa.

Please review the attached inquiry. Can you assist?

Sincerely, Línda Johnson



From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 7:55 AM

To: Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** RE: Information request.

Thank you!

Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Christine Pembroke

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024 4:08 PM **To:** Marissa Corrente < <u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>

**Subject:** RE: Information request.





From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 2:45 PM

**To:** Christine Pembroke < <a href="mailto:CPembroke@dcboe.org">CPembroke@dcboe.org</a>>

**Subject:** RE: Information request.

DC Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003 mcorrente@dcboe.org (P) 202.221.8570 (F) 202.347.2648

From: Christine Pembroke

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024 8:53 AM **To:** Marissa Corrente < <u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: FW: Information request.

Hi

Just circling back to see if you need anything further on this?

### Christine

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 4:25 PM

**To:** Marissa Corrente < < MCorrente@dcboe.org >; Director < director@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke

<CPembroke@dcboe.org>

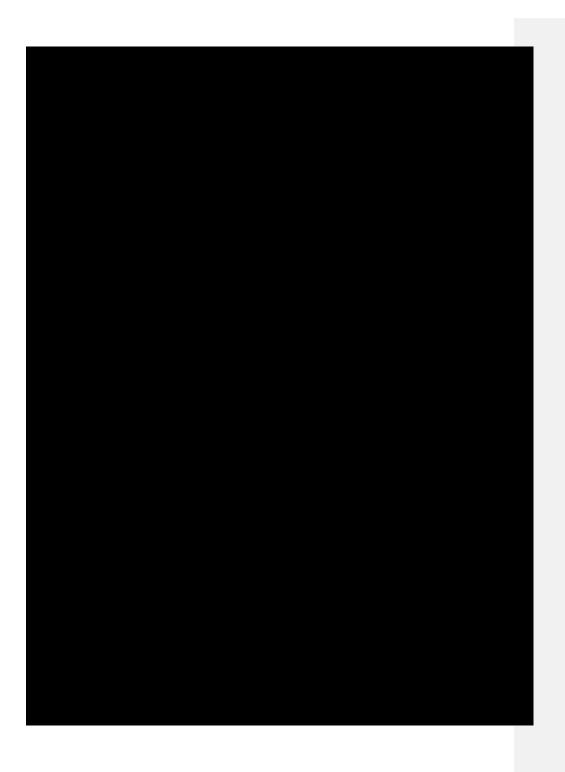
Subject: Re: Information request.

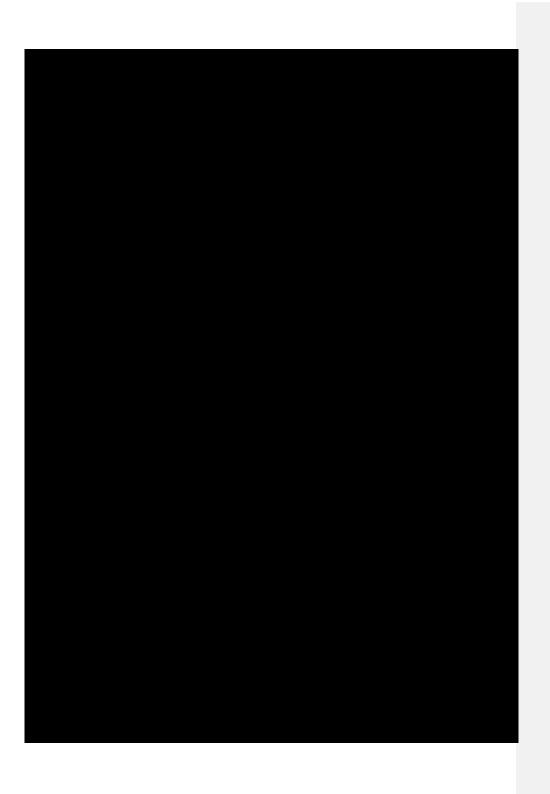


Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: tstroud@dcboe.org
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088







From: Monica Evans

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 2:16 PM **To:** Terri Stroud <TStroud@dcboe.org>

Cc: Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org>

Subject: Re: Re-draft of Ltr re non-citizens

## Monica Holman Evans Executive Director

District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003 email: mevans@dcboe.org Website: www.dcboe.org Phone: 202-727-2511 Cellular: 202-441-1104 Fax: 202-347-2648

On May 15, 2024, at 7:21 AM, Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org > wrote:

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Christine Pembroke < <u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>

Date: 5/15/24 9:26 AM (GMT-05:00)

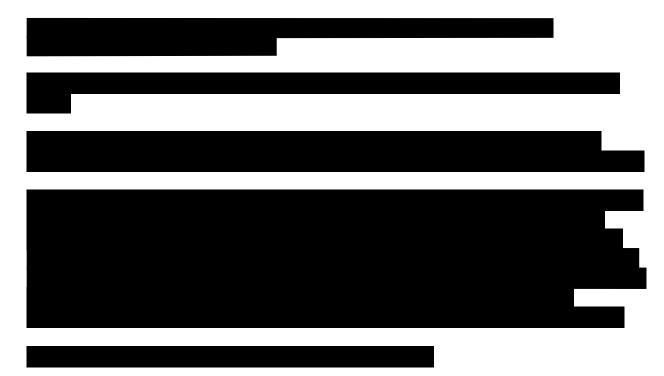
To: Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >, Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >

Subject: RE: Re-draft of Ltr re non-citizens

Everything else looked fine.

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 9:18 AM



Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: tstroud@dcboe.org
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Christine Pembroke

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 8:38 AM

To: Terri Stroud; Monica Evans

Subject: RE: Re-draft of Ltr re non-citizens





From: Gary Thompson

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 7:56 AM

**To:** Terri Stroud < <a href="mailto:TStroud@dcboe.org">Tstroud@dcboe.org</a>>; Monica Evans < <a href="mailto:mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a>>; Christine Pembroke

<<u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>

**Subject:** Re: Re-draft of Ltr re non-citizens



From: Terri Stroud

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2024 8:31 PM

To: Gary Thompson; Monica Evans; Christine Pembroke

**Subject:** RE: Re-draft of Ltr re non-citizens

Thanks, Gary!

Terri

Sent from my Galaxy

## Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

----- Original message -----

From: Gary Thompson < <a href="mailto:GThompson@dcboe.org">GThompson@dcboe.org</a>>

Date: 5/14/24 7:09 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >, Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >, Christine

Pembroke < <u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>> Subject: Re-draft of Ltr re non-citizens From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 12:39 PM

**To:**Gary Thompson <GThompson@dcboe.org>;
Karyn Greenfield <KGreenfield@dcboe.org>; J.C. Boggs <jboggs@dcboe.org>; Monica Evans <mevans@dcboe.org>

**Cc:** Deise, Alex <Alex.Deise@mail.house.gov>; Lane, Thomas <Thomas.Lane@mail.house.gov>; White, Grace <Grace.White@mail.house.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration

Greetings,

Please find attached DC Board of Elections Chair Gary Thompson's response to Chairman Steil's May 6, 2024 correspondence.

Best,

Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: <a href="mailto:tstroud@dcboe.org">tstroud@dcboe.org</a>
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From:

Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 1:02 PM

To: Gary Thompson; Karyn Greenfield; J.C. Boggs; Monica Evans; Terri Stroud

Cc: Deise, Alex; Lane, Thomas; White, Grace

Subject: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House

Administration

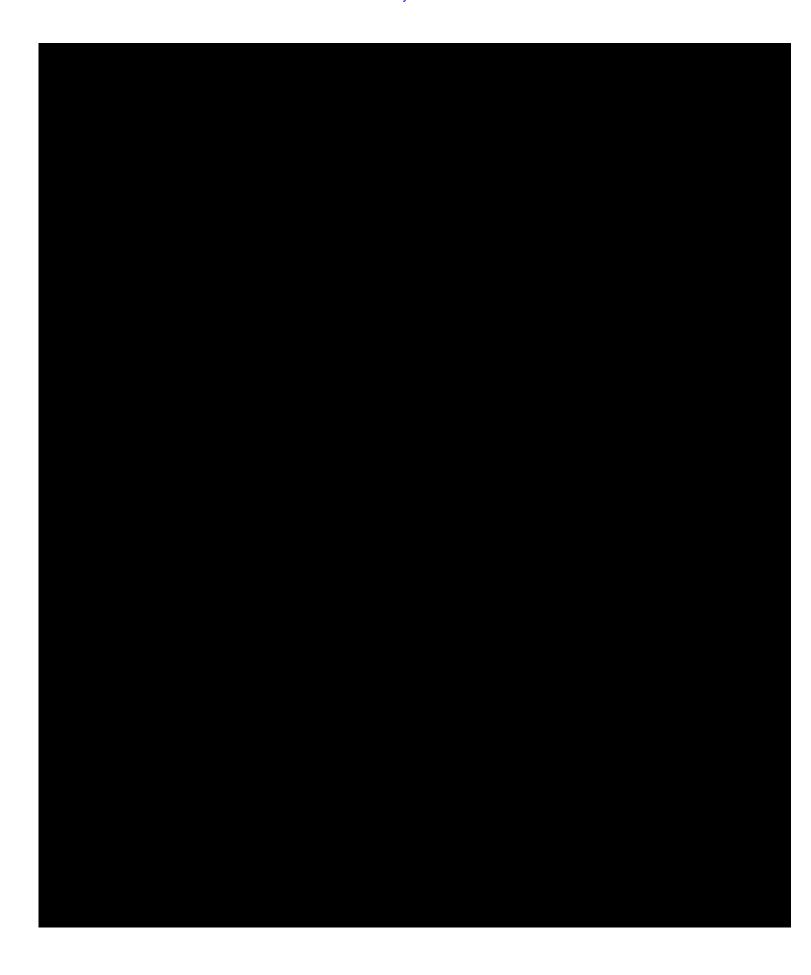
Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

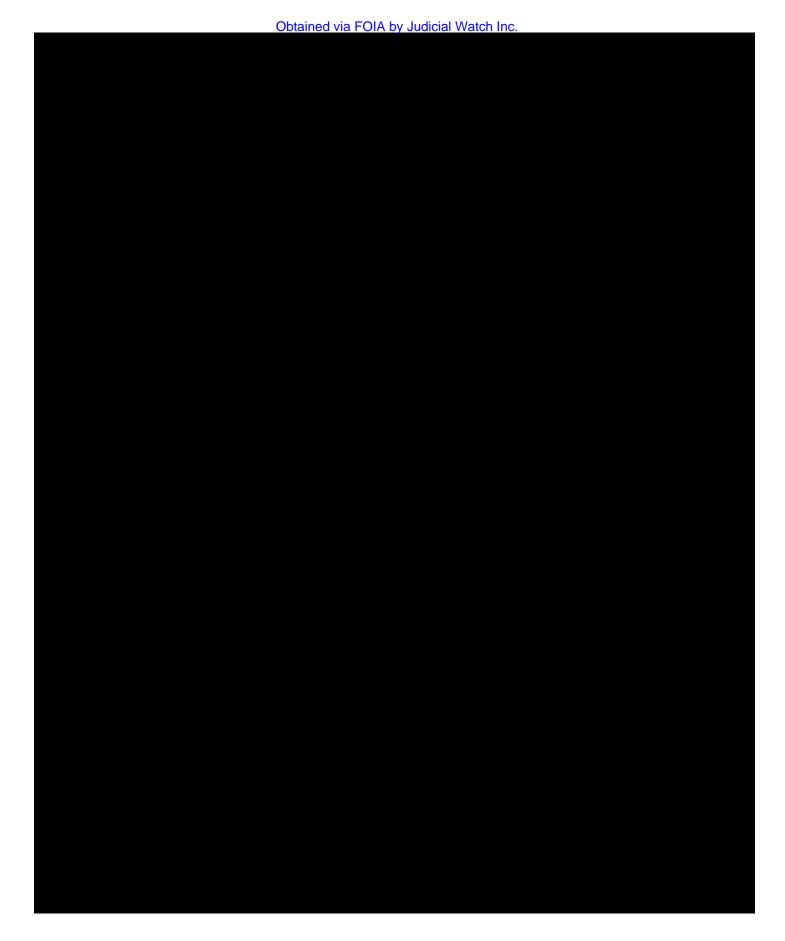
## **March Bell**

General Counsel Committee on House Administration, Majority Chairman Bryan Steil (WI-01)









## Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

------ Original message -------From: Christine Pembroke <<u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>> Date: 5/13/24 4:52 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >, Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >

Subject: FW: draft



From: Monica Evans

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 1:44 PM

To: Terri Stroud <TStroud@dcboe.org>; Christine Pembroke <CPembroke@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Draft Response

### **Monica Holman Evans**

Executive Director District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003

email: mevans@dcboe.org Website: www.dcboe.org Phone: 202-727-2511 Cellular: 202-441-1104 Fax: 202-347-2648

From: Terri Stroud

**Sent:** Friday, May 10, 2024 10:20 AM

To: Monica Evans <mevans@dcboe.org>; Christine Pembroke <CPembroke@dcboe.org>

Subject: Draft Response

Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: <a href="mailto:tstroud@dcboe.org">tstroud@dcboe.org</a>
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Christine Pembroke

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 8, 2024 5:09 PM **To:** Terri Stroud <TStroud@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House

Administration

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:47 PM

To: Gary Thompson < GThompson@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org >;

Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >

Subject: Re: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House

Administration

Sounds good!

Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: <a href="mailto:tstroud@dcboe.org">tstroud@dcboe.org</a>
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Gary Thompson

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:45 PM

To: Terri Stroud; Christine Pembroke; Monica Evans

Subject: Fwd: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House

Administration



Begin forwarded message:

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

STACIA HALL, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

No. 1:23-cv-01261-ABJ

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS,

Defendant.

### **DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' COMPLAINT**

The District of Columbia (District) on behalf of Defendant District of Columbia Board of Elections moves this Court under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1) and (6) to dismiss Plaintiffs' Complaint [1-1] for lack of jurisdiction or failure to state a claim. A memorandum of points and authorities and proposed order are attached. Because this Motion is dispositive, the District has not sought Plaintiffs' consent. *See* LCvR 7(m).

Date: June 7, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN L. SCHWALB Attorney General for the District of Columbia

STEPHANIE E. LITOS Deputy Attorney General Civil Litigation Division

/s/ Matthew R. Blecher

MATTHEW R. BLECHER [1012957] Chief, Civil Litigation Division, Equity Section

/s/ Adam J. Tuetken

ADAM J. TUETKEN [242215] PAMELA A. DISNEY [1601225] Assistant Attorneys General Civil Litigation Division

400 6th Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001 Phone: (202) 735-7474 Email: adam.tuetken@dc.gov

Counsel for Defendant

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

STACIA HALL, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

No. 1:23-cv-01261-ABJ

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS,

Defendant.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' COMPLAINT

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### INTRODUCTION

Since the dawn of the Republic, federal, state, and local governments have extended the franchise to otherwise qualified residents—not just citizens. Like many jurisdictions before it, the District recently amended its election laws so all qualified residents, regardless of citizenship, may vote in elections for District offices and measures. Casting aside the historical pedigree of this legislation, Plaintiffs (U.S. citizens) attack the constitutionality of the District's extension of the franchise under a smattering of ahistorical and unsound theories. In doing so, Plaintiffs urge this Court to strip the right to vote from tens of thousands of qualified Washingtonians.

The Court should reject Plaintiffs' challenge. At the threshold, Plaintiffs lack standing because their only alleged injury—that the votes of citizens will be "diluted" by expanding the electorate—is a classic generalized grievance and, in any event, not the type of vote dilution courts recognize as sufficient for standing. On the merits, all claims fail—as a matter of constitutional history and constitutional law. For starters, the long history of unquestioned enfranchisement of non-citizens makes it highly doubtful that the practice is somehow now unconstitutional, and governing precedent only reinforces the point. Plaintiffs' vote dilution theory is not the stuff of substantive due process as it does not rest on a carefully defined "fundamental right," and Plaintiffs have alleged no facts suggesting that non-citizen voting fails rational basis review. Plaintiffs' equal protection claims fare no better because the District's facially neutral election laws do not discriminate against anyone, and nothing in Plaintiffs' Complaint suggests that the legislature acted with discriminatory intent. Finally, Plaintiffs' "right to citizen self-government" claim lacks merit for myriad reasons, not the least of which is that no such judicially enforceable right exists. Thus, the Court should dismiss the Complaint for lack of standing or failure to state a claim.

### BACKGROUND

District law prescribes qualifications to vote. D.C. Code §§ 1-1001.07(a), 1-1001.02(2). Those qualifications had included, as relevant here, that the voter was a U.S. citizen, had resided in the District prior to the election, and did not claim voting residence or the right to vote in any state or territory. *Id.* § 1-1001.02(2)(B), (C) (2022). Recently, the Council of the District of Columbia (Council) unanimously passed (save one absent vote) the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 (the Act), D.C. Law 24-242, 69 D.C. Reg. 14,601 (Dec. 2, 2022), which amends these voter qualifications. Namely, the Act removes a citizenship requirement for "local election[s]," *i.e.*, elections for District government positions (like the Mayor) as well as initiatives, referenda, recalls, or charter amendment measures. *Id.* § 2 (codified at D.C. Code § 1-1001.02(2)(B), (34)). The Act further provides that District voters may not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another country. *Id.* (codified at D.C. Code § 1-1001.02(2)(C)). In sum, District law now allows all residents to vote in local elections, if they meet other existing requirements.

In passing the Act, the Council explained that its purpose was "to expand voting rights in local elections." Council of the Dist. of Columbia, Comm. on the Jud. & Pub. Safety, *Report on B24-0300, the "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022"* 2 (Sept. 27, 2022) (Comm. Rep.). The Council found that "[n]on-citizen residents are neighbors, friends, colleagues, classmates, business owners, and District taxpayers, and they are impacted by local laws just as much as citizen residents are." *Id.* at 3. Accordingly, the Council concluded that "[n]on-citizens, like citizens, deserve the opportunity to have a voice in the issues that affect them and to participate in electing the representatives who make decisions on their behalf." *Id.* 

The Council also considered whether the District's Board of Elections (Board) could effectively administer the Act. *Id.* at 8–9; *see* D.C. Code § 1-1001.05 (delegating responsibility

for administering elections to the Board). In particular, the Council considered whether only legal permanent residents should be allowed to vote. Comm. Rep. 7. The Council decided, however, to extend the right to vote to all non-citizens, regardless of specific immigration status. *Id.* The Council reasoned that doing so was "easier to administer" for the Board because the Board would not need to verify complex or changing immigration statuses. *Id.* at 8. Further, the Council explained that extending the vote to all non-citizens prevented the Council "from having to distinguish between 'worthy' and 'unworthy' noncitizens based on immigration status, an arbitrary category as it relates to participation and investment in the community." *Id.* 

All said, the Council heard from more than 50 members of the public when considering the bill. *Id.*, Attach. C. But Plaintiffs were not among them. *Id.* Plaintiffs are seven U.S. citizens who reside and are registered to vote in the District, two of which were one-time, unsuccessful candidates for District office. Compl. ¶¶ 13–19. Instead of participating in the democratic process, Plaintiffs sued the Board to challenge the Act in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. *Id.* ¶¶ 1–8.

Plaintiffs allege that the Act violates (1) the substantive due process guarantee of the Fifth Amendment, (2) the equal protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment by discriminating based on citizenship, (3) the equal protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment by discriminating based on national origin, and (4) the right of citizens to self-government of an unspecified constitutional provision. Compl. ¶¶ 55–70. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief. *Id.*, Prayer. The District removed to this Court. Notice of Removal [1].

#### LEGAL STANDARDS

A complaint must be dismissed for "lack of subject-matter jurisdiction." Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(1), (h)(3). To survive a Rule 12(b)(1) motion, the plaintiff bears the burden of establishing jurisdiction. *Bronner on Behalf of Am. Stud. Ass 'n v. Duggan*, 962 F.3d 596, 602 (D.C. Cir.

2020). Generally, the Court accepts "well-pled factual allegations" while "disregard[ing] any legal conclusions, legal contentions couched as factual allegations, and unsupported factual allegations." *Gulf Coast Mar. Supply, Inc. v. United States*, 867 F.3d 123, 128 (D.C. Cir. 2017). If, however, the defendant disputes the complaint's factual allegations, "the court must go beyond the pleadings and resolve any disputed issues of fact the resolution of which is necessary to a ruling upon the motion to dismiss." *Feldman v. FDIC*, 879 F.3d 347, 351 (D.C. Cir. 2018) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *Phoenix Consulting v. Republic of Angola*, 216 F.3d 36, 40 (D.C. Cir. 2000)).

A complaint also must be dismissed for "failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted." Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6). To survive a Rule 12(b)(6) motion, the "complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to 'state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). Courts need not accept as true conclusory "assertions devoid of further factual enhancement," *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 679, or "legal conclusions," *Pueschel v. Chao*, 955 F.3d 163, 166 (D.C. Cir. 2020).

### **ARGUMENT**

### I. Plaintiffs Lack Standing.

Plaintiffs fail at the threshold to establish standing. *See Gill v. Whitford*, 138 S. Ct. 1916, 1923 (2018) ("[A] plaintiff seeking relief in federal court must first demonstrate that he has standing to do so . . . ."). "A plaintiff has standing only if he can 'allege personal injury fairly traceable to the defendant's allegedly unlawful conduct and likely to be redressed by the requested relief." *California v. Texas*, 141 S. Ct. 2104, 2113 (2021) (quoting *DaimlerChrysler Corp. v. Cuno*, 547 U.S. 332, 342 (2006)). Plaintiffs here allege only one theory of standing: by allowing non-citizen residents to vote in future District elections, the Act dilutes the voting

power of citizen-residents like Plaintiffs. Compl. ¶¶ 34, 46–47, 51. That theory is defective for several reasons.

Most obviously, the Complaint lacks basic allegations required for standing to seek prospective relief, as it does not have "any allegation or showing as to, at a bare minimum, whether any of the plaintiffs intend to vote" in a future election. *Yazzie v. Hobbs*, 977 F.3d 964, 967 (9th Cir. 2020) (per curiam). Nor does the Complaint have any allegation that any plaintiff intends to run for District office in a future election. *See Carney v. Adams*, 141 S. Ct. 493, 500 (2020) (holding that plaintiff lacked standing to challenge judicial selection system when he did not show that he intended to apply). Plaintiffs cannot challenge an electoral system when their Complaint does not even allege that they intend to participate in elections.

But even were that fatal deficiency cured, Plaintiffs would still lack standing as they have not alleged "a personal stake in the outcome [of this case], distinct from a generally available grievance about government." *Gill*, 138 S. Ct. at 1923 (internal quotation marks and citations omitted). Plaintiffs must allege a harm that is "concrete and particularized" to *them*, not "harm to [their] and every citizen's interest in proper application of the Constitution and laws." *Lujan v. Defs. of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 560, 573 (1992). Every citizen-voter in the District has the same interest as Plaintiffs, and all could press the same theory. As a result, Plaintiffs' allegations are "precisely the kind of undifferentiated, generalized grievance" that fails to establish standing. *Lance v. Coffman*, 549 U.S. 437, 442 (2007) (per curiam).

Cases surrounding the 2020 election are illustrative. In those cases, plaintiff voters and candidates from across the map challenged changes in election laws allowing for more mail-in ballots to be counted. *E.g.*, *Wood v. Raffensperger*, 981 F.3d 1307, 1311–12 (11th Cir. 2020); *Bognet v. Sec'y Commonwealth of Pa.*, 980 F.3d 336, 353, 356 (3d Cir. 2020), *vacated as moot* 

sub nom. Bognet v. Degraffenreid, 141 S. Ct. 2508 (2021); Martel v. Condos, 487 F. Supp. 3d 247, 248–49, 253 (D. Vt. 2020). The plaintiffs alleged that these changes injured them because the allegedly unlawful or potentially fraudulent mail-in votes would dilute their votes. E.g., Wood, 981 F.3d at 1314; Bognet, 980 F.3d at 353; Martel, 487 F. Supp. 3d at 253. Courts held that these plaintiffs lacked standing because "no single voter is specifically disadvantaged' if a vote is counted improperly, even if the error might have a 'mathematical impact on the final tally and thus on the proportional effect of every vote." Wood, 981 F.3d at 1314 (quoting Bognet, 980 F.3d at 356). As these courts explained, "[i]f every voter suffers the same incremental dilution of the franchise caused by some third-party's fraudulent vote, then these voters have experienced a generalized injury." Martel, 487 F. Supp. 3d at 253.

Plaintiffs' theory here faulters for similar reasons. In the 2020 election cases and here, the government expanded the electorate (there, by allowing for more mail-in votes, here, by allowing votes by all residents), the plaintiffs alleged that this expansion was unconstitutional or unlawful, and the plaintiffs alleged that their injury was vote dilution by the additional votes. So the theory here should fail as previous ones did because Plaintiffs' votes will not be diluted in any particularized way.

Moreover, Plaintiffs misunderstand when vote dilution gives rise to a cognizable injury. "[V]ote dilution in the one-person, one-vote cases refers to the idea that each vote must carry equal weight." *Rucho v. Common Cause*, 139 S. Ct. 2484, 2501 (2019). For example, the Supreme Court has recognized that vote dilution may occur when a state draws legislative maps to either "pack" a minority population into one district (thus depriving them of influence in other districts) or "crack" a minority population across several districts (thus depriving them of majorities in a district). *Voinovich v. Quilter*, 507 U.S. 146, 153–54 (1993). "[H]arm arises

from the particular composition of the voter's own district, which causes his vote—having been packed or cracked—to carry less weight than it would carry in another, hypothetical district." *Gill*, 138 S. Ct. at 1931.

Plaintiffs, however, do not suffer similar harm to voters in packed or cracked districts. Under the Act, votes of citizens weigh the same as votes of non-citizens. The Act does not classify citizens' votes differently or place them at a disadvantage like in packed or cracked districts. See Baker v. Carr, 369 U.S. 186, 207-08 (1962) (recognizing an injury where a "classification disfavors the voters in the counties in which they reside, placing them in a position of constitutionally unjustifiable inequality vis-à-vis voters in irrationally favored counties"); Daughtrey v. Carter, 584 F.2d 1050, 1056 (D.C. Cir. 1978) ("Baker v. Carr does not make every alleged dilution of voting rights a sufficient injury to confer standing."); id. (holding that plaintiffs lacked standing to bring vote-dilution claim against nationwide expansion of voting rights for draft evaders who had been granted amnesty). "Although [citizens], under Plaintiffs' theory, should make up 100% of the total votes counted and [non-citizens] 0%, there is simply no differential weighing of the votes." Bognet, 980 F.3d at 358–59. Absent such differential weighing, "this is not the sort of vote dilution theory that courts have found to support standing." Hudson v. Haaland, 843 F. App'x 336, 338 (D.C. Cir. 2021) (per curiam). This Court should dismiss for lack of jurisdiction.

## II. The Complaint Fails to State a Claim.

If the Court reaches the merits, the Complaint fails to state a claim. The long, accepted practice of non-citizen enfranchisement should foreclose any claim that the practice is unconstitutional. If history were not enough, Plaintiffs' claims lack merit under governing law.

# A. <u>All Claims Fail Because Non-Citizen Voting Has Long Been Accepted as Constitutional.</u>

Plaintiffs allege that non-citizen voting in local elections is unconstitutional, but a long history of non-citizen voting refutes their claims. "When faced with a dispute about the Constitution's meaning or application, '[I]ong settled and established practice is a consideration of great weight." *Houston Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. Wilson*, 142 S. Ct. 1253, 1259 (2022) (quoting *The Pocket Veto Case*, 279 U.S. 655, 689 (1929)); *see also Chiafalo v. Washington*, 140 S. Ct. 2316, 2326–39 (2020) (relying on history and tradition to uphold the constitutionality of states penalizing faithless electors who break their pledge to vote for the state's preferred candidate). For example, the Supreme Court last Term unanimously rejected a First Amendment challenge to a college board's censure of a member largely "because elected bodies in this country have long exercised the power to censure their members." *Houston Cmty. Coll. Sys.*, 142 S. Ct. at 1259. Similarly, here, it cannot be right that non-citizen voting is unconstitutional, under any of the constitutional provisions invoked by Plaintiffs, because non-citizen voting "has been open, widespread, and unchallenged since the early days of the Republic." *NLRB v. Noel Canning*, 573 U.S. 513, 572 (2014) (Scalia, J., concurring in judgment).

At the Founding, non-citizens voted in American elections in most jurisdictions. *E.g.*, Ron Hayduk, *Democracy for All: Restoring Immigrant Voting Rights in the United States* 16–17 (2006), https://tinyurl.com/5aepa5bd. "The practice of noncitizen voting first appeared in the colonies, which generally required only that voters be local inhabitants or residents, and not British citizens." Jamin B. Raskin, *Legal Aliens, Local Citizens: The Historical, Constitutional and Theoretical Meanings of Alien Suffrage*, 141 U. Pa. L. Rev. 1391, 1399 (1993) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted). "Alien suffrage survived the Revolution in 1776 as many states granted foreigners state 'citizenship,' . . . ." *Id.* at 1400.

The Founders themselves wrote the voting rights of residents, regardless of citizenship, into the first state constitutions. These constitutions inform the federal Constitution's meaning today. *See, e.g., District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570, 603 (2008) (stating that right-to-bear-arms provisions in seven early state constitutions were "strong evidence" of "how the founding generation conceived of the right"). The 1780 Massachusetts Constitution, written by John Adams, provided:

Every male person being twenty-one years of age, and resident in any particular town in this commonwealth, for the space of one year next preceding, having a freehold estate within the same town, of the annual income of three pounds, or any estate of the value of sixty pounds, shall have a right to vote in the choice of a representative or representatives for the said town.

Mass. Const. pt. 2, ch. I, § 3, art. IV (1780). This constitution thus granted the franchise based on residency, gender, age, and property ownership—not citizenship.<sup>1</sup> A majority of the original states had near identical constitutional provisions. N.J. Const. art. IV (1776); Md. Const. art. II (1776); N.C. Const. art. VII–IX (1776); N.Y. Const. art. VII (1777); S.C. Const. art. I, § 4 (1790); Del. Const. art. IV, § 1 (1792); N.H. Const. pt. 2, art. 27 (1792). Further, several of the first states to enter the Union had such provisions. Ky. Const. art. III, § 1 (1792); Tenn. Const. art. III, § 1 (1796); Ohio Const. art. IV, § 1 (1802); Ill. Const. art. II, § 27 (1818).

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Of course, some of these conditions, like gender and age, would be unconstitutional today. *See, e.g.*, U.S. Const. amend. XV, XIX, XXVI. And it cannot be overlooked that states for much of the Nation's history conditioned the franchise on race. Hayduk, *supra*, at 16. It took years, war, constitutional amendments, popular movements, and legislation to extend the franchise to all races; and the project continues today. *Brnovich v. Democratic Nat'l Comm.*, 141 S. Ct. 2321, 2351–54 (2021) (Kagan, J., dissenting). By citing the provisions above, the District does not condone their unconstitutional and abhorrent conditions. But what is important for this case is that none of these provisions conditioned voting on citizenship, as Plaintiffs suggest is constitutionally required. *Cf. Kanter v. Barr*, 919 F.3d 437, 458 & n.7 (7th Cir. 2019) (Barrett, J., dissenting) (relying on laws disarming slaves and Native Americans to determine the meaning of the Second Amendment while noting that such laws would be unconstitutional under other amendments today); *United States v. Jackson*, --- F.4th ----, No. 22-2870, 2023 WL 3769242, at \*5 (8th Cir. June 2, 2023) (same).

Some early constitutions exalted attachment to the community as the important qualification for voting—not citizenship status. The Virginia Constitution's Declaration of Rights, written principally by George Mason, proclaimed that "all men, having sufficient evidence of permanent common interest with, and attachment to, the community, have the right of suffrage." Va. Decl. of Rts. § 6 (1776). Other early states had nearly identical provisions. Pa. Decl. of the Rts. of the Inhabitants of the Commw. art. VII (1776); Vt. Const. ch. 1, art. 8 (1793). George Washington echoed these sentiments, writing that "[t]he bosom of America is open to receive not only the opulent & respectable Stranger, but the oppressed & persecuted of all Nations & Religions; whom we shall wellcome to a participation of all our rights & previleges." *Letter from G. Washington to J. Holmes* (Dec. 2, 1783), *in* Founders Online, Nat'l Archives, https://tinyurl.com/2c9995kb. All said, twelve of the original thirteen states allowed non-citizen voting in the Founding period. Hayduk, *supra*, at 19–20. Thus, it is implausible that the Founding generation would have thought non-citizen enfranchisement unconstitutional when the Founders themselves voted alongside non-citizens.

The early federal government also allowed non-citizen voting. Raskin, *supra*, at 1402–03. For example, the Northwest Ordinance enacted by the first Congress provided for elections in the Northwest Territory and that "[1] a freehold in fifty acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the states, and being resident in the district, or [2] the like freehold and two years residence in the district, shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative." Act of Aug. 7, 1789, ch. 8, 1 Stat. 50, 51 n.(a) (1789). The Ordinance thus "gave freehold aliens who had been residents for two years the right to vote for representatives to territorial legislatures." Raskin, *supra*, at 1402. To take another example, "[i]n the various congressional acts authorizing the election of representatives to statewide constitutional

conventions in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Illinois, Congress deliberately extended the right to vote to aliens." *Id.* Such actions by the first and early Congresses "provide[] contemporaneous and weighty evidence of the Constitution's meaning." *Seila L. LLC v. Consumer Fin. Prot. Bureau*, 140 S. Ct. 2183, 2197 (2020) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 723 (1986)); *see also Nev. Comm'n on Ethics v. Carrigan*, 564 U.S. 117, 122 (2011) (holding that evidence of early congressional enactments adopting recusal rules was "dispositive" against claim that recusal rules were unconstitutional).

Over the next two centuries, non-citizen enfranchisement's prevalence fluctuated, but its constitutionality was never questioned. "During the long history of alien suffrage, neither the Supreme Court nor any lower federal court or state court ever found the practice unconstitutional." Raskin, *supra*, at 1417. Rather, courts in the early Republic recognized and enforced the right of non-citizens to vote, as prescribed by local or state law. *E.g.*, *Stewart v. Foster*, 2 Binn. 110 (Pa. 1809); *Spragins v. Houghton*, 3 Ill. 377, 408 (1840).

In fact, and contrary to Plaintiffs' suggestion, Compl. ¶ 53, the Supreme Court has suggested at several points that the practice *is* constitutional, *see* Raskin, *supra*, at 1417 (noting the Court had "explicitly and repeatedly signalled its acceptance" of "noncitizen voting"). In 1874, the Court observed that "citizenship has not in all cases been made a condition precedent to the enjoyment of the right of suffrage," and in at least ten states, "persons of foreign birth, who have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States, may under certain circumstances vote." *Minor v. Happersett*, 88 U.S. 162, 177 (1874). In the 20th century, the Court explained:

the privilege to vote in a state is within the jurisdiction of the state itself, to be exercised as the state may direct, . . . provided, of course, no discrimination is made between individuals, in violation of the Federal Constitution. The state might provide that persons of foreign birth could vote without being naturalized . . . .

Pope v. Williams, 193 U.S. 621, 632 (1904) (internal citation omitted). More recently, the Court stated that citizenship is a "permissible criterion," thus implying that citizenship is not a necessary criterion to voting. Sugarman v. Dougall, 413 U.S. 634, 649 (1973) (emphasis added). These statements from the Supreme Court cannot be squared with any theory of Plaintiffs.

In sum, local, state, and federal governments have enfranchised non-citizens since the Founding and throughout American history. All the while, courts—including the Supreme Court—have either endorsed non-citizen voting or at least never questioned its constitutionality. And in recent years, localities have reinvigorated the practice. As of April 2023, more than a dozen municipalities across the country have allowed noncitizens to vote in local elections, including many in neighboring Maryland. Ballotpedia, *Laws Permitting Noncitizens to Vote in the United States*, https://tinyurl.com/2kzfpfvp. The District is just the latest jurisdiction to continue the trend. Comm. Rep. 5–6. Given this "[I]ong settled and established practice," Plaintiffs are wrong to contend that the Constitution, via any provision, prohibits non-citizen enfranchisement laws. *Houston Cmty. Coll. Sys.*, 142 S. Ct. at 1259 (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *The Pocket Veto Case*, 279 U.S. at 689). Even "[i]f this longstanding practice does not 'put at rest' the question of the Constitution's meaning for the dispute before [the Court], it surely leaves a 'considerable impression.'" *Id.* at 1260 (quoting *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. 316, 401 (1819)).

## B. The Substantive Due Process Claim Fails.

In addition to having no historical foothold, Plaintiffs' claims lack merit under settled judicial precedent, starting with substantive due process. Plaintiffs' substantive due process claim relies on the theory that "diluting the votes of U.S. citizens by enfranchising noncitizens infringes on Plaintiffs' fundamental right to vote." Compl. ¶ 57. But that is the same as their Equal Protection Clause claim, *id.* ¶ 61, and when one constitutional provision already covers a

particular theory, plaintiffs cannot invoke "the more generalized notion of 'substantive due process," *Conn v. Gabbert*, 526 U.S. 286, 293 (1999) (quoting *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 395 (1989)); *see also Elkins v. District of Columbia*, 690 F.3d 554, 562 (D.C. Cir. 2012). The Court should thus dismiss this claim as duplicative.

In any event, Plaintiffs have not alleged a substantive due process violation. *See, e.g.*, *Fraternal Ord. of Police v. District of Columbia*, 45 F.4th 954, 962 (D.C. Cir. 2022) ("The doctrine of substantive due process is narrow."). Substantive due process protects fundamental rights—that is, liberty interests "deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition." *Washington v. Glucksberg*, 521 U.S. 702, 721 (1997). Laws infringing such rights must satisfy strict scrutiny, but laws implicating other assertedly unenumerated rights need only pass rational basis review. *Id.* at 728. Here, Plaintiffs' claim fails at every turn.

### 1. Plaintiffs Have Not Invoked a Carefully Defined Fundamental Right.

Plaintiffs cannot establish that a right is fundamental, much less that it has been infringed, without first providing a sufficiently "careful description" of the asserted right. *Glucksberg*, 532 U.S. at 720. This "threshold requirement of a carefully described right" is critical to ensuring "responsible decisionmaking" in the "uncharted area" of substantive due process. *Abigail All. for Better Access to Dev. Drugs v. von Eschenbach*, 495 F.3d 695, 701 n.5, 702 (D.C. Cir. 2007) (en banc) (internal quotation marks omitted). Under this framework, a "broad generalization" will not suffice. *Id.* at 701 n.5. The right instead must be defined with specific reference to the concrete circumstances of the case in which it is invoked. *See Reno v. Flores*, 507 U.S. 292, 300, 302 (1993); *Hedgepeth ex rel. Hedgepeth v. WMATA*, 386 F.3d 1148, 1155–56 (D.C. Cir. 2004) (Roberts, J.) (refusing to "ignore" a "plainly pertinent fact" in defining "the asserted fundamental right"). Otherwise, plaintiffs cannot hope to show the violation of a fundamental

constitutional right. *See Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Org.*, 142 S. Ct. 2228, 2258 (2022) (rejecting "appeals to a broader right" "at a high level of generality").

Several cases help to illustrate this careful description requirement. In Glucksberg, the plaintiffs challenged a state law prohibiting physician-assisted suicide on the theory that it violated the fundamental "right to die." 521 U.S. at 722. But the Supreme Court rejected that formulation and instead defined the interest more narrowly as "a right to commit suicide with another's assistance." *Id.* at 724. Likewise, in *Flores*, the plaintiffs argued that detaining undocumented juvenile-arrestees who have no domestic guardians violated the fundamental "right to 'freedom from physical restraint." 507 U.S. at 299-300. Yet the Court rejected that definition, too, in favor of the narrower "right of a child who has no available parent, close relative, or legal guardian, and for whom the government is responsible, to be placed in the custody of a willing-and-able private custodian rather than of a government-operated or government-selected child-care institution." Id. at 302. As these decisions make clear, the right asserted in a substantive due process case must be defined with precision in light of the nature of the challenged law and the specific facts alleged. See, e.g., Collins v. City of Harker Heights, 503 U.S. 115, 125 (1992) (focusing "on the allegations in the complaint to determine how petitioner describes the constitutional right at stake").

Plaintiffs here cannot pass this threshold test. They appear to invoke a "right to vote." Compl. ¶ 45. But that abstract description of their asserted interest ignores the context of this suit and thus is too broad to satisfy the "careful description" requirement. *Glucksberg*, 521 U.S. at 720–24; *Flores*, 507 U.S. at 302; *see Hedgepeth*, 386 F.3d at 1155–56 (rejecting plaintiff's broad "right to freedom from restraint" in favor of "the right of freedom of movement when there is probable cause for arrest"). It is also plainly meritless, as "the right to vote, *per se*, is not

a constitutionally protected right." *Rodriguez v. Popular Democratic Party*, 457 U.S. 1, 9 (1982) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *San Antonio Indep. Sch. Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1, 35 n.78 (1973)). Properly formulated, the right underlying Plaintiffs' due process claim cannot be, simply, the right to vote, but must instead be defined more narrowly as, for example, a purported right to have one's vote counted without the presence of non-citizens' votes. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 45–46, 57 (alleging that non-citizens' votes will "dilute" the weight of citizens' votes).

That novel interest, however, has little basis in American history or tradition, and certainly lacks the pedigree needed to be deemed "fundamental." *See Dist. Att'y's Off. for Third Jud. Dist. v. Osborne*, 557 U.S. 52, 72 (2009) (emphasizing that "the mere novelty" of "a claim is reason enough to doubt that 'substantive due process' sustains it" (quoting *Flores*, 507 U.S. at 303)). As discussed, non-citizen voting has occurred in this country since its founding, and the practice has been recognized as one that the Constitution permits for more than a century. *See* Argument § II.A, *supra*. Given that extensive history, Plaintiffs cannot plausibly claim to possess a deeply rooted individual right to exclude non-citizens from the franchise and therefore cannot plausibly allege a substantive due process violation. *See Osborne*, 557 U.S. at 72 (rejecting substantive due process claim where "no long history" supported the asserted right); *Fox v. District of Columbia*, 851 F. Supp. 2d 20, 32 (D.D.C. 2012) (Berman Jackson, J.) (rejecting the argument that a "post-and-forfeit policy" violated "plaintiffs' substantive due process rights" given "the policy's history and prevalence").

### 2. The Act Withstands Any Form of Scrutiny.

Because the Act does not burden any fundamental right, it need only satisfy rational basis review. *Glucksberg*, 521 U.S. at 721; *see May v. Town of Mountain Village*, 132 F.3d 576, 580 (10th Cir. 1997) (applying "rational basis test" in upholding "nonresident voting provisions");

Duncan v. Coffee County, 69 F.3d 88, 94 (6th Cir. 1995) (similar, agreeing with the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits). Under that standard, laws are presumptively constitutional and challengers have the "burden 'to negative every conceivable basis which might support' the law." Gordon v. Holder, 721 F.3d 638, 656 (D.C. Cir. 2013) (quoting FCC v. Beach Commc'ns, Inc., 508 U.S. 307, 315 (1993))). In other words, rational basis review provides that a challenged law "must be upheld 'if there is any reasonably conceivable state of facts that could provide a rational basis' for the legislative choice." Sanchez v. Off. of State Superint. of Educ., 45 F.4th 388, 396 (D.C. Cir. 2022) (quoting Beach Commc'ns, 508 U.S. at 313), cert. denied, 143 S. Ct. 579 (2023).

The Act here easily clears this low bar, and nothing in Plaintiffs' Complaint suggests otherwise. As the legislative history makes clear, the Council reasonably concluded that "expand[ing] voting rights in local elections" and granting non-citizens "the opportunity to have a voice in the issues that affect them" would improve democracy in the District. Comm. Rep. 3, 7. That egalitarian choice was eminently rational and unquestionably related to the legitimate government interest in expanding democratic participation. *See Duncan*, 69 F.3d at 94 (finding that the expansion of the franchise "is not irrational" if the newly included voters have "a substantial interest" in the pertinent elections). Nor is there anything fundamentally unfair about the Council's considered judgment to enfranchise non-citizens given that the Act preserves Plaintiffs' ability to cast their own ballots as they wish. *See Bennett v. Yoshina*, 140 F.3d 1218, 1227 (9th Cir. 1998) (holding that a method of counting ballots caused no "disenfranchisement or meaningful vote dilution" or "fundamental unfairness" when "every ballot submitted was counted and no one was deterred from going to the polls"); *Partido Nuevo Progresista v. Perez*, 639 F.2d 825, 828 (1st Cir. 1980) (per curiam) (similar).

Indeed, even were a fundamental right at stake, the Act would also satisfy strict scrutiny. See, e.g., Williams-Yulee v. Fla. Bar, 575 U.S. 433, 454 (2015) (holding that strict scrutiny requires a law "be narrowly tailored, not that it be 'perfectly tailored'" (quoting Burson v. Freeman, 504 U.S. 191, 209 (1992) (plurality op.))). The District has a compelling interest in democratic self-government, i.e., defining its political community and ensuring that members of that community have a voice in their government. See Utah Republican Party v. Cox, 892 F.3d 1066, 1085 (10th Cir. 2018) ("How could it not be true in a representative democracy such as ours that the State has a strong—even compelling—interest in ensuring that the governed have an effective voice in the process of deciding who will govern them?"). And the Act is narrowly tailored to achieve that interest by extending the franchise to Washingtonians who live in and contribute to the District community, particularly considering immigration status is not determinative of whether an individual has an interest in the governance of the community, and given that distinguishing voter eligibility based on immigration statuses (which are complex and changing) would be difficult for the Board to administer. See Comm. Rep. 3–4, 7–8. For these reasons, Plaintiffs cannot state a substantive due process claim.

## C. The Equal Protection Claims Fail.

Plaintiffs' claims that the Act discriminates against them based on citizenship or national origin in violation of equal protection fail because the Act is facially neutral and has no discriminatory purpose. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 59–66.

## 1. The Act Is Facially Neutral.

Nothing on the face of the Act treats citizens differently or worse than non-citizens. "[F]acially neutral" actions that "serve legitimate government purposes" "do not run afoul of the Equal Protection Clause." *Kingman Park Civic Ass'n v. Bowser*, 815 F.3d 36, 42 (D.C. Cir. 2016). A law is facially neutral when it does not, on its face, treat one class better or differently

from another. *See In re Navy Chaplaincy*, 738 F.3d 425, 428 (D.C. Cir. 2013) (treating policies as facially neutral when none "on its face prefers any religious denomination"). These principles apply with full force to equal protection claims premised on alleged vote dilution. *See, e.g.*, *May*, 132 F.3d at 580 & n.8 (applying rational basis review where legislation expands the right to vote without weighing votes differently); *Duncan*, 69 F.3d at 94 n.3 (explaining that "mere expansion of the class of persons eligible to vote does not, *per se*, imply unconstitutional vote dilution").

Here, all the Act says is that a qualified voter "[i]s a citizen of the United States; except, that this subparagraph shall not apply in a local election." Act § 2. This provision does not single out citizens for disfavored treatment or non-citizens for preferential treatment. The Act did not change citizens' voting rights at all, and it says nothing about national origin. In fact, citizens still receive *more* favorable treatment than non-citizens because they are allowed to vote in local *and* federal elections. Plaintiffs therefore cannot plausibly allege that the Act is facially discriminatory against citizens. As a result, because the Act satisfies rational basis review (as well as strict scrutiny), *see* Argument § II.B.2, *supra*, Plaintiffs cannot claim any violation of equal protection.

## 2. <u>Plaintiffs Have Not Plausibly Alleged Facts Suggesting That the Act Has a Discriminatory Purpose.</u>

Nor can Plaintiffs plausibly allege that the Act has a discriminatory purpose. When challenging a facially neutral law under equal protection principles, plaintiffs must show that the law is discriminatory in both its effect and purpose. *United States v. Holton*, 116 F.3d 1536, 1548 (D.C. Cir. 1997) (citing *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 242 (1976)). The same

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Under federal law, the District cannot allow non-citizens to vote in federal elections. 18 U.S.C. § 611.

principles govern vote dilution claims. As the Supreme Court has explained, equal protection "prohibits *intentional* 'vote dilution." *Abbott v. Perez*, 138 S. Ct. 2305, 2314 (2018) (emphasis added) (quoting *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, 446 U.S. 55, 66–67 (1980) (plurality op.)). Claimants asserting vote dilution therefore cannot simply allege that a law has the effect of diluting their votes; they must plausibly allege facts showing that the *purpose* of the law was to dilute their votes. *See id.*; *Rogers v. Lodge*, 458 U.S. 613, 617–18 (1982) (requiring vote-dilution plaintiffs to show that the challenged laws were "conceived or operated as purposeful devices to further [invidious] discrimination" (quoting *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124, 149 (1971))); *Bolden*, 446 U.S. at 67 (rejecting notion that "disproportionate effects alone may establish a claim of unconstitutional racial voter dilution").

Plaintiffs in this case, accordingly, cannot allege a viable equal protection claim simply by asserting that the Act may lead to vote dilution for citizens. Compl. ¶¶ 51–52. They must also plausibly allege that the Council acted with discriminatory intent. Yet nothing in the legislative history—nor anything Plaintiffs put forth in the Complaint—suggests that a purpose of the Act was to dilute citizens' votes or otherwise disadvantage citizens. Indeed, it strains reason to think that the District's popularly elected legislative body intended to harm the vast majority of the District's population, citizens and natural born-Americans. *See* Comm. Rep. 3 (estimating that 15% of the District's population are immigrants). Instead, the Council's purpose was to "expand[] voting rights and improve[] access to democracy for all District residents," *id.* at 2—a goal of equal treatment for all qualified Washingtonians, which is the exact opposite of an equal protection violation. Although Plaintiffs allege that the "primary motive" "was to aid" immigrants, Compl. ¶ 34, aiding immigrants is not the same as discriminating against non-immigrants. Considering the clear legislative history and "spare facts and allegations" in the

Complaint, the Court cannot infer that the Council was "motivated by discriminatory intent or purpose," so the equal protection claims should be dismissed for this reason too. *Atherton v. D.C. Off. of the Mayor*, 567 F.3d 672, 688 (D.C. Cir. 2009).

Plaintiffs' reliance on Brown v. Board of Commissioners, 722 F. Supp. 380 (E.D. Tenn. 1989), is misplaced. Compl. ¶ 47. Brown agreed that expansions of the franchise receive only rational basis review. 722 F. Supp. at 398. But Brown found that a city charter allowing nonresident property owners to vote in municipal elections lacked a rational basis because "it contain[ed] no limitation of the number of people who can 'vote' on a piece of property or no limitation as to any minimum property value required for the exercise of the franchise." Id. at 399. For example, "as many as 23 nonresidents have been registered to vote on a single piece of property." Id. As a result, the charter "permit[ted] a nonresident who owns a trivial amount of property to vote in municipal elections," and because such non-residents lacked a "substantial interest" in municipal affairs, the charter did "not further any rational governmental interest." Id. Such irrationality is not present here. As the Council found based on empirical data, non-citizen residents have a substantial interest in District elections because, among other things, they reside in the District, pay taxes to the District, work jobs in the District, and send their children to District schools. Comm. Rep. 3–4. Plaintiffs' only case does not support them. The Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' equal protection challenges.

## D. The "Right to Citizen Self-Government" Claim Fails.

Finally, Plaintiffs allege that the Act violates their "constitutional right to citizen self-government." Compl. ¶ 68. But Plaintiffs fail to identify any source in the Constitution—or elsewhere—that provides for such a right. Such an omission flunks the most basic test of pleading, failing to provide a "short and plain statement of the claim" or otherwise give the

District "fair notice of what the . . . claim is and the grounds upon which it rests." *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555 (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).

Besides, there is no such thing as a freestanding, judicially enforceable "right to citizen self-government." Historically, "popular sovereignty in the United States has been a flexible notion, which has not restricted political power by a rigid definition of the People, and certainly not by the legal category of national citizenship." Gerald E. Neuman, *Strangers to the Constitution: Immigrants, Borders, and Fundamental Law* 145 (1996). And legally, nothing in the Constitution "precludes the states from granting the franchise to noncitizens." Christopher L. Eisgruber, *Birthright Citizenship and the Constitution*, 72 N.Y.U. L. Rev. 54, 57 (1997); see Michael C. Dorf, *Equal Protection Incorporation*, 88 Va. L. Rev. 951, 977 n.78 (2002) (observing that "alien disenfranchisement" is not "constitutionally required"); David A. Martin, *Graduated Application of Constitutional Protections for Aliens: The Real Meaning of Zadvydas* v. Davis, 2001 Sup. Ct. Rev. 47, 85 & n.104 (recognizing that "[n]one" of the "constitutional amendments that touch on voting rights" "requires that the franchise be restricted to citizens").

Plaintiffs nonetheless allege that the "right to citizen self-government' has been recognized in repeated holdings of the Supreme Court." Compl. ¶ 1. Yet they can muster only two inapposite cases to support their revisionist account—*Foley v. Connelie*, 435 U.S. 291 (1978), and *Cabell v. Chavez-Salido*, 454 U.S. 432 (1982)—both of which involved *equal protection* challenges to state laws governing law-enforcement appointments. *Foley*, 435 U.S. at 300; *Cabell*, 454 U.S. at 444. Neither case references an independent constitutional right to "citizen self-government," and neither case suggests that allowing non-citizens to vote in local elections would be unconstitutional. Plaintiffs' inability to cite a single case, statute, or constitutional provision to support their claim confirms that it should be dismissed.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For these reasons, the Court should dismiss the Complaint for lack of jurisdiction or failure to state a claim.

Date: June 7, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

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STEPHANIE E. LITOS Deputy Attorney General Civil Litigation Division

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# **GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Office of the Attorney General**

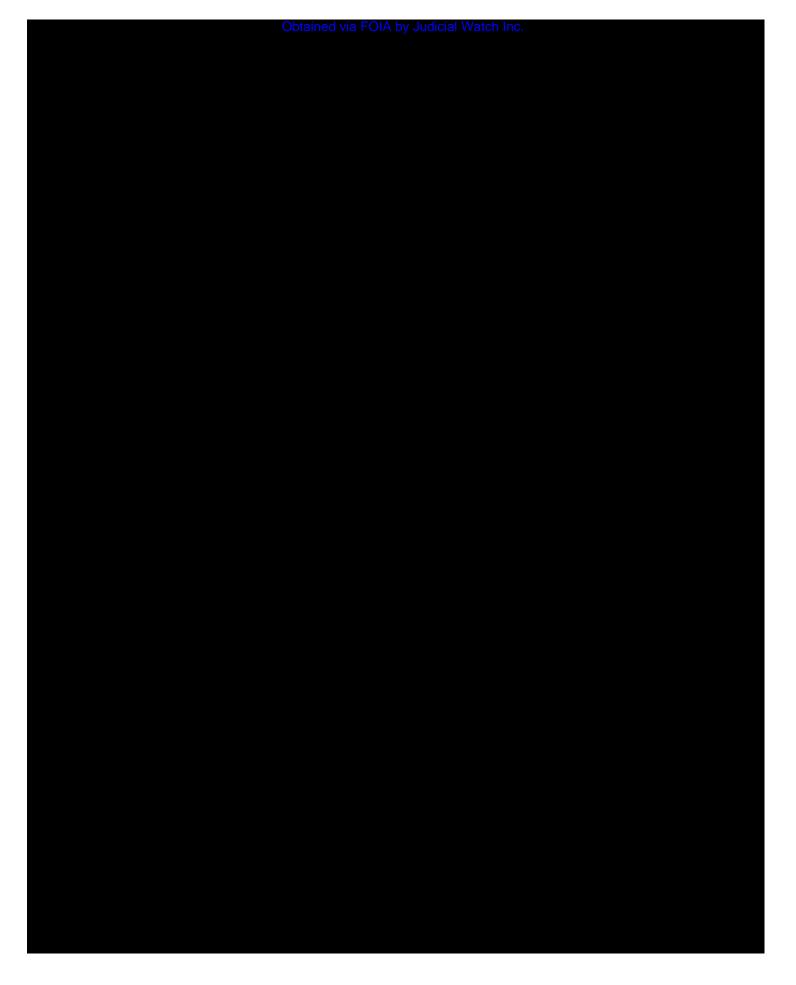
BRIAN I. SCHWALB
Attorney General

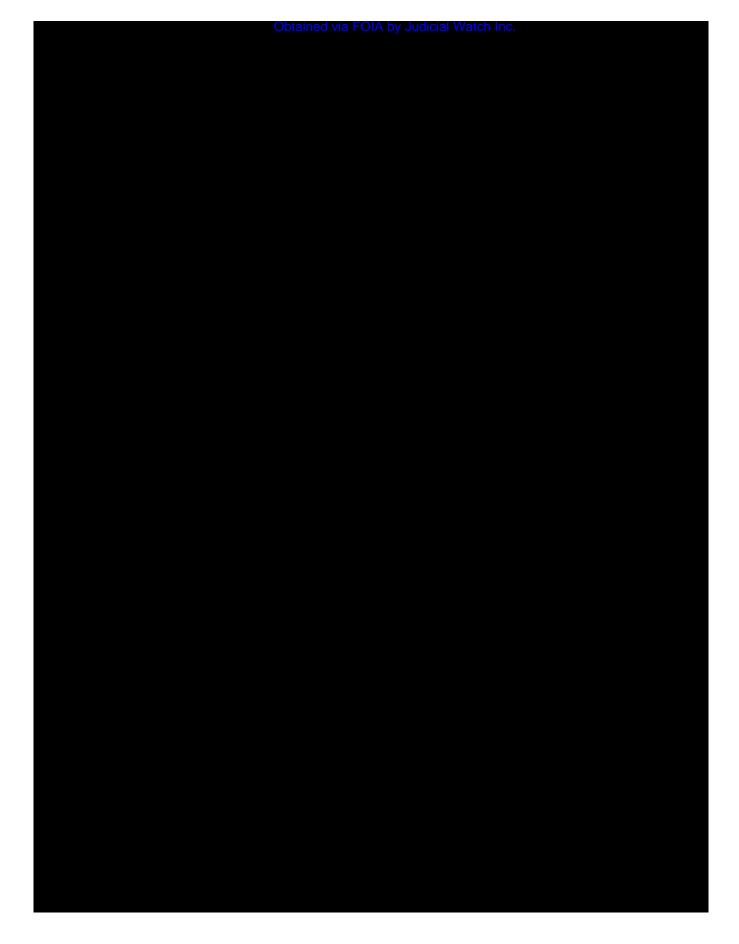
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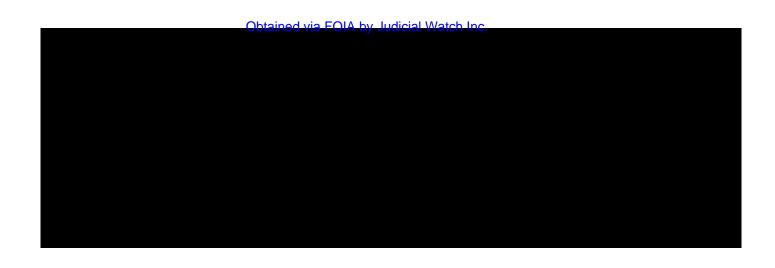
**Civil Litigation Division Equity Section** 

## PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL









#### IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SUPERIOR COURT

STACIA HALL

3726 Connecticut Ave., NW

Apt. 109

Washington, DC 20008,

Civil Action No. 2023-CAB-001544

RALPH CHITTAMS

2936 M St., SE

Washington, DC 20019,

SUZZANNE KELLER

2331 Chester St., SE

Washington, DC 20020,

KEN MCCLENTON

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KIMBERLY EPPS

116 T St., NE

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DICK A. HELLER

263 Kentucky Ave., SE

Washington, DC 20003,

NICOLLE S. A. LYON

5900 3rd St., NE

Washington, DC 20011.

**Plaintiffs** 

V.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF

**ELECTIONS** 

1015 Half St., SE

Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003

Defendant.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The above-named Plaintiffs, STACIA HALL, RALPH CHITTAMS, SUZZANNE KELLER, KEN MCCLENTON, KIMBERLY EPPS, DICK A. HELLER, and NICOLLE S. A. LYON (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), by and through the undersigned counsel, bring this action against the District of Columbia Board of Elections ("Defendant"), and allege as follows:

#### **NATURE OF ACTION**

- 1. It follows from our national independence that United States citizens have a right to govern, and be governed by, themselves. The constitutional right to citizen self-government, moreover, has been recognized in repeated holdings of the Supreme Court of the United States. The fundamental right of citizens to vote has also been recognized, and protected against infringement, in multiple precedents of the Supreme Court.
- 2. Noncitizens do not have a fundamental right to vote in the United States. Nor does any noncitizen have a constitutional right to govern the United States.
- 3. In 2022, the D.C. Council passed D.C. Act 24-620, entitled the "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022" (hereinafter the "D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act"). The D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act eliminates the prior citizenship requirement for voting in municipal elections, thus allowing noncitizens residing in D.C. to vote in those elections.
- 4. In combination with other laws, the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act also permits noncitizen D.C. residents to be elected Mayor and to the D.C. Council, and to serve on the District of Columbia Board of Elections.
- 5. By necessary operation, the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act dilutes the vote of every U.S. citizen voter in the District. Because it does so, the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act is subject to review

under both the equal protection and the substantive due process components of the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

- 6. Whatever governmental interest may be asserted to justify this law in such a review, that interest cannot stand against the right of American citizens to self-government, a right that the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act infringes by its necessary operation.
- 7. In addition, because it dilutes the votes of all U.S. citizen voters in D.C., and also because it allows noncitizens to hold public office in D.C., the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act violates the constitutional right of citizens to govern, and be governed by, themselves, and should be struck down on that basis.
- 8. Plaintiffs accordingly bring this action against Defendant, the District of Columbia Board of Elections, under the Constitution, including the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. Plaintiffs request that this Court enjoin Defendant from implementing and enforcing the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 9. This Court has jurisdiction under § 11-921(a)(6) of the District of Columbia Official Code.
- 10. This Court has the power to issue permanent or preliminary injunctions. *Ifill v. District of Columbia*, 665 A.2d 185, 187-88 (D.C. 1995); D.C. Super. Ct. R. Civ. P. 65.
- 11. This Court is authorized to grant declaratory relief under Rule 57 of the District of Columbia Superior Court Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 12. Venue is proper in the District of Columbia because Defendant, as an agency of the government, operates in the District of Columbia, because Plaintiffs all live in the District of Columbia, and because the events giving rise to this Complaint took place in the District of Columbia.

#### **PARTIES**

- 13. Plaintiff Stacia Hall is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Ms. Hall is a registered voter in the District of Columbia. In 2022, Ms. Hall was the Republican candidate for Mayor of the District of Columbia.
- 14. Plaintiff Ralph Chittams is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Mr. Chittams is a registered voter in the District of Columbia. In 2018, Mr. Chittams was the Republican candidate for an at-large seat on the District of Columbia Council.
- 15. Plaintiff Suzzanne Keller is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Ms. Keller is a registered voter in the District of Columbia.
- 16. Plaintiff Ken McClenton is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Mr. McClenton is a registered voter in the District of Columbia.
- 17. Plaintiff Kimberly Epps is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Ms. Epps is a registered voter in the District of Columbia.
- 18. Plaintiff Richard Heller is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Mr. Heller is a registered voter in the District of Columbia.
- 19. Plaintiff Nicolle S. A. Lyon is a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia. Ms. Lyon is a registered voter in the District of Columbia.
- 20. Defendant, the District of Columbia Board of Elections, is responsible for administering elections in the District of Columbia.

#### BACKGROUND

21. The U.S. Constitution provides for a national capital city over which Congress has ultimate legislative authority. U.S. Const. art. I, § 8, cl. 17.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become

22. In 1955, Congress enacted the D.C. Election Act "to regulate the election of delegates representing the District of Columbia in national political conventions." (hereinafter, the "D.C. Election Act") Pub. L. 84-376; 69 Stat. 699; title I, ch. 11, D.C. Code, 1951 ed. The D.C. Election Act defined a "qualified elector" in D.C. elections as "a citizen of the United States," *id.* Sec. 2(2), and provided that "no person shall vote in any election in the District unless he is a qualified elector[.]" *Id.* Sec. 7(a).

23. Congress amended the D.C. Election Act in 1961, rewriting the qualification requirement: "A person shall be entitled to vote in an election in the District of Columbia only if he is a qualified elector[.]" Pub. L. 87-389; 75 Stat. 817. The amendment did not change the definition of qualified elector, thereby preserving the citizenship requirement.

24. In 1973, Congress passed the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (hereinafter "D.C. Home Rule Act" or "Home Rule Act"). Pub. L. 93-198; 87 Stat. 774; D.C. Official Code § 1-201.01 *et seq* (1974).

## 25. The Home Rule Act provides:

Subject to the retention by Congress of the ultimate legislative authority over the nation's capital granted by article I, § 8, of the Constitution, the intent of Congress is to delegate certain legislative powers to the government of the District of Columbia; authorize the election of certain local officials by the registered qualified electors in the District of Columbia; grant to the inhabitants of the District of Columbia the powers of local self-government; modernize, reorganize, and otherwise improve the governmental structure of the District of Columbia; and, to the greatest extent possible, consistent with the constitutional mandate, relieve Congress of the burden of legislating upon essentially local District matters.

5

the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful buildings."

- D.C. Home Rule Act Sec. 102, D.C. Official Code § 1-201.02(a). Nothing in the Home Rule Act changed the definition of "qualified elector."
- 26. The D.C. Home Rule Act, however, did amend the D.C. Election Law, providing: "[n]otwithstanding any other provision of this Act or of any other law, the Council shall have authority to enact any act or resolution with respect to matters involving or relating to elections in the District." D.C. Home Rule Act Sec. 752, D.C. Official Code § 1-207.52.
- 27. On October 18, 2022, the D.C. Council passed the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act (available online at https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B24-0300). The D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act made amendments to the D.C. Election Law that enable noncitizens to vote in local elections and run for local office.
- 28. The D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act was transmitted to Mayor Bowser for signature on November 4, 2022, and was subsequently enacted, without her signature, on November 21, 2022.
- 29. The D.C. Home Rule Act requires that legislation passed by the Council be reviewed by Congress. D.C. Home Rule Act Sec. 602, D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(10)(c). According to the Council's Legislative Information Management System ("LIMS"), the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act was transmitted to Congress on January 10, 2023. *See* District of Columbia Legislative Information Management System, https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B24-0300.
- 30. The House of Representatives passed a resolution disapproving of the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act on February 9, 2023. *See* H.J. Res. 24, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-joint-resolution/24/actions?s=3&r=3. The Senate failed to pass a resolution of disapproval within the time prescribed by the D.C. Home Rule Act.
- 31. LIMS reflects that the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act went into effect on February 23, 2023. *See* https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B24-0300.

32. The D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act amended the definition of "qualified elector":

[A] person who (A) [i]s at least 17 years of age and who will be 18 years of age on or before the next general election; (B) [i]s a citizen of the United States; except, that this subparagraph shall not apply in a local election; (C) [h]as maintained residence in the District for at least 30 days preceding the next election and does not claim voting residence or right to vote in any state, territory, or country; and (D) [r]epealed; (E) [h]as not been found by a court of law to be legally incompetent to vote.

D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.02(2) (emphasis added to reflect changes made by the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act).

33. The D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act was intended to include illegal immigrants. The Committee Report reflects that, when first introduced, only lawful permanent residents were considered in the new definition of qualified elector. Council of the District of Columbia, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, Committee Report on B24-300, the "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2021," at 3, (Sep. 28, 2022), chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://lims.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/473 74/Committee\_Report/B24-0300-Committee\_Report1.pdf. The committee removed "arbitrary immigration statuses" from consideration in voter eligibility. *Id*.

34. A primary motive for removing "arbitrary immigration statuses" (that is, those found in federal immigration law) from consideration, and for allowing noncitizens to vote, was to aid those whom Council members called "immigrants"—meaning, generally, persons of foreign birth living in this country, irrespective of such statuses—as a class, by giving many more of them the power of the ballot box. Council of the District of Columbia, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, Committee Mark-Up of B24-300, the "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2021." of Council Member Allen. 15:40. 27. Statement at (Sep. 2022), http://video.oct.dc.gov/VOD/DCC/2022 09 /09 27 22 Judici.html ("Immigrants,

naturalized citizens, legal permanent residents, asylum seekers, DACA recipients, undocumented residents, or otherwise are valued members of our community. They are us. . . . Immigrants care deeply about issues affecting their communities and families like gun control, climate change, healthcare, affordable housing, quality schools, access to healthy food—issues that affect all residents and are directly influenced by our local government. Our noncitizen neighbors, many of whom have lived, worked, and raised a family in the District for decades deserve the opportunity to have a stake in their government and determine their own leaders just as we all do."); id. at 18:40 ("The Committee Print is a strong statement in support of the fundamental principle that all people should have a say in the government that makes decisions affecting their lives. It's in line with the District's commitment to making our local government more accessible to those who aren't traditionally represented rather than restricting it to those who already hold power."); Council of the District of Columbia, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, Public Hearing on B24-300, the "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2021, at 7:25 (July 7, 2022) Statement of Council Member Nadeau, http://video.oct.dc.gov/VOD/DCC/2022 07/07 07 22 Judici.html ("Every day elected officials are making decisions about affordable housing, education, human services and more. People who've made their permanent homes in the District should have a hand in who represents them in government. The District has long been a place that has welcomed immigrants into our community and it's time to allow for their full participation in our institutions."); id. at 10:40, Statement of Council Member Lewis-George ("Voting and civic engagement is part of how we demonstrate our investment in advancing our city's collective interest and so we have a unique opportunity with this bill to engage our immigrant neighbors as valued voting members of our city."). This intentional expansion of the voting power of foreignborn persons automatically decreases the voting power of D.C. residents, including all Plaintiffs, who were born in the United States.

35. The D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act added the term "local election" to the defined terms, providing:

The term 'local election' means (A) an election for (i) Mayor; (ii) Chairman or member of the Council; (iii) Attorney General; (iv) Member of the State Board of Education; or (v) Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner; or (B) [a]n initiative, referendum, recall, or charter amendment measure on a District ballot.

D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.02(34).

36. The D.C. Election Law contains three other definitional terms related to voter eligibility and the eligibility to hold public office. It defines "duly registered voter" as "a registered voter who resides at the address listed on the Board's records." D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.02(19). It defines "registered qualified elector" as "a registered voter who resides at the address listed on the Board's records." D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.02(20). Finally, it defines "qualified registered elector" as "a registered voter who resides at the address listed on the Board's records." D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.02(21). A noncitizen voter fits all of these definitions.

37. The D.C. Council was established by the Home Rule Act. D.C. Home Rule Act Sec. 401, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.01(a). Members of the Council are "elected by the registered qualified electors of the District." *Id.* Among the required qualifications for a resident wishing to serve on the Council is that the person "[i]s a qualified elector." D.C. Official Code § 1-204.02. Because citizenship is not specifically enumerated as a qualification, a noncitizen is now a "qualified elector" for purposes of local elections, which include elections for D.C. Council, and therefore is eligible to serve on the Council.

38. The Office of the Mayor was established by the Home Rule Act. D.C. Home Rule Act Sec. 421, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.21(a). "[T]he Mayor shall be elected by the registered qualified electors of the District." *Id.* Among the required qualifications for a resident wishing to serve as Mayor, is that the person "[i]s a qualified elector." D.C. Official Code § 1-204.21(c)(1). Because citizenship is not specifically enumerated as a qualification for office, a noncitizen is now a "qualified elector" for purposes of local elections, which includes elections for Mayor, and therefore is eligible to serve as Mayor.

39. The D.C. Board of Elections was established by the Home Rule Act. D.C. Home Rule Act Sec. 491, D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.03(a). Board members are required to be "duly registered voter[s]." D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.04(a)(1). Because citizenship is not specifically enumerated as a qualification for office, a noncitizen is now a "duly registered voter" and is eligible to serve on the Board of Elections.

40. The D.C. Board of Elections is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act. Under D.C. law, the Board of Elections is required, among other things, "accurately [to] maintain . . . the official voter registration list for all elections in the District;" "actively locate, identify, and register qualified voters; conduct elections; provide for recording and counting votes;" "[p]ublish. . . the total number of qualified electors registered to vote;" "[o]perate polling places;" and "[c]ertify nominees and the results of elections[.]" D.C. Official Code §1-1001.05(a)(Perm.). The Board of Elections will be responsible for registering noncitizen voters and ensuring that they are not registered to vote in another city, state, or country.

41. Certain rights of U.S. citizens are considered fundamental despite not being explicitly enumerated in the Constitution. *See Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651, 658 (1884) (explaining "the doctrine universally applied to all instruments of writing, that what is implied is as much a

part of the instrument as what is expressed. This principle, in its application to the Constitution of the United States, more than to almost any other writing, is a necessity, by reason of the inherent inability to put into words all derivative powers[.]").

- 42. Accordingly, "[t]he Due Process Clause guarantees more than fair process, and the 'liberty' it protects includes more than absence of physical restraint. The Clause also provides heightened protection against government interference with certain fundamental rights and liberty interests." *Washington v. Glucksberg*, 521 U.S. 702, 719-20 (1997) (citations omitted).
- 43. This substantive due process "specially protects those fundamental rights and liberties which are, objectively, deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition, and implicit in the concept of ordered liberty, such that neither liberty nor justice would exist if they were sacrificed." *Id.* (internal citations omitted).
- 44. Also required is "a careful description of the asserted fundamental liberty interest." *Id.* Such description can be found in "[o]ur Nation's history, legal traditions, and practices [which] provide[] the crucial guideposts for responsible decisionmaking, that direct and restrain our exposition of the Due Process Clause." *Id.* (internal citations omitted).
- 45. The right to vote has long been recognized among these fundamental liberty interests. As explained by the Supreme Court in *Reynolds v. Sims*, "[u]ndeniably the Constitution of the United States protects the right of all qualified citizens to vote, in state as well as in federal elections. A consistent line of decisions by this Court in cases involving attempts to deny or restrict the right of suffrage as made this indelibly clear. It has been repeatedly recognized that all qualified voters have a constitutionally protected right to vote, and to have their votes counted." *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 554 (1964).

46. Infringement on the right to vote can be through "a debasement or dilution of the weight of a citizen's vote just as effectively as by wholly prohibiting the free exercise of the franchise." *Id.* at 555.

47. Claims of vote dilution caused by expansions of the franchise, such as those made by residents of a city challenging the expansion of the franchise to nonresident property owners, have been analyzed under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, on the ground that they discriminate against an identifiable group by harming that group while benefitting another. *See, e.g., Brown v. Bd. of Comm'rs*, 722 F. Supp.380, 398 (E.D. Tenn. 1989) (striking down an expansion of the franchise to nonresidents of a city under the Equal Protection Clause).

48. While the Fourteenth Amendment is only applicable to the states, U.S. citizens living in the District of Columbia are still entitled to the equal protection of the laws under the Fifth Amendment Due Process Clause, which provides: "No person shall . . . be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law[.]" U.S. Const. amend. V.

49. "In *Bolling v. Sharpe*, 347 U.S. 497 (1954), the Court began in earnest to fold an 'equal protection' guarantee into the concept of 'due process." *United States v. Vaello-Madero*, 142 S. Ct. 1539, 1544 (2022) (Thomas, J., concurring). *See also Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 239 (1976) ("It is also true that the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment contains an equal protection component prohibiting the United States from invidiously discriminating between individuals or groups.") (citation omitted); *Adams v. Clinton*, 90 F. Supp. 2d 35, 100 (D.D.C. 2000), *aff'd per curiam*, 531 U.S. 941 (2000) ("The Supreme Court has held that the principles embodied in this clause apply equally to the federal government, for the benefit of persons residing in the District of Columbia, by virtue of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.").

- 50. Accordingly, equal protection analysis under the Fifth Amendment mirrors that applied to the states under the Fourteenth Amendment. *See, e.g., Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld*, 420 U.S. 636, 638 n.2 (1975) (explaining that "this Court's approach to Fifth Amendment equal protection claims has always been precisely the same as to equal protection claims under the Fourteenth Amendment."); *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 93 (1976) ("Equal protection analysis in the Fifth Amendment area is the same as that under the Fourteenth Amendment").
- 51. Discrimination based on national origin is also prohibited under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 320 U.S. 81, 100 (1943) ("Distinctions between citizens solely because of their ancestry are by their very nature odious to a free people whose institutions are founded upon the doctrine of equality."). When there is conflict between the rights of U.S. citizens and the rights of the government, "the rights of a citizen may not be subordinated merely because of his father's country of origin." *Oyama v. California*, 332 U.S. 633, 647 (1948). Intentionally, and on its face, the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act dilutes the votes of U.S.-born residents by allowing noncitizens (none or virtually none of whom were born in the United States) to vote in the District of Columbia.
- 52. Because the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act is facially discriminatory against identifiable classes, no inquiry into its legislative purpose is needed. *Azam v. D.C. Taxicab Comm'n*, 43 F. Supp. 3d 38, 49 (D.D.C. 2014) ("Where the government's action or policy is facially neutral, a plaintiff must plead and prove that the defendant acted with discriminatory purpose.").
- 53. The Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized the constitutional right of citizen self-government. "The exclusion of noncitizens from basic governmental processes is not a deficiency in the democratic system but a *necessary consequence* of the community's process of political self-definition." *Cabell v. Chavez-Salido*, 454 U.S. 432, 439-440 (1982) (emphasis added).

American citizens comprise the body politic of the United States. See id. ("Self-government, whether direct or through representatives, begins by defining the scope of the community of the governed and thus of the governors as well: Noncitizens are by definition outside of this community."); Foley v. Connelie, 435 U.S. 291, 295-96 (1978) ("The act of becoming a citizen is more than a ritual with no content beyond the fanfare of ceremony. A new citizen has become a member of a Nation, part of a people distinct from others. The individual, at that point, belongs to the polity and is entitled to participate in the processes of democratic decisionmaking. Accordingly, we have recognized a State's historical power to exclude noncitizens from participation in its democratic political institutions as part of the sovereign's *obligation* to preserve the basic conception of a political community.") (internal citation omitted) (emphasis added); id. at 296 ("[A] democratic society is ruled by its people. Thus, it is clear that a State may deny noncitizens the right to vote, or to run for elective office, for these lie at the heart of our political institutions."); id. (holding that such restrictions represent[] the choice, and right, of the people to be governed by their citizen peers.") (emphasis added); id. at 297 ("[A]lthough we extend to noncitizens the right to education and public welfare, along with the ability to earn a livelihood and engage in licensed professions, the right to govern is reserved to citizens.").

54. In review under the Fifth Amendment, no interest that may be asserted to justify the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act can stand against the compelling governmental interest, recognized in these holdings, that U.S. citizens have in governing themselves.

#### **CAUSES OF ACTION**

### I. Violation of Substantive Due Process.

55. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all prior paragraphs of this Complaint.

- 56. Substantive due process under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution prohibits the government from infringing on the fundamental rights of U.S. citizens.
- 57. Diluting the votes of U.S. citizens by enfranchising noncitizens infringes on Plaintiffs' fundamental right to vote.
- 58. Plaintiffs suffer a constitutional injury because of the direct and proximate actions of Defendant.

## II. Violation of the Equal Protection Component of the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause—Citizenship.

- 59. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 60. The equal protection component of the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause prohibits the government from discriminating based on citizenship.
- 61. By enfranchising noncitizens in D.C. elections, and thus necessarily diluting the votes of U.S. citizens living in D.C., the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act, on its face, unlawfully discriminates against U.S. citizens living in D.C., such as Plaintiffs, based on their citizenship.
- 62. Plaintiffs suffer a constitutional injury because of the direct and proximate actions of Defendants.

## III. Violation of the Equal Protection Component of the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause—National Origin.

- 63. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 64. The equal protection component of the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause prohibits the government from discriminating based on national origin.

- 65. By enfranchising noncitizens in D.C. elections, the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act, both intentionally and on its face, dilutes the votes of native-born U.S. citizens living in D.C., and thus unlawfully discriminates against native-born U.S. citizens living in D.C., such as Plaintiffs, based on their national origin.
- 66. Plaintiffs suffer a constitutional injury because of the direct and proximate actions of Defendants.

### IV. Violation of the Right to Citizen Self-Government.

- 67. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all prior paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 68. Each and every American citizen, including Plaintiffs, has a constitutional "right . . . to be governed by [his or her] citizen peers." *Foley*, 435 U.S. at 296.
- 69. By enfranchising noncitizens, and also by allowing noncitizens to hold public office, the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Law allows noncitizens to govern citizens in D.C., and thus violates Plaintiffs' constitutional right to citizen self-government.
- 70. Plaintiffs suffer a constitutional injury because of the direct and proximate actions of Defendants.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request:

1. A declaratory judgment that the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act violates Plaintiffs' rights under the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and their constitutional right to citizen self-government;

Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

2. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Defendant from spending funds to

implement the D.C. Noncitizen Voting Act, from registering noncitizens to vote, and from

counting votes cast by noncitizens;

3. A judgment awarding reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, disbursements, and other

allowances of this proceeding; and

4. A judgment awarding Plaintiffs any other relief that this Court deems just, proper, and

equitable.

Dated: March 14, 2023 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christopher J. Hajec

Christopher J. Hajec, D.C. Bar No. 492551 Gina M. D'Andrea, D.C. Bar No. 1673459 Immigration Reform Law Institute 25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Suite 335 Washington, DC 20001 202.232.5590 202.464.3590

chajec@irli.org gdandrea@irli.org

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS 1015 HALF STREET SE, SUITE 750

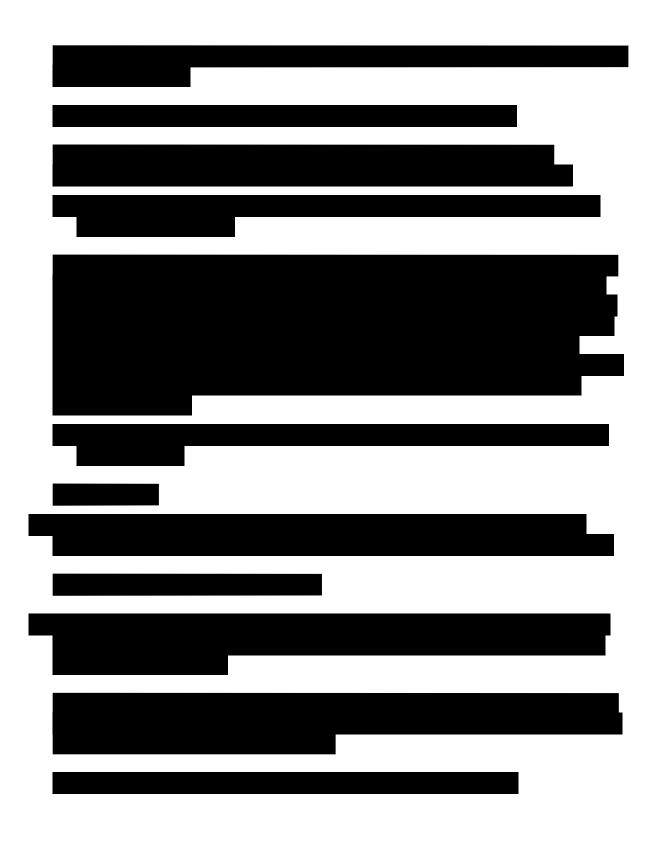




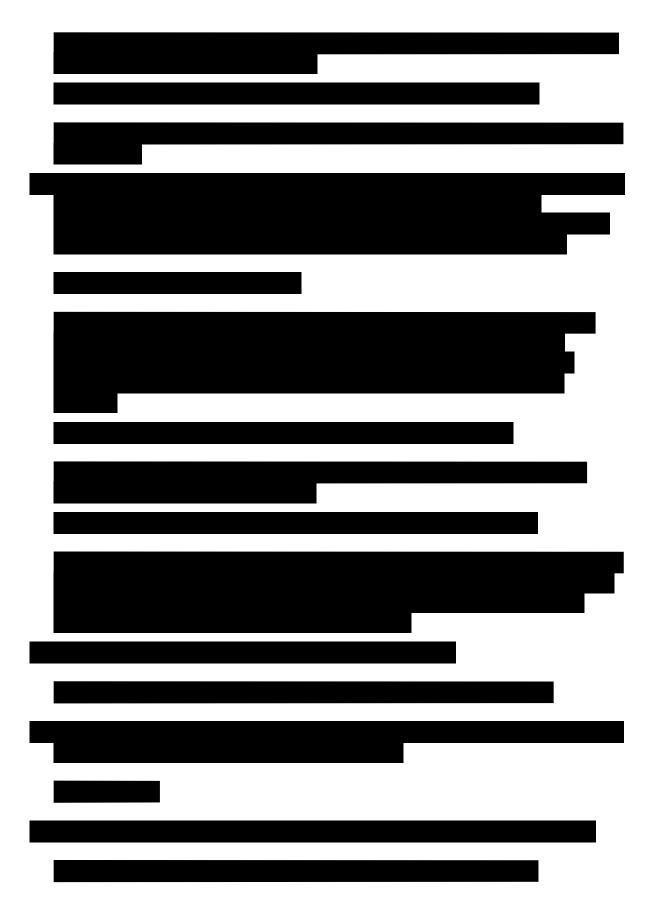








https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B23-0324.





## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS 1015 HALF STREET SE, SUITE 750

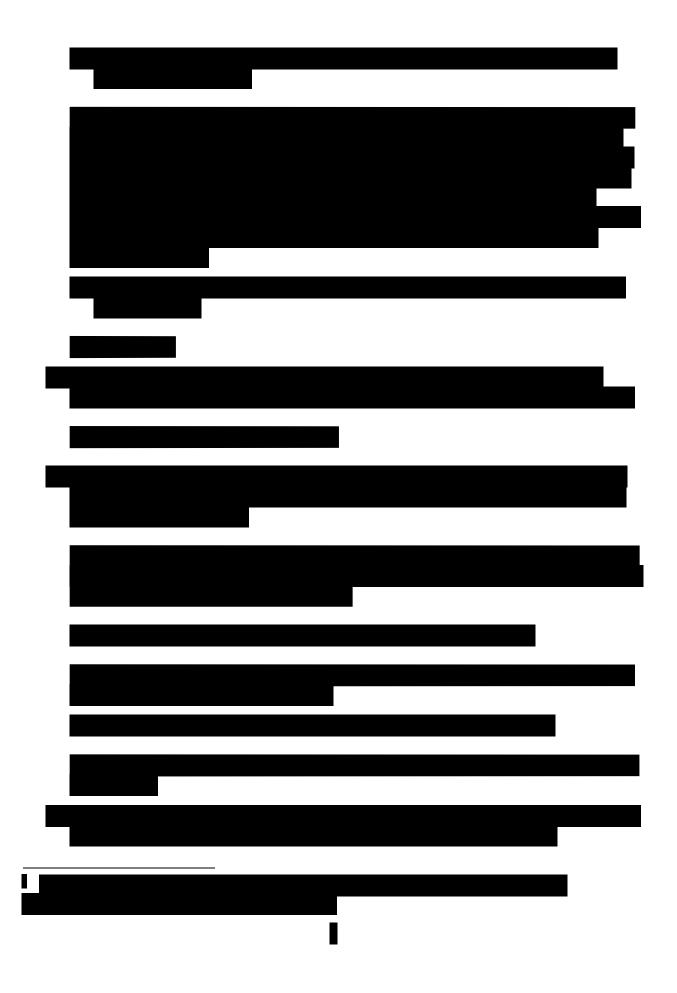


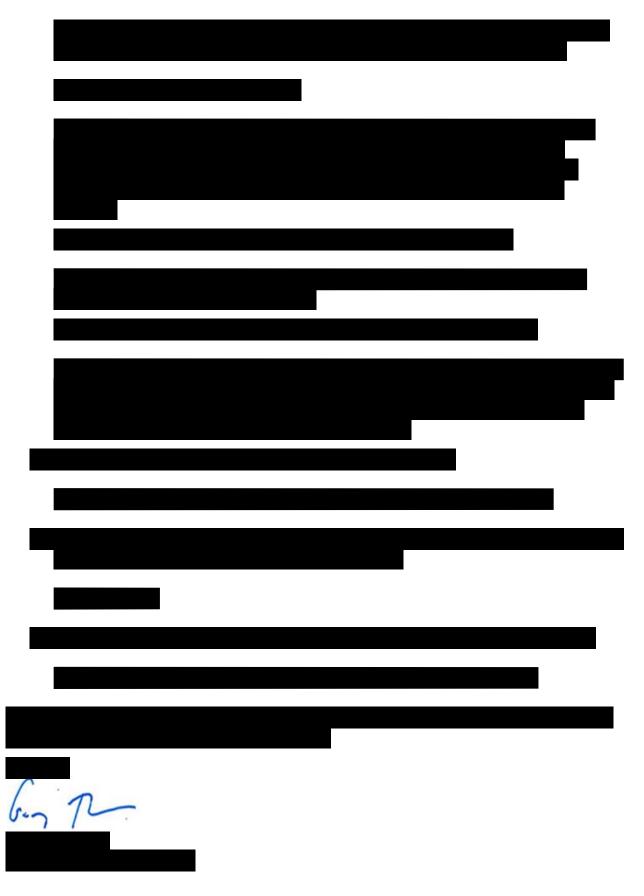












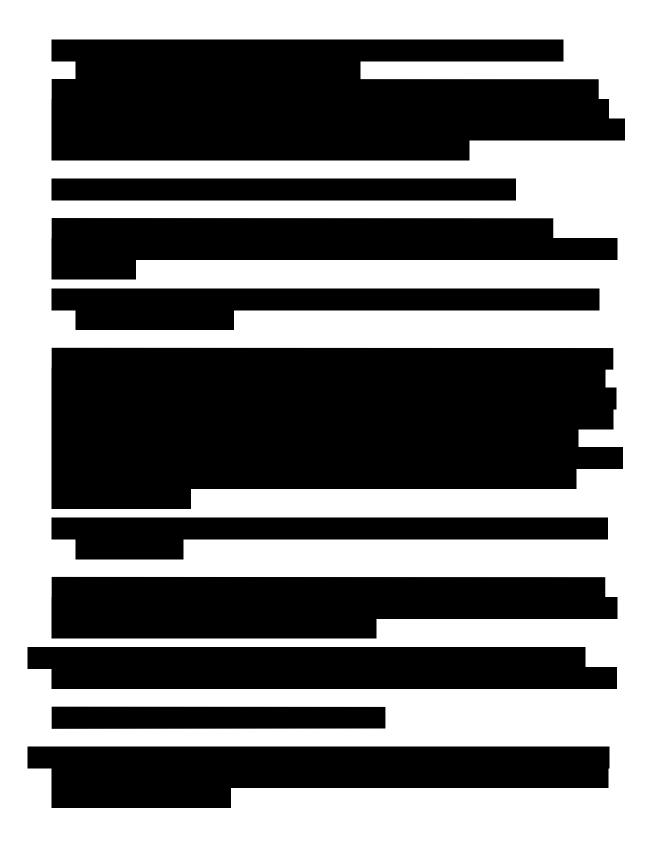


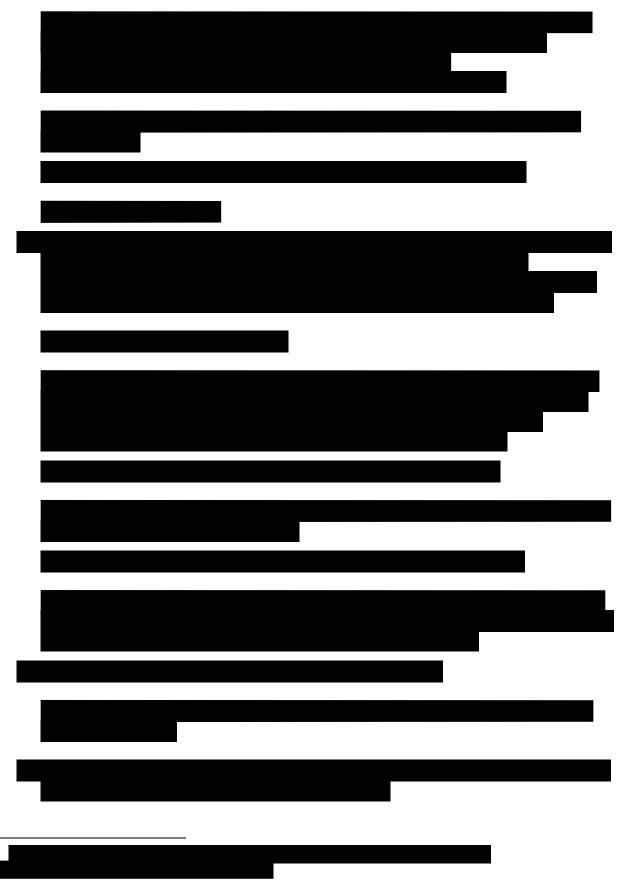
## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS 1015 HALF STREET SE, SUITE 750 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003-4733 202-727-2525 | DCBOE.ORG













From: Marissa Corrente

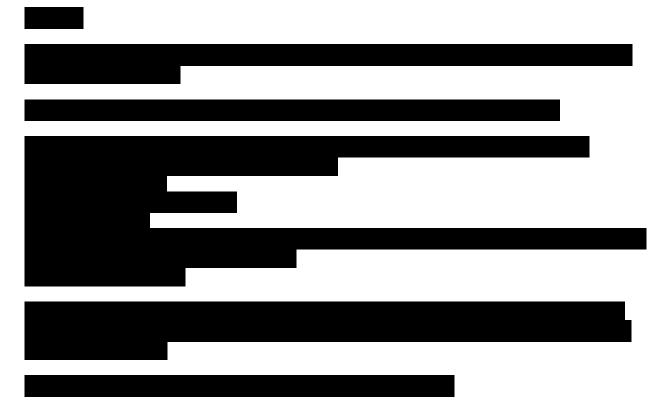
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:12 AM

To: Alice Miller <a PMiller@dcboe.org>; Jorge Quintana <JQuintana@dcboe.org>

**Cc:** LaKetha Walker < LWalker@dcboe.org>; Chinyere Offor < COffor@dcboe.org>; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org>; Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org>; Christine Pembroke

<CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Kevin Newsome <KNewsome@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: What Every Voter Needs to Know



Thanks, Marissa

Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Alice Miller

**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2024 11:31 AM **To:** Jorge Quintana < JQuintana@dcboe.org>

Cc: LaKetha Walker < <u>LWalker@dcboe.org</u>>; Chinyere Offor < <u>COffor@dcboe.org</u>>; Terri Stroud < <u>TStroud@dcboe.org</u>>; Monica Evans < <u>mevans@dcboe.org</u>>; Christine Pembroke < <u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>; Marissa Corrente < <u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>; Kevin Newsome

<KNewsome@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** Re: What Every Voter Needs to Know

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 29, 2024, at 11:03 AM, Jorge Quintana < <u>JQuintana@dcboe.org</u>> wrote:



Best regards, Jorge

From: Alice Miller < <u>APMiller@dcboe.org</u>>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2024 3:34 PM
To: LaKetha Walker < <u>LWalker@dcboe.org</u>>

Cc: Chinyere Offor < COffor@dcboe.org >; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >; Monica Evans

<<u>mevans@dcboe.org</u>>; Christine Pembroke <<u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>; Jorge Quintana <<u>JQuintana@dcboe.org</u>>; Marissa Corrente <<u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>; Kevin Newsome

## <KNewsome@dcboe.org>

Subject: Re: What Every Voter Needs to Know



On Mar 28, 2024, at 1:42 PM, LaKetha Walker < LWalker@dcboe.org > wrote:

-L

From: Chinyere Offor < COffor@dcboe.org > Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2024 12:47 PM

**To:** Terri Stroud <a href="mailto:YStroud@dcboe.org">To: Terri Stroud <a href="mailto:YStroud@dcboe.org">To: Terri Stroud <a href="mailto:YStroud@dcboe.org">To: Monica Evans <a href="mailto:mevans@dcboe.org">Monica Evans@dcboe.org</a><a href="mailto:mevans@dc

Cc: Kevin Newsome < <u>KNewsome@dcboe.org</u>> Subject: RE: What Every Voter Needs to Know



Sincerely,

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## Chinyere T. Offor

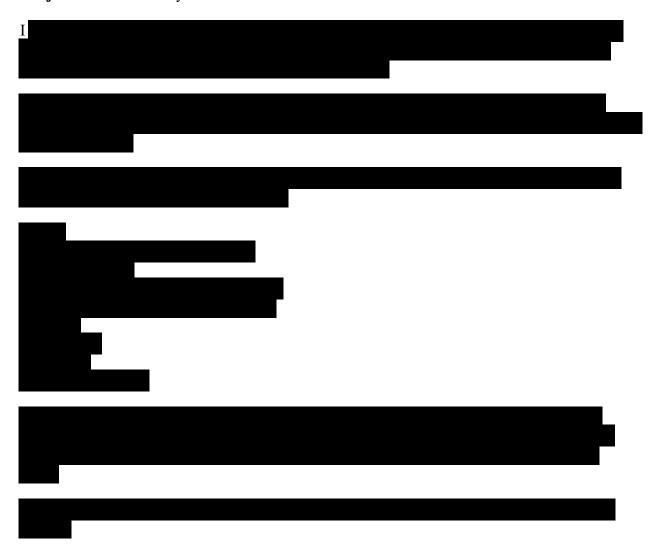
Election Support Specialist | DC Board of Elections 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 | Washington, DC 20003 (M) 202.727.2525 | (D) 202.727.6609 | (F) 202.347.2648

Email: coffor@dcboe.org

From: Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org > Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 11:53

**To:** Chinyere Offor <a href="COffor@dcboe.org">COffor@dcboe.org</a>; Monica Evans <a href="Mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a>; Alice Miller <a href="Miller@dcboe.org">APMiller@dcboe.org</a>; Christine Pembroke <a href="Miller@dcboe.org">CPembroke@dcboe.org</a>; Jorge Quintana <a href="Miller@dcboe.org">JQuintana@dcboe.org</a>; LaKetha Walker <a href="LWalker@dcboe.org">LWalker@dcboe.org</a>; Marissa Corrente <a href="Miller@dcboe.org">MCorrente@dcboe.org</a>

Cc: Kevin Newsome < <u>KNewsome@dcboe.org</u>> Subject: Re: What Every Voter Needs to Know



Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: <a href="mailto:tstroud@dcboe.org">tstroud@dcboe.org</a>
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Chinyere Offor

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 11:33 AM

To: Monica Evans; Alice Miller; Terri Stroud; Christine Pembroke; Jorge Quintana; LaKetha

Walker; Marissa Corrente **Cc:** Kevin Newsome

**Subject:** What Every Voter Needs to Know



Election Support Specialist | DC Board of Elections 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 | Washington, DC 20003 (M) 202.727.2525 | (D) 202.727.6609 | (F) 202.347.2648

Email: coffor@dcboe.org

<Laketha Walker 004.pdf>

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 10:23 AM

**To:** Christine Pembroke < CPembroke @dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

Terri

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Christine Pembroke < <u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>

Date: 2/8/24 10:14 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Jay Penuel < <u>JPenuel@dcboe.org</u>>, Terri Stroud < <u>TStroud@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: RE: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

From: Jay Penuel

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:58 AM

**To:** Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org > **Subject:** Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

Alrighty!

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:57 AM

To: Jay Penuel; Christine Pembroke

Subject: RE: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

That sounds great!

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Jay Penuel <<u>JPenuel@dcboe.org</u>> Date: 2/8/24 9:57 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >, Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org > Subject: Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

I think I could have something together for your review on Monday. How's that sound?

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:56 AM

To: Jay Penuel; Christine Pembroke

Subject: RE: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

----- Original message -----

From: Jay Penuel < <u>JPenuel@dcboe.org</u>> Date: 2/8/24 9:35 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Christine Pembroke < <a href="mailto:CPembroke@dcboe.org">CPembroke@dcboe.org</a>>

Cc: Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >

Subject: Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option



From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:13 AM To: Jay Penuel Cc: Terri Stroud

Subject: RE: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option



From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:53 AM

To: Antonio Laso; Christine Pembroke; Jay Penuel

Cc: Monica Evans; Sarah Graham

Subject: Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option



Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: tstroud@dcboe.org
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Antonio Laso

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:41 AM

To: Terri Stroud; Christine Pembroke; Jay Penuel

Cc: Monica Evans; Sarah Graham

Subject: Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

You may register to vote or update your registration information in three ways:

## **ONLINE Here**

BY MAIL, E-MAIL, or FAX, downloading the Voter Registration Application and follo

STEP 1 Open and print the Mail in Voter Registration Application for Non-US Citizen Resident of the D

- (Available also in 자꾸 차막(국 🖟 🔤 中文🏳 🚪 Français 🔼 🔅 한국어🖟 🚾





- STEP 2 Complete fields 1 to 13.
- STEP 3 Sign the form.
- STEP 4 Submit the form by mail (postage prepaid), fax, or just take a picture with your cell phone and
  - By mail or in person at D.C. Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 200
  - By email (scanned as an attachment) at <a href="mailto:DCRegistrations@dcboe.org">DCRegistrations@dcboe.org</a>
  - By fax at (202) 347-2648

**IN-PERSON**, visiting our office or any voter registration agency, or you may register Early Voting and Election Day (Same Day Registration):

If the deadlines for the receipt of voter registration applications and updates submi the Board of Elections or another voter registration agency have passed, you can st Election Day. To register when you vote, you must provide proof of residence that s District of Columbia address. Acceptable forms of proof of residence include:

From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:31 AM

To: Antonio Laso; Christine Pembroke; Jay Penuel

Cc: Monica Evans; Sarah Graham

Subject: Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option

Terri Stroud **General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections**  1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003 email: <u>tstroud@dcboe.org</u> Website:www.dcboe.org

Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Antonio Laso

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:29 AM

To: Christine Pembroke; Jay Penuel

Cc: Terri Stroud; Monica Evans; Sarah Graham

Subject: Re: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option



From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 4:53 PM

To: Jay Penuel

Cc: Terri Stroud; Monica Evans; Sarah Graham; Antonio Laso

Subject: On-line noncitizen voter registration form -- Alternative language option



Thanks

Christine

From: Sarah Graham

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 10:49 AM

To: Monica Evans <mevans@dcboe.org>; Christine Pembroke <CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Terri

Stroud < TStroud @dcboe.org >

**Cc:** Marissa Corrente < MCorrente @dcboe.org >

Subject: RE: Noncitizen Voting Qs



Sarah Winn Graham (she/her)
Director of Communications
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
www.dcboe.org
sgraham@dcboe.org
(202) 235-4310 (cell)

## Register to vote today!

From: Sarah Graham

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 11:49 AM

**To:** Monica Evans < <u>mevans@dcboe.org</u>>; Christine Pembroke < <u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>; Terri

Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org > Subject: RE: Noncitizen Voting Qs

Sorry, meant to add Terri as well!

Sarah Winn Graham (she/her) Director of Communications District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003

www.dcboe.org

## sgraham@dcboe.org (202) 235-4310 (cell)

## Register to vote today!

From: Sarah Graham

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 11:49 AM

**To:** Monica Evans < <u>mevans@dcboe.org</u>>; Christine Pembroke < <u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: FW: Noncitizen Voting Qs

Hi, Monica and Christine,

Just making you aware of this impending article. I will share when it comes out.

Thanks, Sarah

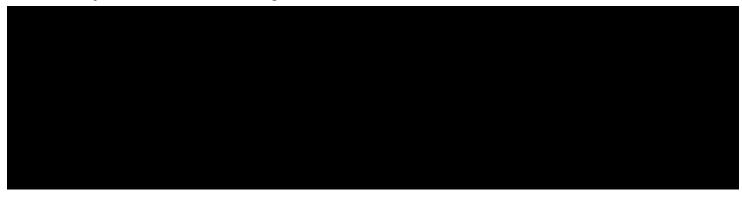
Sarah Winn Graham (she/her)
Director of Communications
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
www.dcboe.org
sgraham@dcboe.org
(202) 235-4310 (cell)

## Register to vote today!

From: Nicholas Jacobs < <u>NJacobs@dcboe.org</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 11:36 AM

**To:** Sarah Graham < <u>SGraham@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: FW: Noncitizen Voting Qs



Nick Jacobs Public Information Officer DC Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003 202-221-8560 (direct) 202-235-4292 (cell) njacobs@dcboe.org

From:

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 11:20 AM

To: Nicholas Jacobs < NJacobs@dcboe.org >

Subject: Noncitizen Voting Qs

Hi Nick

Hope you've been well since we last spoke.

Wanted to drop you a line because I've been working on an article about Abel Amene, who I understand is the first noncitizen who has successfully registered to vote and is running for office under D.C.'s new law allowing this.

I was curious if you knew whether other noncitizens have since registered, too, or if he's the only one thus far. Any stats you have on this would be helpful.

Appreciate it!

--

### Alex Koma

Reporter, Washington City Paper 571-274-4979 (m)



## **REGISTERING WITH A POLITICAL PARTY AND VOTING IN PRIMARIES**

You may register as a member of a political party when you register to vote.

Some voters chose not to affiliate with a political party and register as "No Party" or Independent. Keep in mind, Independent voters cannot participate in party primaries, and may only vote in general and special elections. However, they may vote in primary elections on ballot questions (initiatives, referendums, etc.).

In the District of Columbia, members of the Democratic, Republican, and DC Statehood Green parties hold party primaries in June of each even-numbered year.

New voters can register with a political party at the polls during Early Voting and on Election Day.

If you are already registered to vote, you cannot change your party affiliation within 21 days of the election.



## WHERE DO I VOTE?

Registered voters may cast their ballot in person at any Vote Center location regardless of their residential address. Voters may also return their voted mail ballot to any Vote Center location during Early Voting or on Election Day.

Voters can also return a completed ballot using any of the Mail Ballot Drop Boxes located throughout the District of Columbia. To find the Mail Ballot Drop Box, Early Vote Center, or Vote Center closest to you, please visit www.dcboe.org.

## **District of Columbia Board of Elections**

1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003

Phone: (202) 727-2525

TTY 711 or Toll-free (800) 843-3768

**FAX:** (202) 347-2648 Website: www.dcboe.org



X @Vote4DC



@Vote4DC



(a) @Vote4DC



@Vote4DC

## DC BOARD OF ELECTIONS (DCBOE)



COLLEGE STUDENT VOTING GUIDE





# COLLEGE STUDENT VOTING

Students attending college in the District of Columbia can choose to vote absentee in their home state or register and vote in the District of Columbia.

To register to vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- Be a United States citizen to vote in federal elections. Non-citizens may vote in local elections.
- Be a resident of the District of Columbia.
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote.
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another US state, territory, or country.
- Be at least 16 years old. (You may pre-register to vote if you are at least 16 years old. You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election.
- Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.



## **VOTER REGISTRATION**

## There are three ways to register to vote in the District of Columbia

#### 1. ONLINE

Scan here to connect to the DCBOE online portal to register to vote.



You can also visit the DCBOE website to register at **www.dcboe.org** 



### 2. IN-PERSON

You can register in person at the DCBOE office, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and any DC Public Library.

#### Registering During Early Voting and on Election Day

When voting begins, you can register and cast your ballot at any Early Vote Center or at any Election Day Vote Center. For same-day registration, you must provide proof of your address using an acceptable form of identification.



#### 3. MAIL, EMAIL, OR FAX

Print a **Voter Registration Application** at **www.dcboe.org** or pick up a form at DCBOE or at any DC Public Library.

Complete and sign the form and return it:

- By mail or in person at DC Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003:
- By email (scanned as an attachment) to DCRegistrations@dcboe.org; or
- By fax at (202) 347-2648.

If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and you submit your application by mail, fax, or online, you must either include a copy of one of the following documents with your application or present a copy of the document the first time you vote:

#### **ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF ID**

- ✓ A current and valid District of Columbia governmentissued photo identification,
- A current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck, which must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the date upon which you return your application or, if you do not submit proof by mail, fax, or online, 90 days before the date you vote.
- ✓ A lease, residential agreement, homeless shelter occupancy statement, or university housing or tuition bill. or
- ✓ A government-issued document that shows your current name and address.

Your online, mailed, faxed, or emailed application must be received no later than 21 days before an election.

#### **VOTING IN A PRIMARY ELECTION**

To vote in a primary election in the District of Columbia, you must be registered to vote with one of the parties that is eligible to conduct a primary election (Democratic, Republican, or D.C. Statehood Green). You must be registered with one of these parties 21 days before a primary election, unless you are registering for the first time. In that case, you may register with a party when you vote.



## District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics

# MOVING ELECTIONS FORWARD IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



A Plan for Implementing the Help America Vote Act in the District of Columbia

AUGUST 2003

## **District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics**

# A PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING THE HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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## INTRODUCTION

In 2002, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA"), Public Law No. 107-252, 116 Stat. 1666 (2002), landmark legislation to improve the administration of elections in the United States. According to the authors of this legislation, the purpose of HAVA is to ensure that all eligible voters are able to cast a vote and have that vote counted. The District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics is proud to say the District of Columbia is already substantially in compliance with the new federal standards – much to the credit of citizen advocates, previous and current Board members and staff.

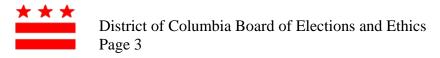
When it passed HAVA, Congress also authorized federal funds to assist states and localities to meet these new standards. To receive these funds, states – including, as in this case, a federal district – are required to solicit public advice and recommendations in developing a plan for meeting the new standards. In March of 2003, the Board of Elections and Ethics ("the Board") established the District of Columbia State Planning Committee and charged the committee with producing a roadmap for the future of elections in the District of Columbia (see Appendix A for a list of the Planning Committee members).

The Plan that follows builds on the recommendations of the Planning Committee. Following publication of the Preliminary Plan in the *District of Columbia Register*, the Board solicited and received public comments both in writing and at a public hearing held on July 5th. The Preliminary Plan was also posted on the Board's website. Following the one-month comment period, the Board reviewed all comments and incorporated suggested changes. A final version of the Plan will be published in the *Federal Register*, as required in § 256 of HAVA.

The Board is grateful to the members of the Planning Committee for the energy, time and expertise they devoted to this effort. All voters in the District of Columbia will benefit from the hard work of this committee.

After a review of the current election system, the Planning Committee agreed that HAVA funds should go to modernizing the existing statewide computerized registration system, improving pollworker recruitment and training, expanding voter education, promoting barrier-free voting for persons with disabilities, and strengthening the infrastructure of the elections process over the long term.

The 2000 Presidential Election shone a spotlight on weaknesses in the nation's election system, and in particular on problems with antiquated voting equipment. Prior to this election, the Board had already acted to modernize its election system and ensure that every eligible voter is able to cast a vote and have that vote counted. Under this



initiative, the Board made the decision to replace its aging punch card voting system with voting systems that reduced the likelihood of voter error and allowed for second-chance voting.

In September of 2001, five District of Columbia voters, the Disability Rights Council and the American Association for People with Disabilities, filed suit against the District of Columbia claiming that inaccessible voting systems and polling places were violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The suit was eventually settled pursuant to an agreement that requires the city to purchase at least one accessible voting system for every polling place by the 2004 primary and sets a goal that "best efforts" will be made to ensure that all polling sites will be accessible by the same date. The Board expects these voting machines to be in place for the Presidential Primary in 2004, bringing the city into full compliance with the new federal voting systems standards prior to the November 2006 deadline specified in HAVA.

District of Columbia voters are already given the protection of provisional ballots now required by HAVA; only minor changes are necessary to comply with the process set forth in the federal law. Actions to comply with the new requirement to post voter information at the polling place will be one component in a larger program of vigorous voter outreach and education.

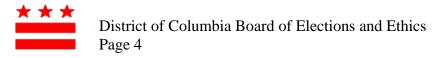
Ten years prior to the National Voter Registration Act ("NVRA") <sup>1</sup> in 1993, the Board created a computerized registration list. Consequently, the District of Columbia already complies with one of the most significant changes mandated by the new federal law – the requirement that every state have a single, statewide, computerized voter registration list. Budget constraints have prevented the Board from updating this system and taking advantage of changes in information technology that can make it more efficient, more accurate and more secure.

The Board is drafting legislation and rules to modify current registration processes to conform to new federal requirements. In the process, the Board will strive to design procedures that keep the voter list accurate, verify eligibility and secure voter information without placing an undue burden on the voter or increasing the possibility of erroneously removing eligible voters.

The new funds appropriated under HAVA will allow the Board to update its registration system by creating interactive links with other agencies, giving pollworkers access to the list at the polling place on Election Day, and improving security.

Elections depend on technology, but they also depend on the army of temporary workers brought in on Election Day to manage the polls. Up-to-date technology and voting systems cannot compensate for weaknesses in the polling place operations. Accordingly,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.



the Board will use HAVA funds to address vulnerabilities in the current system of pollworker recruitment and training. The Board will also use funds to increase voter education and facilitate broader participation in the election, particularly among voters with low English proficiency.

Finally, the Board plans to use HAVA funds to make improvements in the infrastructure of the elections system that will reap long-term benefits for District of Columbia voters.

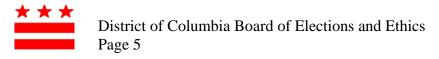
Sound elections require public confidence. The Board puts a high premium on openness and accountability to the public. In addition to bringing election laws and procedures into compliance with HAVA, the Board will institute procedures to enhance accountability and transparency. As required by HAVA, the Board is creating an administrative dispute resolution process for handling voter complaints relative to HAVA compliance. The expenditure of HAVA funds will adhere to federal and city reporting and accounting requirements.

## I. UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In title III, "Uniform and Non-Discriminatory Voting Technology and Election Administration Requirements," HAVA sets forth important new federal requirements for voting systems, for polling place operations and for voter registration. States are required in their plans to provide an account of how they will use the new federal funds to meet these requirements. Several provisions within the new requirements, however, do not apply to the District of Columbia as they are intended to shift accountability for elections from localities to the state and promote more centralized administration. The District of Columbia is a single jurisdiction with only one election authority, the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics. Accountability for elections in the District of Columbia resides with the Board. This section enumerates and explains both those components of the plan required under § 254 (a) of HAVA that do not apply to the District of Columbia and those components that must be redefined in order to apply to the characteristics of this unique jurisdiction.

According to HAVA, the state's plan must discuss "how the State will monitor distribution of the requirements payment to units of local government". There are no applicable units of local government in the District of Columbia; the Board will be the sole government agency to receive funds under HAVA and the sole agency with authority to spend HAVA funds. The Plan includes a detailed description of how the Board will work to ensure the highest standards of public accountability in the use of these funds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254 (a)(2) (2002) (advising that state plans must describe "[h]ow the State will distribute and monitor the distribution of the requirements payment to units of local government or other entities in the State…").



HAVA requires states to describe how they will "provide for programs for election official education and training"<sup>3</sup>. Again, the District of Columbia is a single entity with only one election authority; the Board's only responsibility is to train its staff and pollworkers. As described elsewhere in this Plan, the Board will train relevant staff and poll workers on election administration requirements.

HAVA also requires that states adopt performance goals and measures to "determine the success of local government in carrying out the plan." For the purposes of this provision, the District of Columbia must function in effect as both a state and local entity. In other words, applied to the District, the Board is required to devise the goals and measures by which the Board itself will be judged. To ensure the evaluation is objective and has the confidence of the public, the Board will ensure it is a public and independent process.

Finally, § 702 of HAVA requires states to create a single office within the state for carrying out responsibilities under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voter Act. The Board, the sole agency responsible for administering these requirements, already complies with this new requirement.

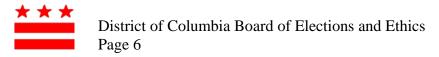
While provisions in HAVA seek to address a problem that the District of Columbia does not experience, namely, centralizing authority at the state level, the Board, like every other state election authority, faces a challenge in ensuring uniform application of the law. Within the context of elections in the District of Columbia, uniformity of election administration will be defined as uniformity across the jurisdiction. The Board will seek to ensure the new requirements are applied uniformly in every polling place.

# II. A PLAN FOR MEETING NEW REQUIREMENTS OF THE HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The heart of the Help America Vote Act lies in the "Uniform and Nondiscriminatory Election Technology and Administration Requirements" set forth under title III. These requirements establish minimum standards for voting systems, polling place procedures, and voter registration. The following outlines how the Board will meet – and surpass – these new requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law No. 107-252, §§ 254 (a)(3) (2002) (advising that state plans must describe "[h]ow the State will provide for programs for ... election official education and training ... which will assist the State in meeting the requirements of title III").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(8) (2002) (advising that the plan include a description of "[h]ow the State will adopt performance goals and measures that will be used by the State to determine its success and the success of units of local government in the State in carrying out the plan…").



### Meeting New Voting System Requirements under HAVA<sup>5</sup>

In passing HAVA, Congress established a set of minimum standards for all voting systems used in federal elections. The standards, set out in § 301, require voting systems to do the following: notify voters of errors, including over-voting; provide voters with the opportunity to review their ballot and correct errors; provide a paper record for audit purposes; provide voters with disabilities the opportunity to cast a private ballot independently; provide ballots in multiple languages; and not exceed the machine error rate set by the Federal Election Commission. States are also required to provide a definition of what constitutes a vote for each type of system used.

Prior to the 2000 Presidential Election, the District of Columbia had already begun an overhaul of its voting systems consistent with the goals outlined in the federal bill. By the 2002 elections, the punch card voting system had been replaced with the Optech Eagle P III optical scan voting system. This system allows voters to review their ballots, notifies the voter of an over-vote and allows voters to correct the ballot in case of an error. The city will continue and expand its efforts to educate voters on the use of the optical scan system for its upcoming elections. In addition, by 2004 the Board will have added one machine per precinct that is accessible to persons who are visually and mobility impaired – the Sequoia Edge Direct Recording Equipment ("DRE") machine – in all of the city's 142 precincts. The optical scan and the DRE system meet the federal standards for auditibility and acceptable machine error rate required under § 301.

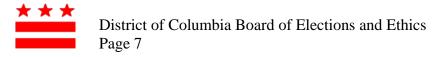
The Board has drafted legislation requiring voting systems in the District of Columbia to meet the standards specified in § 301 of HAVA. These requirements are minimum standards and will not prevent the Board from procuring systems that offer additional features and safeguards. In addition to purchasing systems that meet the new requirements, the Board will, consistent with its former practice, abide by the voluntary standards issued by the Election Assistance Commission.

As explained more fully below, the Board expects to be in full compliance with the new HAVA voting system standards by the Presidential Primary in 2004. The Board plans to use HAVA funding to take additional steps that will ensure the transition to new voting systems is completed successfully.

Over-vote notification, ballot review and ballot correction
With its purchase of new optical scan systems and DREs, the Board significantly improved the process by which voters in the District of Columbia cast ballots. Both systems have safeguards to ensure the voter is able to express his or her intent accurately. The optical scan systems accomplish this goal by means of an in-precinct scanner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Help America Vote Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-252, §§ 254 (a)(1), 254(a)(4) (2002) (advising that state plans must indicate "[h]ow the state will use the requirements payment to meet the requirements of title III," and [h]ow the State will adopt voting system guidelines and processes which are consistent with the requirements of section 301.").

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.



Voters insert their ballots into the scanner, which rejects ballots with errors, including over-votes, thus confirming for the voter that he or she has produced a ballot that can be machine-read. The touch-screen DRE systems prevent voters from making errors and provide an automatic review of the ballot prior to its being cast.

Since the cost of these new technologies has proved prohibitive in the past, the Board phased in improvements gradually. After the 2000 election, the Board replaced its punch card voting system with the optical scan system. The Optech Eagle optical scan system now in use in every precinct permits voters casting their ballot in person to review their ballots. The system also allows for private and independent correction, as well as replacement of damaged or over-voted ballots. The Board will develop instructions for all voters, including absentee voters, explaining the effect of an over-vote and procedures for obtaining a replacement ballot – including procedures for replacing absentee ballots.

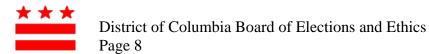
The Sequoia Edge DREs purchased by the Board (described more fully below) for use in 2004 are in full compliance with this provision of § 301 of HAVA. They do not permit over-voting; they provide automatic ballot review; and they notify the voter of errors and how to correct those errors.

### Accessibility to persons with disabilities

Prior to passage of the HAVA, five District of Columbia voters, the American Association of People With Disabilities, and the Disability Rights Council of Greater Washington filed suit in the U.S. District Court claiming that the purchase of the new optical scan voting system, which is not accessible to voters with disabilities, violated the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

In settling the case, the District of Columbia government and the Board agreed to provide at least one accessible DRE voting machine in every polling place in the city by the May Presidential Primary election. During the September 2002 primary election, the Sequoia Edge DREs were on display at 70 polling places. For a blind voter, the machines produce an audio reading of the ballot to which a voter listens using headphones. The voter moves through the ballot using arrow keys and pushes the "select" button for his or her choice. Each button has a distinctive shape, such as an "up" arrow, and is identified in Braille. People who cannot use their hands to hold a pencil can use the touch screen feature of the machine. The voter sees the ballot on the screen and touches the screen with any part of the hand or a wand held in the mouth. All voters can also use the machines to write in a candidate by spelling the candidate's name either on a keyboard on the touch-screen or by selecting letters recited orally.

The Board anticipates having all of the machines ready for use in polling places by the 2004 Presidential Primary.



### *Auditability*

The Board places a high premium on an open vote-casting and tabulation process that merits the trust and confidence of the voters. The voting systems procured by the Board have already been tested and certified by the Independent Testing Authority under the auspices of the National Association of State Election Directors. All ITA-certified systems meet established federal standards for auditability and security. The Board provides additional safeguards to ensure the integrity of these systems:

The DRE Edge is capable of providing a paper audit trail that can serve as an official record in the event of a recount. The system requests the voter to review his or her choices prior to submitting the ballot, at which time the system creates the permanent record.

The Optech Eagle uses paper ballots that can be used as an official record in the event of a recount.

### Alternative Language Accessibility

The District of Columbia is home to an increasingly diverse population. Although the District of Columbia was not included on the Bureau of the Census list of jurisdictions required to provide multi-lingual ballots under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 ("VRA")<sup>6</sup>, certain wards certainly meet the threshold percentage of voters with low English proficiency. The Board is therefore providing ballots and election materials in Spanish at every precinct in the 2004 elections.

The Sequoia Edge DREs can be programmed to produce ballots in multiple languages and are therefore compliant with this provision.

### Error rates

HAVA requires that no voting systems exceed the acceptable machine error rate established in the Federal Election Commission's voluntary Voting System Standards. As a matter of practice, the Board only purchases voting systems that meet these federal standards. Systems now in use – both the Optech Eagle and the Sequoia Edge DRE – have been tested and qualified by the Independent Testing Authority under the auspices of the National Association of State Election Directors.

### Standards for what constitutes a vote

The Board's administrative regulations, set forth in § 809 of title 3 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations contain clear guidelines on what constitutes a vote on the optical scan ballots. These standards are applied only in the event of a recount. The DRE systems define what constitutes a vote as part of the interface with the voter and so require no such guidelines.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.



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In addition to the steps outlined above, the Board plans to adopt the following measures to facilitate a smooth transition to new voting systems in the 2004 Presidential Primary and general election:

- Review and modify polling place signage, materials and procedures to ensure that both pollworkers and voters understand the process for casting a ballot that accurately reflects the voter's intent and that will be counted. At a minimum, the Board will: (1) post an easily legible sign near the scanners instructing voters to review their ballots carefully to ensure they have clearly voted in pencil for the candidate(s) of their choice, that there are no stray marks on the ballot, and that they have not over-voted; and (2) instruct voters to watch the completed ballot being fed into the scanner.
- Conduct an educational campaign in cooperation with political parties, civic organizations and groups representing voters with disabilities using a wide range of media to familiarize the public with new voting systems, as well as new procedures. At the polling place, an additional pollworker will be dedicated to providing information to voters. Instructions on how to cast a ballot will be included with sample ballots.
- Develop instructional video and audio programs in English and Spanish on the
  use of the optical scan and DRE voting systems, and develop an outreach plan for
  educating District of Columbia voters, including voters with disabilities.
- To assure private and independent voting on the optical scan system, the Board will, cost permitting, replace the old punch card stations with new, simpler and more flexible privacy areas.
- Make DREs available in at least two locations during the in-person absentee voting period for voters with disabilities or voters who may need extra time for assistance in voting.

Table 1 – Compliance with § 301 Voting System Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
(a) (1)(A) The voting system shall permit private and independent voter verification before the ballot is cast and counted; shall provide the voter with the opportunity (in a private and independent manner) to correct the ballot; and shall notify the voter in the case of an over-vote and allow the voter to correct the ballot.	X		
(a)(1)(B) A State or jurisdiction that uses a paper ballot voting system (including mail-			The Board is



Table 1 – Compliance with § 301 Voting System Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
in absentee ballots and mail-in ballots), may meet these requirements by establishing a voter education program specific to that voting system that notifies each voter of the effect of casting multiple votes for an office and providing the voter with instructions on how to correct and replace the ballot.		X	developing a program and materials to educate absentee and other voters on the use of optical scan system.
(a) (1)(C) The voting system shall ensure that any notification required under this paragraph preserves the privacy of the voter and the confidentiality of the ballot.	Х		
(a)(2) The voting system shall produce a record with an audit capacity. The voting system shall produce a permanent paper record with a manual audit capacity. The voting system shall provide the voter with an opportunity to change the ballot or correct any error before the permanent paper record is produced. The paper record shall be available as an official record for any recount conducted with respect to any election in which the system is used.	X		
(a)(3) The voting system shall be accessible for individuals with disabilities, including non-visual accessibility for the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. The voting system shall satisfy this requirement through the use of at least 1 direct recording electronic voting system or other voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities at each polling place.		X	The District of Columbia is contracting with Sequoia for the purchase of a sufficient number of DREs to meet this requirement.
(a)(4) The voting system shall provide			



Table 1 – Compliance with § 301 Voting System Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
alternative language accessibility pursuant to the requirements of section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1973aa-1a).	Х		
(a)(5) The error rate of the voting system in counting ballots (taking into account only those errors which are attributable to the voting system and not attributable to an act of the voter) shall comply with the error rate standards established under section 3.2.1 of the voting systems standards issued by the Federal Election Commission.	X		
(a)(6) Each State shall adopt uniform and nondiscriminatory standards that define what constitutes a vote and what will be counted as a vote for each category of voting system used in the State.	X		
(b) The term ``voting system" means (1) the total combination of mechanical, electromechanical, or electronic equipment (including the software, firmware, and documentation required to program, control, and support the equipment) that is used (A) to define ballots; (B) to cast and count votes; (C) to report or display election results; and (D) to maintain and produce any audit trail information; and (2) the practices and associated documentation used (A) to identify system components and versions of such components; (B) to test the system during its development and maintenance; (C) to maintain records of system errors and defects; (D) to determine specific system changes to be made to a system after the initial qualification of the system; and (E) to make available any materials to		X	Legislation is pending to adopt this definition.



Table 1 – Compliance with § 301 Voting System Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
the voter (such as notices, instructions, forms, or paper ballots).			

### Implementing the New Polling Place Procedures

In addition to establishing new standards for voting systems, HAVA also institutes new safeguards for voters on Election Day. In § 302, the law requires that voters whose eligibility is questioned be allowed to cast a ballot that will be counted if the election officials later determine the voter is eligible. In HAVA, this contingent ballot is called a "provisional ballot." The law also requires that following the election voters have the means, using a free-access system, to find out if their ballot was counted, further stipulating that only the voter who cast the ballot shall have access to that information.

The new polling place procedures also include posting at every polling place the following information: a sample ballot; the polling place hours of operation; instructions for first-time, mail-in registrants; instructions for casting a provisional ballot; information on the voter's rights under federal and state law; and the penalties for voter fraud.

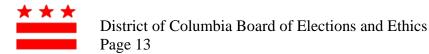
Finally, § 302 requires that should a polling place be kept open past the established closing time, all voters casting ballots during the extended period will cast provisional ballots that will be segregated from other provisional ballots.

### Provisional voting

Under current law in the District of Columbia, voters whose names do not appear in the precinct register may vote a provisional or, as it is termed in the District of Columbia Official Code, a "special ballot." Voters whose names do not appear because they may have moved fill out an Election Day Change of Address form and vote a provisional ballot. In practice, the special ballot process ensures that every person desiring to vote on Election Day and claiming to be registered may cast a ballot. All such voters are instructed verbally and in writing about how to find out if their vote will be counted. After Election Day, the Board investigates the eligibility of the voters and makes a preliminary determination. A list of voters whose ballots are not deemed valid is made public. Voters and challengers may request a public hearing to appeal the preliminary decision.

Changes needed to bring the polling place administration of special ballots into compliance with HAVA are minimal. The Board has drafted legislation specifying the new uses of special ballots: (1) as a fail-safe mechanism for first-time mail-in registrants

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.



whose eligibility has not been verified prior to voting, and (2) the required method for voters casting their ballots after regular voting hours in the event of a court order to keep the polls open.

As noted above, the new DRE system will be programmed to segregate special ballots so that voters with disabilities may cast provisional ballots on accessible machines.

Because the Board interprets HAVA to include challenged ballots within § 302 of HAVA, the current procedures for publishing the results of challenges must be revised to restrict access to information about the disposition of special ballots to the voter who cast the ballot. The Board is drafting legislation to make the necessary revisions. The Board will set up a toll-free telephone number that will allow voters to access information on the disposition of their special ballots. In addition, the Board is adding safeguards so that only the voter who cast the ballot has access to the information.

The Board will take the following additional steps to assure effective implementation of special ballot process:

- Since voters casting special ballots in the District of Columbia are required to cast these ballots in their assigned precinct, the Board will act to inform all voters of their assigned precinct in an election mailing prior to Election Day. As in the past, a trained pollworker will be designated to help a voter determine his or her assigned precinct and direct them to the appropriate polling place.
- DREs will be programmed to allow for segregating special ballots.
- The Board will work to devise administrative procedures that are simple and straightforward, and will conduct training to ensure pollworkers understand the new process.

### Posting of voter information

The Board currently posts at the polling place the following information: qualifications for voting, a sample ballot, instructions for casting a special ballot, and the penalty for perjury. The Board has drafted legislation and regulations to bring the District of Columbia into compliance with this provision by adding a requirement to post the following:

- information regarding the date of the election and the hours during which polling places will be open;
- instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters under § 303(b);



- information on voting rights under applicable Federal and District laws (the
  District of Columbia Voter's Rights Notice), including information on the right of
  an individual to cast a provisional (special) ballot and instructions on how to
  contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated;
  and
- general information on Federal and District laws regarding prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation.

### Voters voting after the polls close

HAVA requires that voters casting their ballots after regular voting hours in the event of a court order to keep the polls open cast a special ballot. The law further requires that such ballots be kept separate from other provisional ballots.

The Board has drafted legislation specifying the use of special ballots in this circumstance. The Board will modify its procedures to accommodate this new use of special ballots and to allow these ballots to be segregated prior to a determination of their validity.

Table 2 – Compliance with § 302 Provisional Voting and Voting Information Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
(a) Provisional voting requirements. If an individual declares that he or she is a registered voter in the jurisdiction and that he or she is eligible to vote in a Federal election, but the name of the individual does not appear on the official list of eligible voters for the polling place or an election official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote, such individual shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot as follows	X		
(a)(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot in that election.	X		
(a) (2) The individual shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at that polling place upon the execution of a written	Х		



Table 2 – Compliance with § 302 Provisional Voting and Voting Information Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
affirmation by the individual before an election official at the polling place stating that the individual is (A) a registered voter in the jurisdiction in which the individual desires to vote; and (B) eligible to vote in that election.			
(a)(3) An election official at the polling place shall transmit the ballot cast by the individual to an appropriate election official for prompt verification.	Х		
(a)(4) If the election official to whom the ballot or voter information is transmitted determines that the individual is eligible under State law to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall be counted as a vote in that election in accordance with State law.	X		
(a)(5)(A) At the time that an individual casts a provisional ballot, the appropriate election official shall give the individual written information that states that any individual who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under the system established under subparagraph (B) whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted.	X		
(a) (5)(B) The appropriate election official shall establish a free access system (such as a toll-free telephone number or an Internet website) that any individual who casts a provisional ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.



Table 2 – Compliance with § 302 Provisional Voting and Voting Information Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
(a)The appropriate State or local official shall establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free access system established under paragraph (5)(B). Access to information about an individual provisional ballot shall be restricted to the individual who cast the ballot.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.
(b) Voting information requirements. The appropriate election official shall cause voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place on the day of each election for Federal office.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.
(b)(2)(A) a sample version of the ballot that will be used for that election;	x		
(b)(2) (B) information regarding the date of the election and the hours during which polling places will be open;		х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.
(b)(2)(C) instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a vote and how to cast a provisional ballot;		х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.
(b)(2)(D) instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters whose identity has not been verified prior to Election Day;		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.
(b)(2)(E) general information on voting rights under applicable Federal and State laws, including information on the right of		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are

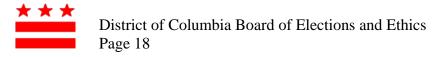


Table 2 – Compliance with § 302 Provisional Voting and Voting Information Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
an individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated;			pending to meet this requirement.
(b)(2)(F) general information on Federal and State laws regarding prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation.		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.
(c) Voters who vote after the polls close. Any individual who votes in a Federal election as a result of a court order or any other order extending the time established for closing the polls by a State law in effect 10 days before the date of that election may only vote in that election by casting a provisional ballot. Any such ballot cast under the preceding sentence shall be separated and held apart from other provisional ballots cast by those not affected by the order.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.

### Meeting New Registration Requirements

For all voters, applying to register is the first contact with the Board and the elections process. The District of Columbia has been energetic in its outreach to voters, offering registration opportunities at six city agencies and working in partnership with civic organizations, political campaigns, and media outlets to increase the number of registered voters. These efforts have been successful: 78.7 percent of the city's voting age population is registered to vote. New funds available under HAVA for improving and modernizing the registration process will allow the Board to increase the efficiency of the registration system.

The authors of HAVA understood that standards regulating the voter registration process are just as important as standards regulating the voting process; accordingly, in §303 HAVA establishes new requirements not only for the voter registration process but also for how election officials will verify and manage voter registration information.



Most significantly, the law requires that every state maintain a single, uniform, centralized, computerized statewide voter registration list and in so doing shifts responsibility for voter registration from localities to states. The District of Columbia administers a single, computerized voter registration list that is, as noted earlier, already in compliance with this requirement.

Many of the list-cleaning provisions set forth in § 303 of HAVA serve to reinforce those established ten years ago in the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA); HAVA authorizes the resources necessary to meet these requirements. In a departure from the NVRA, which merely recommended that registration agencies coordinate and share information with other agencies to increase accuracy, HAVA mandates election officials to match voter records against the records of driver's license agencies and the Social Security Administration. To this end, HAVA requires that voters provide their driver's license number, if they have one, or the last four digits of their Social Security number (SSN) in order for their application to be processed. If the voter has neither a driver's license nor an SSN, the voter will be assigned a unique identifier. At the same time, the law mandates safeguards to protect the privacy of this information.

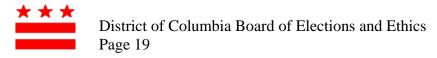
The law also spells out new procedures for handling voters registering for the first-time who register by mail. If the election authority is unable to match the records of these voters against other records prior to Election Day, these voters will be required to present ID at the polling place or send copies of ID with their absentee ballot. If the voter lacks the forms of identification called for under this provision, the vote will be considered a special ballot and counted according to state law.

### Computerized voter registration list

The District of Columbia is in the enviable position of being in full compliance with § 303 (a)(1) of HAVA. The Board currently administers a single, uniform, computerized list that is used as the official list in all precincts. As the District of Columbia is a single jurisdiction, the requirements pertaining to the transmission of data and voter information from the county to the state do not apply.

The Board currently complies with all HAVA list maintenance requirements, as well as with all requirements in the NVRA. Records from the U.S. District and D.C. Superior Courts and the Department of Vital Statistics are matched against Board records to identify incarcerated felony convicts, deceased voters and other individuals who are no longer eligible to vote.

The Board also matches its computerized list against records received from the National Change of Address biannually. Information indicating that a voter has moved prompts a mailing to the voter for confirmation. Consistent with procedures established in the NVRA, the Board conducts a citywide canvass and removes those voters whose mail is returned as undeliverable and who have not voted in two federal elections. The District of Columbia regulations stipulate that the Board must confirm that a voter is ineligible



before removing the record from the rolls. These procedures will not change under HAVA; rather, the money appropriated under HAVA will allow the Board to make improvements and reduce the administrative burden of such list-cleaning measures.

HAVA requires that the official list used in the conduct of elections contain the names of all legally registered voters. Since inactive voters, that is, voters who have moved within the District and who have not responded to a mailing, are legally registered, Board will include the names of inactive voters on the list used at the precinct on Election Day.

The Board's Chief Technology Officer has responsibility for maintaining the integrity and security of the list of registered voters. Under the current system, access to voter registration information requires both a user ID and a password. The chief technology officer will strengthen the security of the list by creating a hierarchy of access to data.

Although compliant with all HAVA requirements, the voter registration database system does not take full advantage of contemporary information technology. Currently, all voter registration applications filled out at voter registration sites other than that of the Board office are transmitted in paper form. The Board intends to move to a system of electronic transmission between agencies. The Board plans to make the following improvements to reduce the administrative burden in managing the system (which will reduce costs over the long term) and ensure that the voter registration list is current, accurate, secure and reliable:

- secure agreements with voter registration agencies, including the Medical Assistance Administration, the Office on Aging, Income Maintenance Administration, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Administration, Recreation and Parks Senior Citizens' Branch, Rehabilitation Services Administration and the Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children to create interactive links that allow for the electronic transmission of voter information and registration applications;
- facilitate access to the entire registration list at each polling place; and
- establish new security measures to ensure that voter information remains private and protected.

### *Verification of registration information*

The Board has designed its registration process on the principle that registration should not be a barrier to voting – indeed, by maintaining an accurate list of registered voters, the registration process allows the communication with voters vital to fostering healthy and full participation in elections. To ensure registration does not inhibit participation, procedures to verify voter information should be as transparent to the voter as possible.



Currently, the Board requests but does not require applicants to provide their SSNs. The voters are assigned a unique identifier that is random and specific to the Board's list (this system requires no modification). To comply with the new requirement under HAVA, the Board is revising registration forms to include a request for the applicant's driver's license number or the last four digits of the Social Security Number and modifying the database to store the new information.

The Board currently does not regularly match voter information with Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") records. As required by HAVA, the Chief Election Official will work with the appropriate official at the DMV to enter into an agreement authorizing the sharing of information between the two agencies. The Board will develop mechanisms for sharing data that will allow for verification of voter information. (Prior to linking the two systems, this match will be accomplished through file downloads from the DMV to the Board.) The Board will simultaneously institute safeguards to ensure that voters are not denied registration because of erroneous or out-of-date information contained on either database.

#### Requirements for first-time, mail-in registrants

Under HAVA, citizens registering to vote for the first time in the District of Columbia who submit their registration application by mail – specifically, applications sent to the Board via the United States Postal Service – are required to present at the polling place documents verifying identity. The acceptable forms of documentation specified in HAVA are: a copy of a current and valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter. If such voters vote absentee, they are required to submit copies of ID or the other verifying documents with their absentee ballot. The Board has drafted legislation that will bring the District of Columbia into compliance with this requirement and is modifying the voter registration system to track such voters.

The Board is concerned, however, that instituting special procedures at the polling place for certain voters may lead to the perception that some voters are being treated differently. In addition, special procedures inevitably add to possible confusion at the polling place. For this reason, the Board plans to incorporate procedures into the new registration process for verifying the voter's eligibility prior to their voting and thereby reduce the burden on both pollworkers and voters.

The Board will take the following additional steps to ensure effective implementation of new registration and first-time voter requirements:

- In designing the new registration applications, the Board will consult a literacy expert to ensure that each request for information on the voter registration form is readily understandable and can be satisfied with a concise answer or mark.
- In processing registration applications received by mail, the Board will make every effort to obtain missing registration information prior to the next election. This provision may require the Board to send multiple mailings to the registrant.



- The Board will work with city agencies that issue identification and encourage them to include both name and address on all government-issued ID.
- Develop training, including an instructional video, on the new requirements of HAVA for citizens and other community groups who conduct voter registration drives and register other citizens.

Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
(a) (1)(A) Computerized statewide registration list requirements. Each State, acting through the chief State election official, shall implement, in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner, a single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive, computerized statewide voter registration list defined, maintained, and administered at the State level that contains the name and registration information of every legally registered voter in the State (in this subsection referred to as the computerized list), and includes the following:	X		
(a)(1)(A)(i) The computerized list shall serve as the single system for storing and managing the official list of registered voters throughout the state.	X		
(a)(1)(A)(ii) The list contains the name and registration information of every legally registered voter in the State.		Х	The Board will merge active and inactive voters on the official list.
(a)(1)(A)(iii) Under the computerized list, a unique identifier is assigned to each legally registered voter in the State.	Х		
(a)(1)(A)(iv) The computerized list shall be			



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
coordinated with other agency databases in the State.	Х		
(a)(1)(A)(v) Any election official in the State, including any local election official, may obtain immediate electronic access to the information contained in the computerized list.	N/A		
(a)(1)(A)(vi) All voter information obtained by any local election official shall be electronically entered into the computerized list on an expedited basis at the time the information is provided to the local official.	N/A		
(a)(1)(A)(vii) The chief State election official shall provide such support as may be required so that local election officials are able to enter information.	N/A		
(a)(1)(A)(viii)The computerized list shall serve as the official voter registration list for the conduct of all elections for Federal office in the State.	X		
(a)(2) Computerized list maintenance. The appropriate election official shall perform list maintenance with respect to the computerized list on a regular basis as follows: (a)(2)(A)(i) If an individual is to be removed from the computerized list, such individual shall be removed in accordance with the provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C 1973gg et seq.).	X		
(a)(2)(A)(ii) For purposes of removing			



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
names of ineligible voters, from the official list of eligible voters –	Х		
(I) under section 8(a)(3)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C 1973gg-6(a)(3)(B)), the State shall coordinate with State agency records on felony status; and			
(II) by reason of the death of the registrant under section 8(a)(4)(A) of such Act (42 U.S.C 1973gg-6(a)(4)(A)), the State shall coordinate the computerized list with State agency records on death.			
(a)(2)(B) The list maintenance performed under subparagraph (A) shall be conducted in a manner that ensures that — (i) the name of each registered voter appears in the computerized list;	X		
(a)(2)(B) (ii) only voters who are not registered or who are not eligible to vote are removed from the computerized list; and	X		
(a)(2)(B)(iii) duplicate names are eliminated from the computerized list.	Х		
(a)(3) Technological security. The appropriate official shall provide adequate technological security measures to prevent the unauthorized access to the computerized list established under this section.	X		
(a)(4) Minimum standard of accuracy for state records. – The State election system shall include provisions to ensure that voter registration records in the State are accurate and are updated regularly, including the following:	Х		



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
(a)(4)(A) A system of file maintenance that makes a reasonable effort to remove registrants who are ineligible to vote from the official list of eligible voters. Under such system, consistent with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C 1973gg et seq.), registrants who have not responded to a notice and who have not voted in 2 consecutive general elections for Federal office shall be removed from the official list of eligible voters, except that no registrant may be removed solely by reason of a failure to vote.			
(a)(4)(B) Safeguards to ensure that eligible voters are not removed in error from the official list of eligible voters.	х		
(a)(5) Verification of voter registration information. (a)(5)(A)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), notwithstanding any other provision of law, an application for voter registration for an election for Federal office may not be accepted or processed unless the application includes—  (I) in the case of an applicant who has been issued a current and valid driver's license, the applicant's driver's license number; or (II) in the case of any other applicant (other than an applicant to whom clause (ii) applies), the last 4 digits of the applicant's social security number.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending. Application form and computerized registration list are being revised to accommodate this requirement.
(a)(5)(A)(ii) Special rule for applicants without driver's license or Social Security Numbers. If an applicant for voter registration for an election for Federal office has not been issued a current and valid driver's license or a social security number, the State shall assign the applicant a number which will serve to identify the applicant for voter registration		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking are pending to meet this requirement.



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
purposes. To the extent that the State has a computerized list in effect under this subsection and the list assigns unique identifying numbers to registrants, the number assigned under this clause shall be the unique identifying number assigned under the list.			
(a)(5)(A) (iii) The State shall determine whether the information provided by an individual is sufficient to meet the requirements of this subparagraph, in accordance with State law.	X		
(a)(5)(B) Requirements for state officials.— (i) The chief State election official and the official responsible for the State motor vehicle authority of a State shall enter into an agreement to match information in the database of the statewide voter registration system with information in the database of the motor vehicle authority to the extent required to enable each such official to verify the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registration.		X	The chief election official is working with appropriate officials at the DMV to reach an agreement on sharing information.
(b) Requirements for voters who register by mail.—  (b)(1) Notwithstanding section 6(c) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-4(c)) and subject to paragraph (3), a State shall, in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner, require an individual to meet the requirements of paragraph (2) if—  (A) the individual registered to vote in a jurisdiction by mail; and  (B)(i) the individual has not previously voted in an election for Federal office in the State; or (ii) the individual has not previously voted in such an election in the jurisdiction and the jurisdiction is		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance	
located in a State that does not have a computerized list that complies with the requirements of subsection (a).				
(b)(2) Requirements				
(b)(2)(A) An individual meets the requirements of this paragraph if the individual		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to	
(b)(2)(A)(i) in the case of an individual who votes in person			meet this requirement are pending.	
(I) presents to the appropriate State or local election official a current and valid photo identification; or			pending.	
(II) presents to the appropriate State or local election official a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter; or				
(b)(2)(A)(ii) in the case of an individual who votes by mail, submits with the ballot-		X	Legislation and proposed	
(I) a copy of a current and valid photo identification; or			rulemaking to meet this	
(II) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.			requirement are pending.	
(b)(2)(B) Fail-Safe Voting			Legislation and	
(b)(2)(B)(i) An individual who desires to vote in person, but who does not meet the requirements of subparagraph (A)(i), may cast a provisional ballot under section 302(a).		Х	proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.	
(b)(2)(B)(ii) An individual who desires to vote by mail but who does not meet the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii) may cast such a ballot by mail and the ballot shall be counted as a provisional ballot in accordance with section 302(a).		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.	



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
(b)(3) Inapplicability  Paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a person –  (b)(3)(A)who registers to vote by mail under section 6 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-4) and submits as part of such registration either—  (i) a copy of a current and valid photo identification; or  (ii) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows the name and address of the voter;		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.
(b)(3)(B)(i) – who registers to vote by mail under section 6 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-4) and submits with such registration either—  (I) a driver's license number; or (II) at least the last 4 digits of the individual's social security number; and (b)(3)(B)(ii) with respect to whom a State or local election official matches the information submitted under clause (i) with an existing State identification record bearing the same number, name and date of birth as provided in such registration; or		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.
(b)(3)(C) who is(i) entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1 et seq.);(ii) provided the right to vote otherwise than in person under section 3(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ee-1(b)(2)(B)(ii)); or (iii) entitled to vote otherwise than in person under any other		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
Federal law.			
(b)(4) Contents of mail-in registration form. (b)(4)(A) The mail voter registration form developed under section 6 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-4) shall include the following: (i) The question ``Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a citizen of the United States.		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending. Mailin registration form is under revision.
(b)(4)(A)(ii) The question ``Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether or not the applicant will be 18 years of age or older on election day.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending. Mailin registration form is under revision.
(b)(4)(A)(iii) The statement ``If you checked `no' in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.".		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending. Mailin registration form is under revision.
(b)(4)(A)(iv) A statement informing the individual that if the form is submitted by mail and the individual is registering for the first time, the appropriate information required under this section must be submitted with the mail-in registration form in order to avoid the additional identification requirements upon voting for the first time.		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending. Mailin registration



Table 3 – Compliance with § 303 Computerized Voter Registration List Requirements and Requirements for Voters Who Register by Mail	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
			form is under revision.
(b)(4)(B) Incomplete formsIf an applicant for voter registration fails to answer the question included on the mail voter registration form pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i), the registrar shall notify the applicant of the failure and provide the applicant with an opportunity to complete the form in a timely manner to allow for the completion of the registration form prior to the next election for Federal office (subject to State law).		X	Legislation is pending and administrative procedures are being revised to meet this requirement.

### Activities To Enhance Implementation of the District of Columbia Plan

In addition to the steps outlined above, the Board will use funds appropriated under HAVA to do the following:

Expand the Capacity of the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics

In order to ensure smooth implementation of the new requirements, the Board must expand its administrative and physical capacity. The Board will conduct an organizational review and, based on that review, implement changes in staffing and equipment necessary to meeting the legislative requirements and carrying out the Plan within the specified timeframe. As part of the organizational review, the Board will introduce measures to ensure accountability for each component of the Plan.

In addition, to augment the skills of elections staff and promote increased professionalism, the Board will institute a training and certification program for current and future staff. The Board will work cooperatively with The Election Center and other organizations to provide substantive training on federal and District election laws, voting systems, registration systems and administration, among other topics. Beyond the certification program, the Board will also expand professional development opportunities for staff. The Board will also institute a certification program to increase accountability of Board staff and assure full compliance with all Federal and District election laws.



Strengthen pollworker training and recruitment<sup>7</sup>

Pollworkers are critically important to ensure smooth and successful elections. Pollworker outreach is important to ensure a sufficient number of pollworkers to assist in election preparations and to adequately staff each polling place on Election Day. Pollworker training is also important to ensure that each pollworker possesses sufficient experience and knowledge to reliably carry out the duties of conducting a fair election and safeguard every eligible voter's right to cast a ballot.

As part of its effort to conduct effective pollworker outreach, the Board will seek to match pollworker stipends in the District of Columbia with the national average for urban election districts.

The Board will also hire a professional recruiter in order to expand the number of pollworkers available on Election Day. The recruiter's scope of services will include the following:

- develop and implement a comprehensive recruitment program that reaches civic and service organizations, public and private high schools and colleges, major employers and local businesses operating in the District of Columbia;
- develop and place recruiting announcements in print media and electronic media, including radio and television.

In an election that will feature both new voting systems and new procedures – as will be the case in 2004 – the importance of quality pollworker training cannot be overstated. To ensure pollworkers in the District of Columbia are well prepared for the challenges of implementing HAVA at the polling place, the Board will undertake the following:

- hire a professional trainer to develop and conduct a comprehensive pollworker training program, to include specific education on the District of Columbia Voters' Rights Notice;
- develop and produce updated training materials that will give pollworkers access to training off-site, for example, web-based training, CD-ROMs, and videos; and
- produce training materials specifically covering the operation of the optical scan and DRE voting systems.

To ensure the polling place workforce can meet the demands in 2004 and after, the Board will review the organization of the polling place and research models for effective staffing. At a minimum, the following changes will be made:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254 (a)(3) (2002), advising that the plan must describe "[h]ow the state will provide for programs for . . . poll worker training which will assist the State in meeting the requirements of title III."



- Beginning in 2004, each voting precinct will have 3 additional pollworkers, one
  of whom will be dedicated to assisting voters using the DRE voting machine.
- Develop and implement a pilot program at one or more voter precincts providing multiple work shifts for certain pollworker positions on Election Day in order to reduce the time commitment necessary to serve as a pollworker.

### Expand voter education<sup>8</sup>

The Board is required to expand its voter education program in two ways: (1) it must educate voters in the proper use of optical scan ballots, and (2) it must post the information listed under § 302(b) of HAVA at the polling place. These efforts are described in the relevant sections above. More is needed. Ensuring that every eligible voter is able to cast his or her vote and have that vote counted requires a vigorous voter education campaign beyond the minimum standards outlined in HAVA. To this end, the Board plans to conduct an aggressive public education campaign that will include the steps listed below. All appropriate components of this expanded voter education program will be produced in Spanish as well as English.

- HAVA requires that information regarding voters' rights under federal and state law be posted at each polling place. The Board will develop and adopt "The District of Columbia Voters' Rights Notice," a compilation of all relevant federal and District laws. The Board will disseminate the Notice and post a copy on the Board's website.
- Upgrade the Board website to ensure it matches the quality of the best state and local election websites across the country and that it is timely, attractive, user and maintenance-friendly, and information rich. The website should be accessible to blind voters. All information required to be posted at the polling place will also be posted on the Board's website.
- Produce and send a voter education mailer that includes basic information about elections in the District of Columbia, a copy of the District of Columbia Voter's Rights Notice, and the voter registration card to every registered voter. The design of the mailer and the material it is printed on shall encourage voters to keep the mailer for future reference. This mailer/brochure will include all information required to be posted at the polling place. The Board shall also produce an audio version of this publication for distribution to visually impaired voters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254 (a)(3) (2002), advising that the plan must describe "[h]ow the state will provide for programs for voter education . . . which will assist the State in meeting the requirements of title III."



- Send mailers prior to primary and general elections to qualified voters that include sample ballots and nonpartisan information on candidates and ballot measures. This mailer will be modeled on similar materials produced by states that regularly provide nonpartisan information on candidates and ballot measures to voters prior to elections.
- Produce and secure air time for radio and television public service announcements about participation in the elections process.
- Continue and expand outreach to students through the Board's "Youth at the Booth" program.

## III. THE FUTURE OF ELECTIONS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA<sup>9</sup>

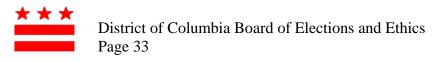
HAVA makes clear that the minimum requirements for voting systems are just that: a minimum. Voters in the District of Columbia deserve an election system that sets the standard for the rest of the country. Accordingly, looking to the long term, the Board will work to achieve the following goals.

Goal: A fully interactive, electronic voter registration system

The Board will use HAVA funds to develop a voter registration system that takes full advantage of contemporary database technology.

- The system will be fully interactive, with electronic links to all other city agencies that provide voter registration opportunities. Under this system, new registrations and changes of address conducted at other agencies will be electronically transmitted to the Board for acceptance and processing. The Board will develop procedures to protect voters from problems arising from out-of-date or erroneous information on other databases.
- The system will allow pollworkers to view the database remotely from the polling place.
- The system will feature an improved mechanism for assigning voters to correct precincts and make the information on precinct and polling place more accessible to the voter.

<sup>9</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(1) (2002) advising that the plan describe "[h]ow the State will use the requirements payment ... if applicable under section 251(a)(2), to carry out other activities to improve the administration of elections."



Other changes contemplated for voter registration include:

- Identifying voters with special needs such as alternative language ballots or accessible equipment as part of the registration process.
- Instituting Election Day registration in the District. This process would allow voters to cast a regular ballot on confirming their eligibility at the polling place. The District of Columbia already allows voters to conduct an Election Day Change of Address.
- Purchasing electronic pollbooks at the polling place. This innovation would reduce the cost and effort involved in printing the precinct register and would speed up the production of the voter history. With proper training, the electronic pollbooks would also speed up voter intake at the polling place on Election Day.
- Identifying and registering felons who are no longer incarcerated. The Board will request that the Parole Board, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, halfway houses, and other agencies who handle outreach to ex-convicts make voter registration part of their de-briefing process. In addition, the Board will work with civic organizations to conduct registration and voter outreach to eligible citizens who are incarcerated.
- Encouraging every business that provides services to the citizens of the District to foster voter registration and voter education and encourage their employees to serve as pollworkers.

Goal: Improved accessibility to in-person voting for voters with disabilities
While HAVA establishes a requirement for voting systems that are accessible to voters
with disabilities, the removal of barriers to the polling place is not included in the new
requirements. However, the law does require states to affirm their compliance with other
federal laws that address this issue directly. Under the provisions of the "Voting
Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984," which became effective
January 1, 1986, the Board conducted an extensive program to make its polling places
accessible. Initially, making polling places accessible involved a major construction
program of building ramps, installation of curb ramps, polling place relocations, and use
of alternative entrances and voting areas. This effort is not yet complete. Under § 261 of
HAVA, Congress authorized new resources through the Department of Health and
Human Services for completing this program. The Board submitted an application for
funding under this title in July of 2003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 42 U.S.C. §1973 ee et seq.



Currently there are 142 voting locations in the District of Columbia, of which 90 are public facilities and 52 are non-District owned properties.

To ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)<sup>11</sup>, as required by HAVA, the Board will undertake to do the following:

- Survey all polling places to determine ADA compliance. The survey should cover paths of travel, ramps, doors, elevators, and any other barriers to the voters' access to the polling place. The results of the survey should identify access issues and a cost estimate to make the polling place ADA compliant.
- Secure a contractor, once access issues are identified, to bring the site into compliance with the ADA.
- Determine the feasibility of using certified portable ramps at select polling places.
   Ramps should be installed and removed by a professional contractor.
- Establish "intra-District support team" that includes intra-agency contacts such as the Office on Aging and others that can assist Board in addressing accessibility issues.
- Develop brochure for the elderly and disabled that informs them of the services available.
- Ensure pollworkers are available to remedy problems that prevent access, such as locked doors and inoperable elevators.

### IV. FUNDING ELECTION REFORM

### Projected Available Funds for Implementation<sup>12</sup>

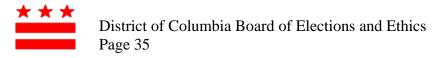
Title I funding

Under §101 of HAVA, Congress authorized funding to the states that would be available both for planning purposes and for immediate improvements in election administration. The District of Columbia has received \$5 million in early funding under this title.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.

<sup>1</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(6) (2002) (advising that the plan include "[t]he State's proposed budget for activities under this part, based on the State's best estimates of the costs of such activities and the amount of funds to be made available, including specific information on—(A) the costs of activities required to be carried out to meet the requirements of title III; (B) the portion of the requirements payment which will be used to carry out activities to meet such requirements; and (C) the portion of the requirements payment which will be used to carry out other activities").



Preliminary calculations by the General Services Administration indicated that the District of Columbia would not be eligible to receive additional funding under §102 of HAVA (the funds available for replacing punch card systems) over the \$5 million minimum payment. The Board therefore applied only for funds available under §101 of HAVA. Table 7 details how this early money will be spent.

### Title II funding in FY03 and FY04 and FY05

Title II of HAVA authorizes Requirements Payments to the states. These payments comprise the bulk of the money authorized in HAVA and are intended to assist the states in meeting the requirements of title III. Funding for these grants, however, was significantly reduced in the FY03 congressional appropriation. The President's budget estimates for the next two years likewise fail to fund election reform at the level authorized by Congress in HAVA; whereas HAVA authorized \$1.6 billion in FY 04 and FY05, the President's budget included only \$500 million for each year. The budget set forth below is based on the amount appropriated for FY 03 and the President's estimated amounts for the two subsequent years.

The actual proportion of title II grant money allocated to the District of Columbia in FY03 can only be estimated at this time. The Election Administration Commission will administer these grants. The final FY03 appropriation included \$810 million available for title II grants. According to the formula established in HAVA, the District of Columbia would be eligible to receive a share equal to one half of one percent of the total amount appropriated to the states in § 252, or \$4.05 million. Although this money was appropriated in FY03, it is unlikely to be disbursed until FY04. Accordingly, in the table below, this item is listed as FY03 money even though, in effect, it will be available in FY04.

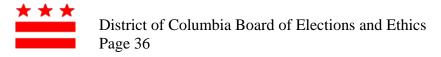
Assuming that funds appropriated in FY04 and FY05 are in line with the President's reduced funding levels, the District of Columbia would receive \$2.5 million in each of these two years.

### Funds available under § 261 of HAVA

HAVA also authorizes funding for improving the accessibility of polling places. The District of Columbia has applied for \$100,000 under § 261 of title II of HAVA in order to carry out plans to make every polling place across the city barrier-free for voters with disabilities.

### The District of Columbia's matching fund

HAVA requires that the state appropriate a match totaling five percent of the funding provided under title II and the match itself. The District of Columbia must therefore match funds granted under title II of HAVA at a rate of 5.26 percent (the match is calculated at five percent of the total of both the title II funds and the state's match). The match is \$213,000 in FY03 and \$131,500 in both FY04 and FY05. The estimates for title II grants outlined above form the basis for this calculation.



### Maintenance of Effort by the District of Columbia<sup>13</sup>

In order to ensure that funds authorized by HAVA are not used to supplant funding for elections that would otherwise be appropriated by the state or local election authority, HAVA requires that the District of Columbia provide an amount at least equal to what was spent for the conduct of the 2000 elections. In using any requirements payment, the District of Columbia will maintain expenditures of the Board for activities funded by title I and title II payments at a level equal to or greater than the level of such expenditures in the District of Columbia's FY00 budget. In FY00 the Board's budget totaled \$3.5 million.

### Use of Title I Funds<sup>14</sup>

As stated above, the District of Columbia applied only for funds under § 101 of title I of HAVA. The disbursement of early payments under title I will allow the Board to develop an implementation plan and lay the groundwork for changes called for in this Plan. In effect, since title II money under HAVA will not be available in time to pay for changes needed by the 2004 Presidential Primary – which, in the District of Columbia, will take place January 13, 2004 – the early money will also be used to pay for all new administrative procedures and technology that must be in place by the 2004 General Election. A detailed accounting of how title I funds will be used can be found in Table 7 below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, §254 (a)(7)(2002) (advising that the plan indicate "[h]ow the State, in using the requirements payment, will maintain the expenditures of the State for activities funded by the payment at a level equal to not less than the level of such expenditures maintained by the State for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the payment is received").

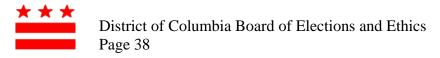
year preceding the fiscal year for which the payment is received").

14 See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, §254(a)(10)(2002) (advising that "[i]f the State received any payment under title I, [the plan should include] a description of how such payment will affect the activities proposed to be carried out under the plan, including the amount of funds available for such activities").



Table 5 – Funding Assumptions (FY03 – FY05)				
	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	
HAVA Title I (101)	\$5,000,000			
HAVA Title II (252)	\$4,050,000*	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	
HAVA Title II (261)	\$100,000			
D.C. matching funds		\$344,530*	\$131,500	
Maintenance of effort	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	

<sup>\*</sup> Congress appropriated funding for title II grants in FY03; however, these funds may not be disbursed until the establishment of the Election Assistance Commission. In effect, states will likely receive that money in FY04. If this funding is combined with the actual FY04 appropriation under title II, the District of Columbia match would have to match the combined title II funds.



### Projected Expenditures for Meeting HAVA Title III Requirements

The grant money available under title II will be used both to bring the District of Columbia into full compliance with title III requirements and to enhance the implementation of changes necessary for meeting the new requirements. The activities listed here are more fully described in Section II, "A Plan for Meeting New Requirements of the Help America Vote Act in the District of Columbia." These expenditures cover both one-time costs, such as modifying the computerized voter registration database, and implementation costs associated with each election from 2004 through 2006.

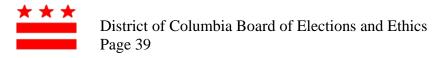
**Voting system requirements**: Title II funding will be used to pay a little over half the cost of the new DRE voting systems (\$355, 470). The Board will pay the remaining cost (\$344,530). As noted earlier, following the 2000 election, the District decided to replace its punch card voting systems with the Optech Eagle P III optical scan voting system at an approximate cost of \$950,000 (the contract has not yet been finalized).

Provisional voting and voter information requirements: While the District of Columbia has long had a safeguard in place to protect voters whose eligibility is in doubt on Election Day (the special ballot and challenge ballot processes), the Board will institute a toll-free telephone system for voters to access information on the disposition of their ballots to comply with the exact process described in HAVA. The Board will procure a toll-free automated phone system and will also make the information available on the Internet through the Board website (estimated cost for this requirement is \$100,000). To meet the new requirement to post voter information in each polling place, the Board intends to purchase special display systems for posting the information in an accessible location (\$90,000). In addition, the Board will produce instructional videos (with a bilingual audio feature) to run at the polling place on Election Day (\$40,000).

Computerized voter registration system and verification requirements: To enhance and improve the current computerized voter registration system, the Board plans the following modifications: (1) create interactive links with the databases of other government agencies that accept voter registration applications to facilitate the electronic transfer of voter information, and (2) modify the database and the registration forms to accommodate the new identification information and other required voter registration changes (\$500,000). In addition, to enhance compliance with the list-cleaning provisions of § 303 of HAVA, the Board will conduct a program to verify the data assignments (\$50,000).

**Voter education**: In order to ensure full compliance with the new voting system requirements, the Board will conduct comprehensive voter education to ensure that voters understand how to operate the voting system properly. This program, which will be conducted in addition to the Board's regular outreach to voters, will include sending sample ballots and non-partisan information about the candidates and ballot measures. All registered voters will receive instructions about the process for recording, casting and

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.



replacing a ballot on both optical scan and DRE's, and information about their rights under both local and federal law. This multi-media education effort will include \$1,000,000 for production and distribution of special mailers and \$500,000 for voter outreach through television and radio. The Board will also upgrade its website to allow for improved access to voter information, web-casting of voter information, and poll worker training (\$200,000).

Poll worker recruitment and training: Recognizing that pollworker recruitment will be central to the success of election reforms, the Board will significantly increase resources for pollworker recruitment and training. To increase the number of poll workers per polling place, as required by the Plan, the Board will hire a recruiter and conduct an intensive recruitment campaign (\$500,000). The Board will also enhance the pollworker training program to ensure that all Election Day workers understand both the new administrative procedures and the new voting systems (\$1,000,000). The training will include hiring a trainer and producing a poll worker training video (\$40,000). The cost for the additional pollworkers will be paid from title I funds (\$90,000).

**HAVA administration**: To guarantee sound and effective implementation of the new rules and to improve all facets of election administration, the Board will institute new training requirements for Board staff. This training will cover voter registration, election administration, as well as the requirements under local and federal election law. In addition, the Board will institute a certification program for Board staff and provide other professional development opportunities (\$300,000).

To conduct the programs described in the Plan, many of which are being undertaken for the first time, will require a significant boost in administrative resources. These resources will cover an organizational review, additional education, training, and changes in staffing and equipment. The Board estimates increasing its capacity by 20 percent in order to implement the new law and make changes called for in the Plan within the timeframe specified by law (\$700,000).

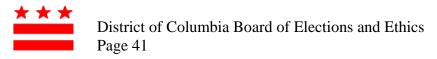
To ensure accountability to the public, an evaluation committee will conduct an independent review and evaluation of the implementation of HAVA in the District of Columbia. This effort will include the development of a feedback mechanism to gauge voter responses to changes and innovations (\$100,000).



### Table 6 – Estimated Expenditures on Title III Requirements (FY03 – FY05)

	HAVA 101	HAVA 252	HAVA 261	5% match	total cost
§301 – Voting System Requirements					
Purchase of Sequoia Edge DREs		\$355,470		\$344,530	\$700,000
Purchase of Sequoia Optech Eagle					\$950,000 <sup>*</sup>
§302 – Provisional Voting and Voter Information					
Toll-free telephone access system		\$100,000			\$100,000**
Voter information materials/equipment		\$90,000			\$90,000
§303 – Computerized voter registration and verification requirements					
Modification of database		\$500,000			\$500,000
Verification of data assignments		\$50,000			\$50,000
Voter Education					
Website overhaul	\$200,000				\$200,000
Mailings (production and mailing costs)***	\$1,000,000				\$1,000,000
Voter outreach campaign	\$500,000				\$500,000
Pollworker recruitment and training					
Recruitment campaign	\$500,000				\$500,000
Pollworker training		\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000
Pollworker training video		\$40,000			\$40,000
Additional pollworkers	\$90,000				\$90,000
HAVA administration					
Staff training and certification		\$300,000			\$300,000
Program management and capacity building (including staffing, travel, equipment and supplies)		\$700,000			\$700,000
Evaluation		\$100,000			\$100,000
Total	\$2,290,000	\$3,235,470		\$344,530	\$5,870,000

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.



#### **Notes on Table 6:**

\*Funding for the optical scan voting system was appropriated in FY01; the contract has not yet been finalized so this figure is approximate and included here for informational purposes and not included in the total.

\*\*Creating the toll-free access system will be a modification to the computerized statewide database system; the amount is separated in this chart for informational purposes.

\*\*\*\*The amounts for voter education include voter education efforts necessary for compliance with § 301 of HAVA – a targeted education effort to voters voting paper ballots without over-vote protection or ballot review – and discretionary voter education programs.

### Estimated Expenditures for Improved Election Administration

Over and above implementing new federal requirements, the Board will use funding available under HAVA to modernize and improve key components of the District's election system by implementing the following changes.

**Multi-lingual ballots**: The Board intends to offer ballots in Spanish in every polling place beginning in 2004. The DRE systems will also be programmed to offer Spanish speakers the option of a Spanish-language ballot (\$40,000).

**Improved accessibility for voters with disabilities**: The Board will use funds available from the Department of Health and Human Services under §261 of HAVA to (1) improve the accessibility of polling places (\$15,000); (2) purchase aids for voters with disabilities (\$30,000); (3) produce a training video and manual on the needs of voters with disabilities (\$25,000); and (4) produce additional brochures and information for voters with disabilities (\$30,000).

**Improvements to polling place operations**: To improve polling place operations and reduce the need for special ballots, the Board will provide access to the entire voter registration list at each polling place (\$142,000). In addition, to facilitate the Election Day Change of Address and speedier voter intake, the Board will move to electronic poll books (\$600,000).



Table 7 – Estimated Expenditures for Improved Election Administration (FY03 – FY05)

	HAVA 101	HAVA 252	HAVA 261	5% match	total cost
Multilingual Ballots					
Election materials	\$40,000				\$40,000
Polling place accessibility					
Improving accessibility of the polling place			\$15,000		\$15,000
Voting aids for voters with disabilities			\$30,000		\$30,000
Video & manual on needs of voters w/ disabilities			\$25,000		\$25,000
Information for voters with disabilities			\$30,000		\$30,000
Computerized voter registration list					
Electronic access to entire list at polling place	\$142,000				\$142,000
Electronic poll books		\$600,000			\$600,000
Total	\$182,000	\$600,000	\$100,000		\$882,000

## Management of HAVA Funds<sup>15</sup>

The District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics is an independent agency that, historically, receives its funds from local revenue. Upon receiving the \$5 million in title I funding, the District of Columbia's Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") established an interest-bearing treasury account for the management of all funds – both the federal funds and the local match – related to implementation of HAVA. This fund will consist of the following amounts:

- amounts appropriated by the District of Columbia for meeting the requirements of HAVA and other activities described in the Plan;
- amounts appropriated to the District of Columbia under title I and title II of HAVA;
- interest earned on the deposits.

<sup>15</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(5)(2002) (advising that the plan indicate "[h]ow the State will establish a fund described in subsection (b) for purposes of administering the State's activities under this part, including information on fund management").



These funds will be monitored for programmatic compliance by the CFO through the Office of Finance and Resource Management, which currently serves, by mutual agreement, as the Board's budget entity. The fund will be managed on behalf of the Board by the District of Columbia Treasurer. Consistent with the requirements of §902 of HAVA, the Treasurer will maintain records fully disclosing the amount and disposition of funds, the total cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources, and other records to facilitate an effective audit.

All requisitions related to activities for meeting the requirements and other activities defined in the Plan will be recorded as such for audit purposes. By regulation, any purchase above \$25,000 by the Board will be transacted by the Office of Procurement and Contracts and will require an open bid process; the same limitation will hold for HAVA-related expenditures.

## V. ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE VOTERS

## Performance Goals and Measures<sup>16</sup>

While the Board is responsible for ensuring the success of HAVA implementation, the voters of the District of Columbia will be the final arbiters of success or failure in implementing the State Plan. Accordingly, the Board will seek the public involvement in an independent committee to evaluate the Board's implementation effort.

Following final adoption of the Plan, the Board will convene selected stakeholders in the District of Columbia elections process to participate in an evaluation committee charged with evaluating implementation of the Plan. As a part of this public process, the Board will develop a feedback mechanism to gauge public reactions to reforms implemented in the 2004 general election.

The evaluation committee, which will be supported by the Board, will develop criteria to evaluate the success in meeting the performance goals based on the requirements of title III that are described below. The evaluation committee will draft a report that will include recommendations for future elections. The evaluation committee will make the draft report publicly available and solicit public comment at a public hearing. This

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(8) (2002) (advising that the plan include a description of "[h]ow the State will adopt performance goals and measures that will be used by the State to determine its success and the success of units of local government in the State in carrying out the plan, including timetables for meeting each of the elements of the plan, descriptions of the criteria the State will use to measure performance and the process used to develop such criteria, and a description of which official is to be held responsible for ensuring that each performance goal is met."



evaluation process will be conducted biennially until implementation of HAVA is complete.

To evaluate the uniformity of implementation across the District of Columbia, the Board will develop an Election Day review process. Components of the review are described below.

Performance Element #1: Transition to HAVA-Compliant Voting Systems

The District of Columbia initiated the process of modernizing its voting systems prior to the 2002 elections. The 2004 General Presidential Election will inaugurate voting systems that are fully compliant with the voting system requirements in HAVA. Responsible official(s): Election Administration, Data Management.

Performance Goals	(1) Implement voter education program on use of the optical scan and DRE voting systems and, (2) ensure a smooth transition for new accessible voting systems.
Performance Measures	A feedback mechanism will gauge voter responses to the new voting systems (both the optical scan and the DRE systems) and educational information about their use. The evaluation committee will seek to measure the following:
	<ul> <li>availability and usefulness of voter information on use of the machines; and</li> <li>quality of information on use of the machines.</li> </ul>
Timeline	Implementation date: 2004 Presidential General Election

#### Performance Element #2: Administration of Special Ballots

While the District of Columbia already administers a provisional ballot process using special ballots, some of the details must be altered to make the process consistent with the requirement as described in HAVA. The provisional ballot application must be modified and a free-access system developed that will allow voters to access information on the disposition of their ballots. In addition, § 302 of HAVA requires that the Board post voter information detailed in the Plan at each polling place. Responsible official(s): Registrar of Voters; Data Management.

Performance Goal	Ensure no qualified voter is turned away without being given the opportunity to cast a ballot.
Performance Measures	(1) Develop reporting procedures to measure:
	<ul> <li>number of special ballots cast at each polling</li> </ul>



	place;
	<ul> <li>number of special ballots accepted and rejected;</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>reasons ballots were rejected;</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>number of voters who accessed toll-free information system.</li> </ul>
	(2) An Election Day review will measure consistency and uniformity of administration practice across the jurisdiction.
Timeline	Implementation date: 2004 Presidential Primary

Performance Element #3: Modification of Voter Registration List and Verification Procedures

The District of Columbia currently maintains its voter files using a single, official, computerized database system that is updated in accordance with requirements established under the NVRA. The Board will verify all data assignments and the system will be modified to include the information required under § 303 of HAVA. Voter information will be matched against records maintained by the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles prior to the 2004 Presidential Primary. The official list at the polling place will include the names of both inactive and active voters. Responsible official(s): Chief Technology Officer.

Performance Goals	Verify all data assignments. Modify registration database to include new required information fields. Match voter records against DMV records. Provide list of all registered voters, active and inactive, at polls on Election Day.
Performance Measures	(1) Develop reporting procedures to measure:
	<ul> <li>accuracy of matches between voter list and DMV records;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>number of inactive voters allowed to vote special ballots.</li> </ul>
	(2) An Election Day review will measure consistency of administrative practice across the jurisdiction.
Timetable	Implementation date: 2004 Presidential Primary.
	(Deadline for implementation of § 303 (a)(5) is January 2003.)



Performance Element #4: Verification of First-time Voters Who Register by Mail Legislation is pending and administrative procedures are being modified to allow for the verification of the identity of first-time voters who register by mail. Responsible official(s): Registrar of Voters, Chief Technology Officer.

Performance Goal	Ensure smooth implementation of new registration and identification requirements.
Performance Measure	Develop reporting procedures to measure:  the number of first-time, mail-in registrants verified prior to Election Day by matching voter information with other records;
	• the number of such voters required to present ID at the polls;
	<ul> <li>the number of such voters without required ID who cast a special ballot.</li> </ul>
Timetable	Implementation date: 2004 Presidential Primary

Performance Element #5: Creating an Informed Electorate
Under § 301 of HAVA, the Board is required to educate voters on the use of voting
systems. Under § 302 of HAVA, the Board is required to post voter information detailed
in the Plan at each polling place. Beyond these minimum requirements for voter
education, the Board will undertake multiple discretionary voter education activities
outlined in the Plan. Responsible official(s): Election Administration; Public
Information; Chief Technology Officer.

Performance Goal	Develop educational activities and materials to create an electorate that is better informed on how to participate in the elections process. Provide required information on administrative procedures and new voting systems in a voter-friendly and accessible format at each polling place.
Performance Measures	<ul> <li>(1) Feedback mechanism will gauge voter responses to voter information and evaluate quality and availability of:</li> <li>pre-election day mailing of voter instructions and non-partisan 'Voter's Guide' on candidates and</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>ballot measures;</li> <li>overhaul of the Board's website;</li> <li>the "How to Vote" instructional video.</li> <li>(2) An Election Day review will measure consistency of administration practice and posting of voter information across the jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
Timeline	Implementation date: Mailers produced for both 2004 Presidential Primary and 2004 Presidential General Election; website overhaul and instructional video implemented prior to 2004 Presidential Primary.

Performance Element #6: Recruiting and Training Pollworkers

None of the above requirements that affect the conduct of elections can be carried out successfully without pollworkers who understand the new requirements and are prepared

successfully without pollworkers who understand the new requirements and are prepared for the unique challenges presented by the 2004 election. Under the Plan, pollworkers will have additional duties. At the same time there will be more pollworkers to handle the new tasks. Responsible official: Election Administration.

Performance Goal	Conduct a vigorous campaign to recruit sufficient number of pollworkers. Design and conduct training to educate pollworkers on new voting systems and new administrative procedures.
Performance Measures	<ul><li>(1) Number of pollworkers recruited.</li><li>(2) Beta testing will be used to evaluate training program and materials prior to full implementation.</li></ul>
	(3) An Election Day review will measure consistency of administrative practices across the jurisdiction.
	(4) The evaluation committee will review complaints registered on Election Day.
Timetable	Implementation date: 2004 Presidential Primary

Performance Element #7: Expanding the Capacity of the Board

The Board will institute new training requirements for Board staff and develop a certification program. This training will cover voter registration, election administration, as well as the requirements under local and federal election law. Responsible official(s): Election Administration; Resource Management.



Performance Goal	Develop a certification and training program for Board staff to assure compliance with federal and District law.
Performance Measures	(1) Evaluation of Board's financial record-keeping.
	(2) Evaluation of Board's adherence to procurement regulations and bid process.
	(3) Evaluation of Board's disclosure of financial records.
Timetable	Implementation date: 2006 General Election

## Performance Element #8: HAVA Fund Management

Under HAVA, the Board will be subject to a federal audit of funds received. In addition, the evaluation committee will review the management of the funds received and expended to ensure their use was consistent with the Plan. Responsible official(s): Resource Management; Election Administration.

Performance Goal	Manage HAVA election reform fund in a manner consistent with accounting standards.
Performance Measures	(1) Evaluation of Board's financial record-keeping.
	(2) Evaluation of Board's adherence to procurement regulations and bid process.
	(3) Evaluation of Board's disclosure of financial records.
Timetable	Implementation date: April 2003 and continuing until resources are depleted.

Performance Element #9: Improving Access for Voters with Disabilities

The Board has been working with the Disability Rights Council to eliminate barriers to polling places for voters with disabilities. In addition, in the 2004 Presidential Primary, the Board will provide, for the first time, voting systems that are fully accessible to voters with disabilities. Responsible official: Logistical Support; Election Administration.

Performance Goal	Guaranteeing access to polling places and voting systems across the District of Columbia. Carrying out all activities described in the application for title II grant monies available under § 261 of HAVA.
Performance Measures	(1) Develop feedback mechanism to gauge response of the disability community to the new voting system,

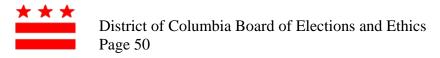


	accessibility of the polling place, new voter aids, and the availability and quality of information to voters with disabilities.
	(2) Develop reporting procedures to record complaints from voters with disabilities concerning polling place access.
Timetable	Implementation date: 2004 Presidential Primary

Performance Element #10: Compliance with provisions under title VII for voters covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).

In title VII, HAVA established new requirements for registering and corresponding with voters covered under UOCAVA. See Appendix B for a detailed listing of these provisions and how the Board plans to meet the new requirements. Responsible official(s): Registrar; Program Specialist, Voter Services.

Performance Goal	Tracking absentee ballots transmitted and received by voters after the general election (§703). Extending the absentee ballot application period for UOCAVA voters (§704). Informing overseas voters of reasons the registration application was rejected (§707).
Performance Measures	<ul> <li>Develop reporting mechanism to track:</li> <li>Absentee ballots sent to UOCAVA voters;</li> <li>Mailings to UOCAVA voters.</li> </ul>
Timetable	Report on overseas absentee ballots will be issued within 90 days after the 2004 Presidential Election; the requirement to extend the period covered by an absentee ballot request under UOCAVA will go into effect for the 2006 General Election; requirement to notify applicant of rejection and reason will be implemented within 20 days following the 2004 Presidential Election.



## Ongoing Management of the Plan<sup>17</sup>

The Plan provides a roadmap for implementation of HAVA in its entirety. The District of Columbia's Chief Election Official (CEO) will have primary responsibility for carrying out the elements of the Plan. This responsibility includes the following:

- meeting the timelines specified in the Plan;
- monitoring all expenditures and ensuring that costs do not exceed available funds;
- adhering to the process for amending the Plan described in § 254(a)(11) of HAVA;
- ensuring a process that is accountable and open to public scrutiny.

In addition, the CEO will implement any recommendations developed in the evaluation process described above.

## Enforcing HAVA<sup>18</sup>

In addition to providing an independent public process for evaluating the Board's efforts to implement the Plan, the Board intends to develop procedures for resolving complaints concerning the conduct of elections, the implementation of the new federal law and, in particular, alleged violations of the "Uniform and Non-Discriminatory Requirements" described in title III.

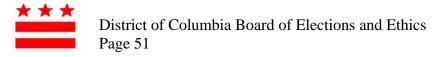
## An Election-Day Hotline for Public Complaints

Continuing a practice established in previous elections, the Board will develop and staff special phone lines on Election Day to handle – and record – complaints from voters, candidates, party representatives and others concerning the conduct of the election. Reporting procedures will be developed to record complaints specific to implementation of HAVA. A post-Election Day examination of the complaint record will be included in the report of the evaluation committee.

Public Hearing Process for Alleged Violations of Title III of HAVA
A proposed rulemaking amends the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations to include the following procedure as required by § 402 of HAVA. Complainants alleging a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(11) (2002) (advising that the plan describe "[h]ow the State will conduct ongoing management of the plan, except that the State may not make any material change in the administration of the plan unless the change – (A) is developed and published in the Federal Register in accordance with section 255 in the same manner as the State plan; (B) is subject to public notice and comment in accordance with section 256 in the same manner as the State plan; and (C) takes effect only after the expiration of the 30-day period which begins on the date the change is published in the Federal Register in accordance with subparagraph (A)."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See HAVA, Public Law No. 107-252, § 254(a)(9) (2002) (advising that the plan describe "the uniform, nondiscriminatory State-based administrative complaint procedures in effect under section 402."



violation of title III of HAVA by the CEO shall file notarized complaints with the Board. The Board may consolidate complaints if they relate to the same actions or events or raise common questions of law or fact.

At a public hearing, the Board will determine if there is a violation of any provision of title III of HAVA. If the Board determines a violation has occurred, it will provide an appropriate remedy. If the Board determines there is no violation, it will dismiss the complaint and publish the results of the hearing.

The Board is required to render final determinations regarding alleged violations prior to the expiration of the 90-day period that begins on the date the complaint is filed, unless the complainant consents to a longer period. If the Board fails to meet the applicable deadline, the complaint shall be resolved within 60 days by means of the alternative dispute resolution process described below.

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Process

If the Board fails to resolve an alleged violation of HAVA under title III, the Board's proposed rulemaking establishes alternative dispute resolution procedures as required under § 402 of HAVA. The CEO and the complainant will each select an arbiter who shall jointly agree on a third arbiter. Following a review of the record, the panel of arbiters shall determine an appropriate resolution by a majority vote within 60 days. The final decision will be published on the Board's website and mailed to the complainant.

## Appendix A

## **D.C. State Planning Committee**

In March of 2003, the Board invited citizens and representatives of organizations with a stake in elections in the District of Columbia to become part of the D.C. State Planning Committee. The Planning Committee was charged with producing a roadmap for implementing HAVA and for the future of elections in the District of Columbia.

Subcommittees developed recommendations on voting systems, voter registration, voter education, pollworker recruitment and training, and accessibility to the electoral process by voters with disabilities. These recommendations can be found on the Board's website at <a href="http://www.dcboee.org">http://www.dcboee.org</a>. The subcommittee recommendations form the core of the Plan.

Following publication of the Preliminary Plan in the *District of Columbia Register*, the Board solicited and received public comments both in writing and at a public hearing held on July 5th. The Preliminary Plan was also posted on the Board's website. Following the one-month comment period, the Board reviewed all comments and incorporated suggested changes. A final version of the Plan will be published in the *Federal Register*, as required in § 256 of HAVA.

Fred Allen Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO

Marc Battle Councilmember Orange's Office

Linda Black National Federation for the Blind, D.C. Chapter

Dorothy Brizill Registered Voter

Alethea Campbell D.C. Office on Aging

Bobby Coward Paralyzed Veterans of America

James Dickson American Association of People with Disabilities

Craig Engle D.C. Republican Committee

Kathryn Fairley D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Nicholas Fels D.C. Appleseed Center Hubert Von Fogan

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Marvin Ford

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Sylvia Goldsberry-Adams

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Vialetta Graham

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Lawrence Guyot

Registered Voter

E. Patricia Hallman

D.C. League of Women Voters

Elinor Hart

D.C. League of Women Voters

Darlene Horton

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Shirley Jackson

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Anise Jenkins

Stand Up! for Democracy in DC Coalition

Edward Levin

D.C. Appleseed Center

Alice Miller

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

William O'Field

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

Michael Piacsek

D.C. Statehood Green Party

Rahul Randhava

Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

Linda Royster

Disability Rights Council

Sandra Seegars

Registered Voter

Tracy Warren International Foundation for Election Systems

Daniel Wedderburn D.C. Democratic State Committee

## **Appendix B**

## Protecting the Voting Rights of Military Members and Overseas Citizens

In addition to the requirements of title III, title VII of HAVA includes new requirements for the administration of absentee ballots for military and overseas citizens. The following table describes the status of compliance in the District of Columbia with title VII requirements.

Table 8 – Compliance with Title VII	Compliant	Not	Actions Needed
Requirements		Compliant	for Compliance
Section 703. Report on Absentee Ballots Transmitted and Received After General Elections  (a) Section 102 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1), as amended by section 702, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:     `(c) Report on number of absentee ballots transmitted and received. Not later than 90 days after the date of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, each State and unit of local government which administered the election shall (through the State, in the case of a unit of local government) submit a report to the Election Assistance Commission (established under the Help America Vote Act of 2002) on the combined number of absentee ballots transmitted to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters for the election and the combined number of such ballots which were returned by such voters and cast in the election, and shall make such report available to the general public.'.		X	Legislation is pending to meet this requirement.

Table 8 – Compliance with Title VII Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
Section 704. Extension of Period Covered by Single Absentee Ballot Application The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1), as amended by section 1606(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 is amended by requiring that such voters remain registered through the next 2 regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office (including any runoff elections which may occur as a result of the outcome of such general elections), and receive ballots for each such subsequent election.		X	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this requirement are pending.
Section 706. Prohibition of Refusal of Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Applications on Grounds of Early Submission  (a) The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act as amended by section 1606(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:  (e) PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION- A State may not refuse to accept or process, with respect to any election for Federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration application or absentee ballot application (including the postcard form prescribed under section 101) submitted by an absent uniformed services voter during a year on the grounds that the voter submitted the application before the first date on which the State otherwise accepts or processes such applications for that year submitted by absentee voters who are not members of the uniformed services.'.	X		
Section 707. Other Requirements to Promote Participation of Overseas and Absent Uniformed Services Voters The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, as amended by the preceding provisions of this title, is		Х	Legislation and proposed rulemaking to meet this

Table 8 – Compliance with Title VII Requirements	Compliant	Not Compliant	Actions Needed for Compliance
amended by adding at the end the following new subsection: (d) REGISTRATION NOTIFICATION- With respect to each absent uniformed services voter and each overseas voter who submits a voter registration application or an absentee ballot request, if the State rejects the application or request, the State shall provide the voter with the reasons for the rejection.			requirement are pending.

## Appendix C

## **Glossary of Terms**

**Chief Election Official (CEO)**: Executive Director of the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics.

**District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics ("Board")**: the independent agency charged with administering elections in the District of Columbia.

**District of Columbia State Planning Committee**: the District of Columbia State Planning Committee, a body comprised of stakeholders in District elections (see Appendix A). The Planning Committee was charged with making recommendations for implementation of HAVA in the District of Columbia

**District of Columbia Voters' Rights Notice**: This document, to be produced by the Board, will provide information on voting rights under applicable Federal and District laws (the District of Columbia Voter's Rights Notice), including information on the right of an individual to cast a provisional (special) ballot and instructions on how to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated.

**Election Assistance Commission (EAC):** HAVA establishes a new federal agency to administer the funds authorized and to provide voluntary guidance on the new federal requirements. The bi-partisan Commission is made up of four full-time members appointed by the President.

**Federal Election Commission (FEC)**: Under the National Voter Registration Act, the Federal Election Commission's Office of Election Administration provides guidance on NVRA, administers the voluntary Voting System Standards and the federal mail-in registration form. This office will be transferred to the new Election Assistance Commission once established.

**National Voter Registration Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.)**: The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), enacted in 1993, sought to expand the opportunity to register by requiring states to allow voters to register at the department of motor vehicles and other social service agencies to accept voter registration applications by mail.

**Provisional voting**: A form of voting in which a voter whose eligibility is in question casts a ballot that is counted once eligibility has been determined. In the District of Columbia, these voters cast "special ballots."

**State Plan**: HAVA requires that states develop, in consultation with the Planning Committee (see above), a plan for how it will achieve compliance with the requirements of HAVA using HAVA-authorized funds.

**Statewide voter registration list**: a single, computerized database for storing and managing the records of all legally registered voters managed and administered at the state level. In the District of Columbia, this list contains the names of all legally registered voters in the District.

**Title I Funds:** Under title I of HAVA, Congress authorized \$650 million in money to be administered through the General Services Administration to pay for replacing punch card and lever machines and to make immediate improvements in election administration. Each state was guaranteed a minimum of \$5 million under this title.

**Title II Funds:** Under Title II of HAVA, Congress authorized \$3 billion to be allocated to the states according to a formula based on voter population. These "requirements payments" are administered by the Election Assistance Commission once established. The funds are to be used to bring states into compliance with the new federal requirements.

Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1 et seq.): This law established certain requirements to protect the rights of military and overseas voters by allowing them to register and vote absentee.

## **DCBOE: Non-citizen Voting Townhall**

When: Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 2pm

Where: Virtual in Board Room

Format: 45 minutes to 1 hour (at most) virtual townhall with a short presentation from DCBOE

and Q&A

Who: DCBOE Presentation (Comms, OGC, VEOD) will focus on the following: 15-20 minutes

#### **Run of Show:**

Intro: Comms (2-3 min)

Welcome and Agenda Setting
 History/legal overview: OGC (5-7 mins)

• What offices can non-citizens vote for? Which ones can they not vote for?

Voter Registration and Voter Rights/Responsibilities: VEOD (5-7 mins)

- How does voter registration work? Steps and options on how to register to vote.
- What kind of language access resources does DCBOE provide for voter registration?
- Ballots: show a sample

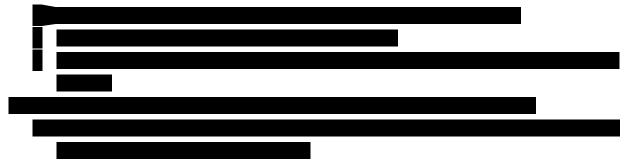
Language Access: Jay, (5-7 mins)

- General language access overview
- Election Day resources for Language Access: what does the DCBOE provide?

Election must knows (Comms): 3-5 minutes

• Important dates and deadlines including ballots mailed, voter registration, party affiliation, Early Voting hours, and Primary Election Day

Public Q&A with Comms moderating: 20-30 minutes



### FAQ:

## Q: Non-citizens voting in elections is awful. Why is DCBOE allowing this?

A: DCBOE's mission is to enfranchise all eligible DC residents, including non-citizen DC residents. We are simply following the law.

# Q: How is non-citizen DC resident voter information stored and managed differently from citizen voters?

A: Non-citizen DC resident voter information is stored in a separate component within our Voter Focus database system. In addition, the physical voter registration form is a different color (yellow) and the ballots are marked the letter "L" and "LOCAL"

## Q: How many non-citizen DC residents have registered to vote so far?

A: As of April 30, 372 non-citizen DC residents have registered to vote.

# Q: How will registering to vote impact my immigration status if I'm in the process of becoming a citizen?

A: DCBOE cannot offer legal advice. We suggest you speak to your immigration attorney or your legal counsel for potential impacts.

### Q: What voter registration is public information?

A: In the District of Columbia, some voter registration data—such as a voter's name, home address, party affiliation, and voting record (a record of if you voted and the method in which you voted in previous elections)—is public information, unless it has been made confidential in accordance with District of Columbia rules and regulations. We do not share Personal Identifiable Information (PII).

### Q: Can non-citizen be an Election Worker?

A: Yes, a non-citizen can be an election worker. Requirements are:

- A DC resident
- At least 16 years of age and attends or has graduated from a public or private secondary school or institution of higher education
- Be able to speak English

## Q: Do I need an ID to vote on Election Day?

A: No, you did not need an ID to vote. However, if you are registered to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and submit an application by mail or electronically, you may be required to provide identification that shows your name and current address the first time you vote in an election in the District of Columbia. You can find required proof of residence documents at <a href="https://documents.org/noncitizenvoter">dcboe.org/noncitizenvoter</a>.

# Q: What happens if I don't have proof of residence on Election Day when I go to register to vote or vote for the first time. Can I still cast a ballot?

A: Yes, you can still vote by Special Ballot. Here is how:

- 1. In order to vote a Special Ballot, you must complete the right side of the Special Ballot Envelope at the Vote Center.
- 2. Once you have done so, the Ballot On-Demand Clerk will provide you with a special ballot.
- 3. After you have voted your special ballot, you will place it inside a secrecy envelope, place the secrecy envelope inside the completed Special Ballot Envelope, and insert the Special Ballot Envelope in the Special Ballot Box.

If you vote a Special Ballot, the Board will determine whether to count your special ballot based on the information you provided on the Special Ballot Envelope.

### Q: I voted by Special Ballot. How do I find out whether it was counted?

**A:** The day after Election Day, you may visit the Special Ballot Status page of our website, or call 1-866-DC VOTES (1-866-328-6837), to learn of the Board's preliminary determination to either count or reject your Special Ballot. If the Board rejects your Special Ballot, you may challenge this decision by scheduling an appeal hearing. If you do not win your appeal, you have one business day after the Board makes its final determination to appeal the decision to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

#### **Important links:**

- Election Information: Check out our homepage with our new Primary Election dashboard or visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/elections/2024-elections">https://dcboe.org/elections/2024-elections</a>
- How to check your voter registration: https://apps.dcboe.org/VRS
- Voter registration (general): www.dcboe.org/registertovote
- Non-citizen DC resident voter information: <a href="www.dcboe.org/noncitizenvoter">www.dcboe.org/noncitizenvoter</a>
- Election Worker application:
   <a href="https://www.dcboe.org/election-workers/election-worker-applications">https://www.dcboe.org/election-worker-applications</a>
- Vote Center/Mail Ballot Drop Box locator: <a href="https://www.dcboe.org/voters/find-out-where-to-vote/vote-center-locator-tool">https://www.dcboe.org/voters/find-out-where-to-vote/vote-center-locator-tool</a>
- Upcoming Voter Registration events: <u>www.dcboe.org/events</u>
- Latest News: www.dcboe.org/news

## **Voter Services Local Resident Non-Citizen Voter Registration Checklist**

#### Overview

In 2022, the DC Council passed D.C. Law 24-242, the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022. It became effective on October 1, 2023, when the new budget took effect, which included funding to implement this law. DCBOE will make this lawfully operational by January when all the processes and updates that require those budgetary funds will be implemented. As of January 11, 2024, PDF versions of the form are available on the website as is an online jot form version.

#### **Marissa Corrente**

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent:Wednesday, November 15, 2023 3:51 PMTo:Monica Evans; Christine Pembroke; Terri StroudSubject:RE: Checklist for Local Resident Voter Reg Process

Once the brochures are ready we can definitely hand those out to anyone who registers.

Marissa Corrente
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Monica Evans

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 3:30 PM

To: Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org>; Terri Stroud

<TStroud@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Checklist for Local Resident Voter Reg Process

Thanks, Monica

#### **Monica Holman Evans**

Executive Director
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003

email: mevans@dcboe.org Website: www.dcboe.org Phone: 202-727-2511 Cellular: 202-441-1104 Fax: 202-347-2648

From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 3:26 PM

To: Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >; Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >; Terri Stroud

<<u>TStroud@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: RE: Checklist for Local Resident Voter Reg Process



#### Christine

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 3:09 PM

To: Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke

<CPembroke@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** Checklist for Local Resident Voter Reg Process

Hey ladies -

Just sharing (attached) the checklist I put together for VS to facilitate voter reg for any local resident that comes in. Lmk if you have any concerns or edits.

I'll also give Tonisha and Data Services (for list request purposes) a heads up on this "database," unless you think I shouldn't.

Thanks!

m.

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## **Marissa Corrente**

From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 3:07 PM

To: Marissa Corrente; LaKetha Walker; Kevin Newsome; Stacy Burrows; Jorge Quintana;

Richard Thompson II

**Cc:** Alice Miller; Terri Stroud; Antoine Fagan **Subject:** RE: Language for Non-U.S. Citizens

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 3:01 PM

To: LaKetha Walker < LWalker@dcboe.org>; Kevin Newsome < KNewsome@dcboe.org>; Stacy Burrows

<SBurrows@dcboe.org>; Jorge Quintana <JQuintana@dcboe.org>; Richard Thompson II <RThompson@dcboe.org>

Cc: Alice Miller <APMiller@dcboe.org>; Terri Stroud <TStroud@dcboe.org>; Christine Pembroke

<CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Antoine Fagan <AFagan@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Language for Non-U.S. Citizens

Hey y'all -

I believe after Kevin, Christine, me and others met – gosh maybe back in Nov or Dec –

Christine, does this sound right to you based on that meeting? Someone let me know if I'm off base here.

I haven't had a chance to really review the statement yet, so I'll do that after my meetings either today or tomorrow.

Thanks! Marissa

Marissa Corrente (she/her) Registrar of Voters DC Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003 mcorrente@dcboe.org (P) 202.221.8570 (F) 202.347.2648

From: LaKetha Walker

Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 2:21 PM

To: Kevin Newsome < <a href="mailto:KNewsome@dcboe.org">KNewsome@dcboe.org</a>; Stacy Burrows

<SBurrows@dcboe.org>; Jorge Quintana <JQuintana@dcboe.org>; Richard Thompson II <RThompson@dcboe.org>

Cc: Alice Miller < APMiller@dcboe.org >; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke

<CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Antoine Fagan <AFagan@dcboe.org>

Subject: RE: Language for Non-U.S. Citizens

From: Kevin Newsome

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024 12:24 PM

To: Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >; Stacy Burrows < SBurrows@dcboe.org >; Jorge Quintana

<JQuintana@dcboe.org>; LaKetha Walker <<u>LWalker@dcboe.org</u>>; Richard Thompson II <<u>RThompson@dcboe.org</u>>

**Cc:** Alice Miller < APMiller@dcboe.org >; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke

<<u>CPembroke@dcboe.org</u>>; Antoine Fagan <<u>AFagan@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: Language for Non-U.S. Citizens

Good Afternoon everyone,





Kevin Newsome
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE Suite #750
Washington, DC 20003
Election Training Coordinator
202-727-2523 desk
202-727-2525 office
202-631-2683 work cell



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1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 9:31 AM

To: Mohammed Maeruf < <a href="mailto:MMaeruf@dcboe.org">MMaeruf@dcboe.org</a>; Yonatan Berhe < <a href="mailto:yberhe@dcboe.org">yberhe@dcboe.org</a>; Stacy Burrows

<SBurrows@dcboe.org>

Cc: Millicent Green Wright < MWright@dcboe.org >

**Subject:** Local Resident Action Items

Hey there Data Services Team!

Just following up on a couple action items from our meeting on the non-citizen resident form:

I've looped in Milli who will be supporting on these pieces too.

Also happy to meet to talk through before we draft anything if

you want too. Just let us know!

Thanks! Marissa

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(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

## **Marissa Corrente**

From: Marissa Corrente

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023 5:06 PM

To: LaDawne White Cc: Sarah Graham

**Subject:** Local Resident Education and Outreach Materials

Hi LaDawne!

He was wondering if we have any flyers

or brochures yet that address information about registering, etc. and if so, if we could share them with him. And if not maybe some more information on when the materials will be ready and opportunities for partnership down the road. I did share that we plan to have everything up and running by January, but that you or Comms (cc'ed in Sarah) would be able to give him more concrete information.

I'm happy to follow-up with him, but will be out of the office until Tuesday, and figured this was more a VEOD item than VS anyway.

Just lmk how you'd like to proceed!

Thanks!

m.

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mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

## **Marissa Corrente**

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 6:02 PM

To: Monica Evans; Terri Stroud; Mohammed Maeruf; Stacy Burrows

**Cc:** Alice Miller

**Subject:** Local Resident Meeting Follow-up

Hey everyone -

Here are the notes I took. Please review and reply all if I captured anything incorrectly. Action items are at the bottom.





Thanks, m.

Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
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Washington, DC 20003
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(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

## **Marissa Corrente**

From: Marissa Corrente

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 5:20 AM **To:** Antonio Laso; Stacy Burrows; Sarah Graham

**Subject:** Local Resident Related Things

Hey y'all -

Sorry to be out yesterday. I'm sure a lot of this y'all already talked about, but I just wanted to check-in and see if I could support on anything.

Antonio, I know you're working on getting the local resident form available online. Lmk if you need anything from me on that. I also need to connect with you about an edit that we need to the regular, US citizen form as well. Can we chat when you're in?

Stacy, was a decision made about when everything would be live?

Sarah, did we have a date that the physical comms materials would be done by? I think a brochure of some kind was in the works.

Thanks, Marissa

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(F) 202.347.2648

#### **Marissa Corrente**

From: Laquisha Waters

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 3:26 PM

**To:** Marissa Corrente; Myisha Thompson; Terron McAbee; Vanessa Smith; Darius

Troxler

**Cc:** Millicent Green Wright

**Subject:** RE: Non-US Citizen VR Processing

#### Thank you.

Laquisha Waters
Election Services Assistant
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
Lwaters@dcboe.org
(P)202.727.1085
(F)202.347.2648

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 8:43 AM

**To:** Myisha Thompson <MThompson@dcboe.org>; Terron McAbee <TMcAbee@dcboe.org>; Vanessa Smith <VSmith@dcboe.org>; Laquisha Waters <LWaters@dcboe.org>; Darius Troxler <DTroxler@dcboe.org>

Cc: Millicent Green Wright < MWright@dcboe.org>

Subject: Non-US Citizen VR Processing

Hey team!



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
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mcorrente@dcboe.org



# **REGISTERING WITH A POLITICAL PARTY AND VOTING IN PRIMARIES**

You may register as a member of a political party when you register to vote.

Some voters chose not to affiliate with a political party and register as "No Party" or Independent. Keep in mind, Independent voters cannot participate in party primaries, and may only vote in general and special elections. However, they may vote in primary elections on ballot questions (initiatives, referendums, etc.).

In the District of Columbia, the Democratic, Republican, and DC Statehood Green parties hold party primaries in June of each even-numbered year.

New voters can also register with a political party at the polls during Early Voting and on Election Day.

If you are already registered to vote, you cannot change your party affiliation within 21 days of the election.



# WHERE DO I VOTE?

Registered voters may cast their ballot in person at any Vote Center regardless of their residential address. Voters may also return their voted mail ballot to any Vote Center during Early Voting or on **Election Day.** 

Voters can also return a completed ballot via the US Postal Service or by using any of the Mail Ballot Drop Boxes located throughout the District of Columbia. To find the Mail Ballot Drop Box, Early Vote Center, or Vote Center closest to you, please visit www.dcboe.org.

#### **District of Columbia Board of Elections**

1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003

Phone: (202) 727-2525

TTY 711 or Toll-free (800) 843-3768

**FAX:** (202) 347-2648 Website: www.dcboe.org



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@Vote4DC

# DC BOARD OF ELECTIONS (DCBOE)



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT VOTING GUIDE







# HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT VOTING

#### Who can register to vote?

If you are at least 16 years old, you may pre-register to vote. Once you turn 18, your voter registration card will automatically be mailed to you.

If you are 18 or older, you can register to vote. A voter registration card will be mailed to you.

#### Who can vote?

You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be 18 years old by the next general election.

You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.

#### You will need:

You will need to know either your District of Columbia driver's license number OR the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

# Additionally, to register to vote you must also:

- Be a United States citizen to vote in federal elections.
   Non-citizens may vote in local elections;
- **✓** Be a resident of the District of Columbia;
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote:
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another US state, territory, or country;
- Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.



## **VOTER REGISTRATION**

# There are three ways to register to vote in the District of Columbia

#### 1. ONLINE

Scan here to connect to the DCBOE online portal to register to vote.



You can also visit the DCBOE website to register at **www.dcboe.org**.



#### 2. IN-PERSON

You can register in person at the DCBOE office, the Department of Motor Vehicles or any DC Public Library.

#### Registering During Early Voting and on Election Day

When voting begins, you can register and cast your ballot at any Early Vote Center or at any Election Day Vote Center. For same-day registration, you must provide proof of your address using an acceptable form of identification.



#### 3. MAIL, EMAIL, OR FAX

Print a **Voter Registration Application** from **www.dcboe.org** or pick up a form at DCBOE or from any DC Public Library.

Complete and sign the form and return it:

- By mail or in person at DC Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003.
- By email (scanned as an attachment) to DCRegistrations@dcboe.org.
- By fax at (202) 347-2648.

If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and you submit your application by mail, fax, or online, you must either include a copy of one of the following documents with your application or present a copy of the document the first time you vote:

#### **ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF ID**

- ✓ A current and valid District of Columbia governmentissued photo identification.
- ✓ A current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck, which must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the date upon which you return your application or, if you do not submit proof by mail, fax, or online, 90 days before the date you vote.
- A lease, residential agreement, homeless shelter occupancy statement, or university housing or tuition bill.
- ✓ A government-issued document that shows your current name and address.

Your online, mailed, faxed, or emailed application must be received no later than 21 days before an election.

#### **VOTING IN A PRIMARY ELECTION**

To vote in a primary election in the District of Columbia, you must be registered to vote with one of the parties that is eligible to conduct a primary election (Democratic, Republican, or DC Statehood Green). You must be registered with one of these parties 21 days before a primary election, unless you are registering for the first time. In that case, you may register with a party when you vote.







# NON-CITIZEN VOTING IN DC





Starting in 2024, qualified non-citizen District of Columbia residents may vote in local elections, per the <u>Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022</u>.



Non-citizen residents may vote in District of Columbia elections held for the offices of Mayor, Attorney General, Chairperson or member(s) of the DC Council, member(s) of the State Board of Education, or Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner(s), or to vote on initiative, referendum, recall, or charter amendment measures that appear on District of Columbia ballots.



NON-CITIZENS CANNOT VOTE FOR FEDERAL OFFICES.

## Voter eligibility:

To register to vote in the District of Columbia as a non-citizen, you must:

- Be at least 16 years old. (You may pre-register to vote if you are at least 16 years old. You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.)
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote.
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in any state, territory, or country.
- Not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.







WWW.DCBOE.ORG/NONCITIZENVOTER 202-727-2525







A partir de 2024, los residentes no ciudadanos calificados del Distrito de Columbia podrán votar en las elecciones locales según la "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022".



Los ciudadanos no Estadounidense del Distrito de Columbia podrán votar por los cargos de Alcalde, procurador general, presidente del consejo de DC, miembros de la junta estatal de educación, o comisionado del vecindario consultivo, o para votar en una iniciativa, referéndum, destitución, o enmienda a los estatutos que aparecen en la boleta del Distrito de Columbia.



CIUDADANO NO ESTADOUNIDENSE NO PUEDEN VOTAR PARA LAS OFICINAS FEDERALES.

#### Elegibilidad de votante :

Para votar en el Distrito de Columbia como Ciudadano no Estadounidense usted deberia :

- Tener al menos 16 años. (Puede pre-registrarse para votar si tiene al menos 16 años de edad. Puede votar en una elección primaria si tiene al menos 17 años y tendrá al menos 18 años para la próxima elección general. Puede votar en una elección general o especial si tiene al menos 18 años de edad.)
- Mantener la residencia en el Distrito de Columbia durante al menos 30 días antes de la elección en la que tenga la intención de votar.
- No reclamar la residencia de voto o el derecho a votar en otro estado, o territorio de los Estados Unidos, u otro país.
- No haber sido declarado legalmente incompetente para votar por un tribunal.







WWW.DCBOE.ORG/NONCITIZENVOTER 202-727-2525

District of Columbia

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

# NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT



**AGENCY MANUAL** 

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#### I. Introduction

The purpose of this District of Columbia Board of Elections National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Agency Manual (the Manual) is to serve as a resource and reference guide for District of Columbia agencies that have been designated as **Voter Registration Agencies (VRAs)**. Federal and District law require VRAs to offer voter registration services as part of their agency's core duties.

This Manual addresses various topics, including:

- Which District of Columbia agencies are VRAs.
- What VRAs must do to comply with District and federal law.
- What Voter Registration Services consist of.
- When Voter Registration Services must be offered.
- How Voter Registration Services must be offered.
- What voter information must be kept confidential.
- The roles and responsibilities of Board of Elections and VRA Officials.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) is happy to partner with the District's VRAs to ensure that all eligible District residents who want to register to vote can easily do so. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact DCBOE's Registrar of Voters at 202-727-2525.

#### II. Voter Registration Agencies in the District of Columbia

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) is a federal voter registration law intended to:

- Provide increased opportunities for eligible citizens to register to vote.
- Increase voter participation.
- Ensure voter registries are accurate and up-to-date.

The NVRA requires the District of Columbia to designate any government agency that 1) provides public assistance; or 2) administers State-funded programs, primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, as a Voter Registration Agency (VRA). A VRA is an agency that must provide voter registration services.

The NVRA also requires the District to designate other government offices as VRAs. These offices include public schools, public libraries, offices of city and county clerks (including marriage license bureaus), government revenue offices, and unemployment compensation offices. Also included are federal and nongovernmental offices that agree to serve as VRAs.

The section of the NVRA pertaining to VRAs (52 U.S.C. § 20506) can be found on pages 25 - 27 of this Manual, and the section of District law that covers voter registration at VRAs (D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(d)) can be found on pages 34 - 37.

The following District government agencies and offices are VRAs:1

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Health
- Department of Health Care Finance
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services
- Department on Disability Services
- District of Columbia Public Library
- District of Columbia Public Schools
- Health Benefit Exchange Authority
- Department of Aging and Community Living.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Other entities in the District serve as VRAs, including the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Armed Forces recruitment offices. However, this manual addresses relevant procedures for the VRAs listed above.

#### III. VRA Obligations Under the NVRA

#### A. Providing Voter Registration Services

Under the NVRA, VRAs must provide their clients with the opportunity to register to vote by offering **voter** registration services.

#### 1. What Are Voter Registration Services?

Voter registration services include:

- Distributing voter registration applications (see page 12 of this Manual) and Voter
   Preference Forms (see page 8 of this Manual).
- **Providing the same level of assistance to applicants** who complete voter registration applications that would also be provided to them while completing the agency's forms, unless the applicant specifically refuses such assistance.
- Accepting completed voter registration applications and Voter Preference Forms.
- Reviewing completed voter registration applications to ensure that they contain all of the required information.
- Sending completed voter registration applications to DCBOE for processing no later than 10 days after receipt. (Note: If an application is received within five days before the last day to register to vote in an election, the application must be sent to DCBOE no later than five days after receipt.)

#### 2. When Must Voter Registration Services Be Provided?

VRAs must offer voter registration services whenever clients:

- Apply for assistance or services (e.g. health services) for the first time.
- Renew or recertify their assistance or services.
- Change their address with the agency.

VRAs do not need to offer registration services to clients who engage in the activities listed above if they decline to register to vote using the Voter Preference Form.

If a VRA allows clients to engage in one of the activities listed above **remotely (by phone, by mail, by email, or online)**, the VRA **must** offer voter registration services remotely.

#### 3. Where Must Voter Registration Services Be Provided?

Voter registration services must be offered at the VRA. However, **if the VRA provides services to people with disabilities in their homes**, the VRA **must** also provide voter registration services to those individuals in their homes.

#### 4. How Must Voter Registration Services Be Provided?

Voter registration services must be provided in a non-partisan manner that does not improperly influence applicants. While offering voter registration services, employees **must not**:

- Attempt to persuade an applicant to join or not join a particular political party.
- Display any political preference or party allegiance of one's own.
- Say or do anything that would, or might, discourage an applicant from registering to vote.
- Say or do anything that would, or might, lead an applicant to believe that registering or not registering to vote will affect their ability to receive services or benefits.

Generally, VRA employees may encourage clients to apply to register to vote, but they may not discourage clients from registering to vote. To avoid any appearance of improperly influencing clients, employees should avoid discussing politics, political news, and/or political opinions that might influence a client's decision to register to vote or to register with a political party.

To avoid the appearance of any impropriety, DCBOE encourages employees asked about specific party registration to instead call the DCBOE at 202-727-2525.

#### **B.** Maintaining The Confidentiality Of Certain Information

Federal and District law requires that certain information regarding the provision of voter registration services be kept confidential. This information includes:

- The applicant's decision to apply to register to vote, or to decline to apply to register to vote.
- The identity of the agency where the applicant registers to vote.
- The following information on voter registration applications:
  - Month and day of date of birth
  - o Full or partial Social Security numbers
  - Telephone number(s)
  - o Email address(es)

#### C. Retaining Documentation

VRAs are required to retain all Voter Preference Forms for at least 24 months.

#### IV. Voter Registration at VRAs, Step-by-Step

A. Hand the client the Voter Preference Form and ask, "If you are not registered to vote, would you like to register to vote today?"

#### B. If the client:

- 1. Responds that they are already registered at their current address OR that they would not like to apply to register to vote:
  - a. The client should check the box on the Voter Preference Form that corresponds to their response.
  - b. The client should print their name, sign, and date the form in the appropriate places.
  - c. The employee should complete the "For Agency Use Only" section of the form.
  - d. Give the client the white copy of the form.
  - e. Retain the yellow copy of the form for 24 months.

#### 2. Responds that they would like to apply to register to vote:

- a. Have them check the box on the Voter Preference Form that reads, "Yes, I would like to apply to register to vote or update my existing voter registration today."
- b. Ask the client if they would like help with the voter registration application.
- c. Have the client check the box that corresponds to their response.
- d. Have the client print their name, sign, and date the form in the appropriate places.
- e. The employee should complete the "For Agency Use Only" section of the form.
- f. Give the client the white copy of the form.
- g. Give the client a voter registration application;
- h. If the client asked for help with the voter registration application, provide the same level of assistance that would be provided for the completion of the agency's own forms;
- i. When the client has completed the voter registration application, review it completely to ensure that it contains all of the information required for voter registration, including the applicant's signature, before they leave your office;
- j. Date-stamp the voter registration application so that the official date of receipt by the VRA is recorded on the form.
- k. Inform the client that you will send the application to DCBOE and that, if the application is accepted, they should receive a voter registration card within three weeks. Further inform them that they should contact DCBOE if they do not receive a voter registration card within that timeframe.
- I. Transmit the voter registration application to DCBOE within the required timeframe.

#### 3. Declines to both register to vote and complete the Voter Preference Form:

- a. Have the client check the box on the Voter Preference Form that reads, "No, I would not like to register to vote today".
- b. Print the client's name in the space provided on the form.

- c. Print the date in the space provided on the form.
- d. The employee should complete the "For Agency Use Only" section of the form.

#### V. The Voter Preference Form

The Voter Preference Form is the form applicants use to indicate whether they would like to register to vote or update their existing voter registration record. The Voter Preference Form also documents the VRA's compliance with the NVRA.

Every client who applies for, renews, or recertifies benefits or services, or who seeks to change their address at the agency where they receive services, must be asked to complete a Voter Preference Form, regardless of whether they complete a voter registration application.

Under the NVRA, the Voter Preference Form must include:

- The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?"
- If the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency."
- Boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the client would like to register or decline to register to vote, along with the following statement: "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME."
- The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private."
- The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline
  to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register
  to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a
  complaint with the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street,
  SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003 202-727-2525/1-866-DCVOTES (toll-free) / 711 (TTY)."

DCBOE has developed a uniform Voter Preference Form for use by the District's voter registration agencies. (see page 8 of this Manual).

If the client refuses to complete the Voter Preference Form, please document the refusal in the "FOR AGENCY USE ONLY" section of the form. Keep track of all refusals for record-keeping purposes.

The VRA's copy of the Voter Preference Form should not be sent to DCBOE (except at DCBOE's request), but must be retained by the VRA for at least 24 months.

<u>Note</u>: The "FOR AGENCY USE ONLY" section of the form must be completed in all instances, even if the client refuses voter registration services.

# District of Columbia Board of Elections Voter Registration Agency Voter Preference Form

If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today? (You are not eligible to register to vote if you are not a U.S. citizen or if you are not at least 16 years of age.)

Please r	espond by checking ONE of the three numbered boxes below:							
1.	☐ I am already registered at my current address.  NOTE: If you are registered to vote where you live now and you have not changed your address, it is not necessary for you to register to vote again.							
2.	Yes, I would like to apply to register to vote OR update my existing voter registration. (The identity of the agency where you are submitting this application is confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.)  If you would like help completing the voter registration application form, we will help you.  The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may complete the form in private, or outside of this office. If you need help with completing the form outside of this office, please contact the Board of Elections at 202.727.2525.							
	☐ I would like help with the voter registration application form.							
	$\square$ I do not need help with the voter registration application form.							
3.	$\square$ No, I would not like to apply to register to vote today. (The fact that you have declined to register to vote is confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.)							
If you do	o not check any of the three boxes above, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this							
Applica	nt's Printed Name:							
Applica	nt's Signature/Date:							
	IMPORTANT NOTICES							
2.   	Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.  If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or;  If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or;  If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or;  If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or;  If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or;  If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to decline to register to vote; d) to decline to registe							
<ol> <li>Client a</li> <li>Client:</li> </ol>	FOR AGENCY USE ONLY (Check all that apply.)  applied for:  New services/assistance  Renewal or recertification of services/assistance  Address change  applied:  In person  By phone  At home  Online/web service  Submitted paper registration application.  Submitted electronic registration application onsite.  Did not submit application onsite/took application.  Was sent form/application on /// (date).							

4. Client declined to register  $\Box$  (In this case, print the applicant's name and the date in the spaces provided and check Box 3.)

#### VI. The Voter Registration Application

The Voter Registration Application (see page 12 of this Manual) is the form clients use to apply to register to vote. The questions on the Voter Registration Application help DCBOE determine whether an applicant is eligible to register to vote and in which contests.

DCBOE's Voter Registration Application contains the following questions/requests for information (<u>Note</u>: **An asterisk (\*) indicates a required item.**):

#### 1. Question 1: Are you a U.S. Citizen?\*

The applicant must check Yes or No. Only U.S. Citizens may vote in District elections. If the applicant checks No, they should not complete the Voter Registration Application.

# 2. Question 1a: Would you like information on serving as a poll worker for the next election? DCBOE uses this information to establish a pool of potential election workers from among the District's registered voters.

#### 3. Question 2: Reason for completing this form.

Applicants may be applying to register for the first time, or they may be updating or correcting their name, address, or party affiliation. Responding to this question lets DCBOE know whether the applicant is a current or new registrant.

#### 4. Question 3: The applicant's full legal name.\*

If necessary, the appropriate suffix (Jr., Sr., II, III, or IV) should be circled to allow DCBOE to distinguish between two (or more) people at the same address who may have the same name.

#### 5. Question 4: The applicant's full residence address.\*

This information enables DCBOE to register eligible applicants within the appropriate electoral jurisdictions (Ward and Advisory Neighborhood Commission Single Member District), which allows DCBOE to provide the voter with the appropriate ballot in the appropriate precinct and polling place. P.O. Boxes may not be used for residence addresses.

An applicant who does not have a traditional residence address, most typically a homeless applicant, may list a shelter address as their residence address. They may also provide a street corner, park, or other location. They should provide as much detail as they can about the location. For example, they may say that their residence address is "a heating grate on the northwest corner of Half and L Streets, SE." Homeless applicants should be encouraged to register in person at DCBOE whenever possible.

#### 6. Question 5: The applicant's mailing address/email address.

An applicant who wishes to receive registration and election materials, including, potentially, absentee ballots, at an address other than their residence address may provide a different mailing address.

While applicants are not required to provide an email address, doing so will allow DCBOE to contact applicants about their application and, if necessary, share general information about voter registration and District elections. (DCBOE will keep your email address confidential.)

#### 7. Question 6: The applicant's date of birth.\*

Applicants who are at least 18 years of age may vote in all elections in which they are eligible to vote.

Applicants who are at least 17 years of age may vote in primary elections if they will be at least 18 years of age by the next general election.

Applicants who are at least 16 years of age may **pre-register** to vote. This means that they may complete and submit the Voter Registration Application, but their voter registration will not become active until they reach the age at which they may vote.

If the applicant is not at least 16 years of age, they should not complete the Voter Registration Application.

#### 8. Question 7: Daytime phone number.

While applicants are not required to provide a telephone number, doing so will allow DCBOE to contact applicants about their applications and, if necessary, share general information about voter registration and District elections. (DCBOE will keep your telephone number confidential.)

# 9. Questions 8 and 8a: District DMV-issued Identification (ID) Number/Social Security Number (SSN) (last 4 digits).\*

The applicant must provide their DMV-issued ID number. If they do not have a DMV-issued ID number, they should provide the last four digits of their SSN (SSN4). If the applicant does not have either a DMV-issued ID number or an SSN4, they should so indicate in section 8a on the form.

#### 10. Question 9: Party Registration

To vote for candidates in primary elections in the District, the applicant must register with one of the District's major parties. A major party is a party that is eligible to conduct a primary election in the District. As of November 2020, there are four major parties in the District: Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Libertarian.

The applicant does not have to be registered with a major party to vote in the District's general elections.

The DCBOE encourages VRA employees to instruct applicants with questions about party registration to contact DCBOE at 202-727-2525.

#### 11. Question 10: If you need help with voting, please indicate the type of help.

This information allows DCBOE to identify and assist voters with vision, hearing, mobility, or other disabilities.

#### 12. Question 11: What is your primary language if not English?

This information allows DCBOE to identify and assist voters who may not speak English fluently.

#### 13. Question 12: Name and Address on Last Registration.

This information is used to identify people who may already be registered in the District or another jurisdiction, and, if applicable, to notify election officials in the other jurisdiction that the applicant has now registered to vote in the District.

#### 14. Question 13: Voter Declaration/Signature/Date.\*

In this section, the applicant swears or affirms, under penalty of perjury, that they meet all of the requirements necessary to register to vote in the District. To register to vote in the District, the applicant must:

- a. Be a U. S. Citizen.
- b. Live in the District of Columbia (An individual may not vote in an election in the District unless they have lived in the District for at least 30 days before the election in which they intend to vote.)
- c. Be at least 17 years old (As noted above, 17 year olds may register and vote in D.C. primary elections if they will be 18 on or before the next general election. A person may not vote in a D.C. general or special election until they are at least 18 years old. 16 year olds may pre-register to vote.)
- d. Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.
- e. Not claim voting residence outside of the District of Columbia.

The applicant must sign the Voter Declaration in order for the application to be accepted by DCBOE.



### **Voter Registration Application**

District of Columbia
Board of Elections

Use this form to register to vote, or to update your name, address, or party registration.

To vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- Be a United States citizen
- Be a resident of the District of Columbia
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another U.S. State or territory
- \*Be at least 17 years old\*
- \*Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote

To vote in a primary election, you must also be registered in the party holding the primary at least 21 days prior to the election unless you are registering for the first time.

\*You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.

Please complete all items on this form. You are not officially registered to vote until the Board of Elections has approved this application. You should receive a voter registration card in the mail within three weeks of submitting this application. If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and submit this application by mall or electronically, you may be required to provide identification that shows your name and current address the first time you vote in an election in the District of Columbia. Your mailed or electronically submitted application must be received by the Board by the 21st day before the next election. After that date, you can register to vote in person at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750. You can also register on the same day that you vote with valid proof of residence, but registering before you arrive at the polis will save you time.

If you do not receive your voter registration card, or if you have any questions, call (202) 727-2525, (866) 328-6837, or 711 (TTY), or visit www.dcboe.org

¿Necesita ayuda en su idioma? Liame al (202) 727-2525 Пቋንቋዎት እርዳታ ማግኘት ይሻሉ? በስልክ ቁጥር (202) 727-2525 ይደውሉ። 設受以您的语言帮助? 技打Call (202) 727-2525 Avez-vous besoin d'aide dans votre langue ? Appelez le (202) 727-2525 모국어로 도움이 필요하세요? (202) 727-2525로 전화해주세요 Cân sự trợ giúp ngôn ngữ của bạn? Hây gọi (202) 727-2525

(Use a pen to complete this form)

VRF\_Eng\_09\_21

1		3 🖾 No		Reason for	completin	g this form	Voter to N	Upiki#
1a	If you checked 'no', do not complete this form.  Check one: Would you like information on Yes serving as an election?	s D No	2	_		Party Change Name Change	Reg. Date	Clark
3	Last Name	First N	ame			Middle	Name	Suffix (Jr., Sr., II, III, IV)
4	Address Where You Live	lelect one	: 🛘	NE CINW	□SE I	SW Apartm	ent Numbe	or Zip Code
5	Address Where You Get Your Mail (If different from i	¥4)			Zip Code	E-mail	address (C	Optional)
6	Date of Birth Daytime Phone Number (Optional)	8		NV-Issued (D locial Security		you do not have	one, enter	the last 4 digits of
	Party Registration - Check one box  Democratic Party  **PLEASE NO* To vote in a prir	nary	8a		e not been l   Security N	issued a Driver's lumber.	License N	lumber or a
9	☐ D.C. Statehood Green Party ☐ Libertarian Party ☐ **no party (independent) ☐ Columbia, you registered with Democratic, ReD.C. Statehood	election in the District of Columbia, you must be registered with the Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green or Libertarian Party.		· I am : · I live · I am :	d and Sign the Voter Declaration below. ear or affirm that I meet each of the following qualifications: am a U.S. citizen we in the District of Columbia at the address (#4) ebove am at least 16 years old have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to			
10	Optional: If you need help with voting, please indicate thelp:	he type of			ot claim voti state or territ	Ing residence or t	the right to v	vote in another
11	What is your primary language if it is not English?			WARNING	3: If you sign th	nis statement even tho to \$10,000 and/or jet		•
12	Name and Address on Last Registration:					·		
	(if outside D.C., include county and state)			Signate	ure			Date

#### VII. Remote Transactions (Transactions via Phone, Mail, Email, or Online)

The U.S. Department of Justice, which is responsible for enforcing the NVRA, provides the following guidance on remote transactions:

"The NVRA requires that voter registration opportunities be provided with respect to all application, renewal, recertification and change of address transactions regarding service and assistance with [VRAs]. Many [VRAs] routinely provide services/assistance such as application for, or renewal of, services or change-of-address notification through the internet, by telephone, or by mail. States should ensure the availability of voter-registration opportunities to individuals using such remote service/assistance opportunities from designated agencies. Thus, for all such internet transactions, states should advise of the opportunity to register to vote, and should provide some online capability to download or request a voter-registration form. For phone transactions, designated-agency personnel should advise applicants of the opportunity to register to vote and to request a voter registration form. Materials sent by mail to individuals completing phone or internet transactions (such as statements confirming a phone transaction, or renewal or change-of-address forms) should contain a voter-registration form.

In all such internet, phone, and mail transactions, individuals should be given a toll-free phone number, where possible, to call for information and instruction on how to complete the voter-registration process. Where feasible, as is done at many motor-vehicle agencies, States may consider providing for a simultaneous voter-registration opportunity through the electronic portal when individuals apply for services or assistance at a designated agency by that means. In addition, where possible, agencies may consider assisting the applicant in registering to vote by automatically filling in appropriate fields on voter-registration applications with information previously provided by the applicant in order to make the registration process easier and more efficient.

When upgrading technology related to the application/recertification/change of address process at [VRAs], States should ensure that such upgrade includes the voter registration process.

When a state contracts with a private entity to administer services in an agency that is required to offer voter registration, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring provision of voter registration services remains with the State, and the voter registration requirements under the NVRA remain the same."

See National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA): Questions and Answers ¶ 24, https://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra (last visited Sept. 17, 2021).

#### VIII. Roles and Responsibilities of DCBOE and VRA Officials

#### A. DCBOE

DCBOE's Executive Director is the official responsible for the coordination of the District's responsibilities under the NVRA. In this capacity, the Executive Director has the authority to request that any VRA submit written reports and respond to any queries that concern the administration and enforcement of the NVRA and related District laws. The Executive Director may also direct that a civil action be brought against any VRA that fails to comply with pertinent federal and District law.

DCBOE determines the eligibility of each individual who submits a voter registration application at the VRA.

#### **B. VRA Agency Coordinator**

Each VRA should designate an individual within the agency to serve as the Agency Coordinator. The Agency Coordinator manages the VRA's overall voter registration program within the agency and its departments, divisions, and programs; supervises the agency's Site Coordinators (see Subsection C below) in their NVRA-related duties; and ensures that the program is operating in accordance with the NVRA and District law.

The Agency Coordinator is responsible for:

- Monitoring NVRA-related developments and adjusting the VRA's voter registration program and procedures as necessary.
- Compiling Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Forms (see page 17 of this Manual) into the Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form (see page 18 of this Manual) for submission to the DCBOE

(<u>Note</u>: If the agency offers voter registration services at **MULTIPLE** sites, the Agency Coordinator must compile information about the voter registration activity at the various sites and provide it on the NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form. If the agency offers voter registration services at only **ONE** site, the Agency Coordinator must only complete the NVRA Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form.).

- Submitting written reports and responding to queries made by DCBOE.
- Maintaining an up-to-date list of the VRA's Site Coordinators.
- Answering agency questions regarding NVRA procedures.
- Monitoring NVRA compliance (including collecting and analyzing data on the agency's NVRA activities) and overseeing any necessary corrective action plans.
- Serving as a liaison between the VRA and DCBOE.
- Ensuring that the VRA is meeting the NVRA's recordkeeping requirements.
- Ensuring that the VRA sites have adequate supplies of voter registration applications, Voter Preference Forms, and other materials necessary for voter registration.
- Ensuring that all staff, including any volunteers, are trained on NVRA duties.
- Promoting voter registration services via posters, videos, and any other useful media/materials.

#### C. VRA Site Coordinator

The VRA Site Coordinator is the individual responsible for administering the VRA's voter registration program at a particular site/office.

The Site Coordinator is responsible for:

- Maintaining extensive knowledge of the NVRA, including any changes thereto, and relevant procedures/practices.
- Completing Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Forms (see page 17 of this Manual).
- Monitoring and communicating to staff any changes in relevant procedures/practices.
- Supervising daily voter registration activities.
- Resolving site questions and problems relating to the voter registration process.
- Tracking voter registration and declination forms.
- Forwarding completed voter registration applications to Agency Coordinator within the required time frame.

#### IX. Reporting and Accountability (Monthly Reporting Forms)

In accordance with D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(d)(12)(B)(i), and to ensure compliance with the NVRA and assess the impact of the overall voter registration program at each VRA, each VRA Site Coordinator must complete the **Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form** and submit it to the VRA's Agency Coordinator. The NVRA Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form will provide information on each VRA's monthly voter registration activity at a particular site or office.

The VRA Agency Coordinator must, in turn, compile and assemble the data submitted on each Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form into an NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form that must be submitted to DCBOE at the end of each month. The NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form will provide information on the amount of voter registration activity at an entire VRA over the course of a month.

The Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form must include the following information:

- The number of clients served at the site during the reporting month:
   This is the number of clients who applied at the site for assistance or services, or sought to renew or recertify their assistance or services, or filed a change of address.
- 2. The number of clients who were offered voter registration services:

  This is the number of clients in #1 (above) who were asked if they would like to register to vote.
- 3. The number of clients who indicated that they were already registered to vote at their current address.

- 4. The number of clients who declined to apply to register to vote.
- 5. The number of clients who took voter registration applications to complete offsite.
- 6. The number of clients who completed applications online while onsite.
- 7. The number of completed paper applications transmitted to the Agency Coordinator.

# District of Columbia Board of Elections NVRA Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form

Agency:	
Site Name/Address:	
Site Coordinator:	
Telephone (incl. ext.):	Email:
Report Date (MM/YY):	<del></del>
Site Coordinator Signature:	
<u>Instructions</u> : Please review your report for accuracy and resol blank - if there is no value for a particular query, insert a zero Coordinator by no later than the 7 <sup>th</sup> of each month.	
Number of clients served at the site during the reporting month	
Number of clients who were offered voter registration services	
Number of clients who indicated that they were already registered to vote at their current address	
Number of clients who declined to apply to register to vote	
Number of clients who took voter registration applications to complete offsite	
Number of clients who completed application online while onsite	
Number of completed paper applications transmitted to Agency Coordinator	

# District of Columbia Board of Elections NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form

Agency:					
Main Address:					
Agency Coordinator:					
Telephone (incl. ext.):	Email:				
Report Date (MM/YY):	<del></del>				
Agency Coordinator Signature:					
<u>Instructions</u> : Please review your report for accuracy and reso blank - if there is no value for a particular query, insert a zero later than the 15th of each month.	•				
Number of clients served at the agency during the reporting month					
Number of clients who were offered voter registration services					
Number of clients who indicated that they were already registered to vote at their current address					
Number of clients who declined to apply to register to vote					
Number of clients who took voter registration applications to complete offsite					
Number of clients who completed application online while onsite					
Number of completed paper applications transmitted to DCBOE					

#### X. Voter Registration/Voting FAQ

You should be prepared to answer the following FAQs about voting and voter registration. If your clients have questions that do not appear below, please have them contact DCBOE at 202.727.2525, or visit our website at www.dcboe.org.

#### A. Voter Registration

#### 1. Am I already registered to vote?

You can check to see if you are registered to vote at <a href="https://dcboe.org/Voters/Register-To-Vote/Check-Voter-Registration-Status">https://dcboe.org/Voters/Register-To-Vote/Check-Voter-Registration-Status</a>. Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, and zip code to determine your registration status.

#### 2. Who is eligible to register to vote?

You are eligible to register to vote in the District of Columbia if you:

- Are a U.S. Citizen.
- Have lived in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days before the election.
- Are not registered and planning to vote in another U.S. state or territory.
- Are at least 17 and will be at least 18 by the next general election. (If you are at least 16, you can pre-register to vote.).
- Have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.

#### 3. How do I register to vote?

You can register to vote in the following ways:

- In person visit DCBOE (1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003) or a VRA.
- Online visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote/Register-to-Vote/Register-to-Vote/">https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote/</a>
- By mail download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf
   print and mail the complete application to 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003;
- By email download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf, save and email the complete application to <u>DCregistrations@dcboe.org</u>.
- When you vote the District of Columbia offers Same Day Registration (Voters who
  provide valid proof of residence at the time of voting may vote a live ballot, and those
  who do not provide valid proof of residence may vote a special (provisional) ballot.

#### 4. What are acceptable forms of proof of residence?

Acceptable forms of proof of residence include:

- Current and valid District of Columbia DMV-issued ID.
- Utility bill for water, gas, electricity, cable, internet, telephone, or cellular phone service (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Savings, checking, credit, or money market account from a bank or credit union (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Paycheck, stub, or earning statement that includes the employer's name, address, and telephone number (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Government-issued document or check from a federal or District government agency (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Current residential lease or rental agreement.
- Occupancy statement from a District homeless shelter (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Tuition or housing bill from a District of Columbia college or university issued for the current academic or housing term.

#### 5. Is there a deadline for registering to vote or for updating my registration?

The deadline for the receipt of voter registration applications (for purposes of both registering and updating your registration) submitted online through the DCBOE online web application, or by mail is the 21<sup>st</sup> day before each election.

Voter registration applications may be submitted in-person at the DCBOE office or at a VRA after the 21<sup>st</sup> day before each election. However, if early voting has begun, please encourage individuals to participate in same-day registration.

The deadline for currently registered voters to update their party affiliation status is the 21<sup>st</sup> day before a primary election.

**Same-day registration.** The District offers same-day registration, so if you miss the deadline for registering to vote, you may register to vote at the same time that you vote either during the Early Voting period or on Election Day.

#### 6. Do I need to show my identification (ID) when I register to vote or vote?

Generally, you do not need identification to register to vote or vote in the District. However, first-time voters in the District of Columbia who register online through DCBOE's web application, or by mail must provide a copy of their identification either when registering or when voting in person or by mail. Identification includes a valid photo identification or a utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that shows name and address of the voter.

#### 7. May I use my business address or a post office (PO) box number to register to vote?

No. You must use your residential address to register. You can, however, choose to receive mail at your business address or PO Box.

#### 8. Am I required to register with a political party?

No. You are not required to register with a political party. However, you must be registered with one of the parties that are eligible to conduct a primary election in the District of Columbia (Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Libertarian) if you wish to vote for candidates in a primary election.

You do not have to be registered with a political party to vote on any referenda or recall measures that may appear on a primary election ballot.

#### 9. How do I change or update my registration?

You can update your registration in the following ways:

- In person visit DCBOE (1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003) or a VRA;
- Online visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote">https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote</a>;
- Through the DCBOE online web application;
- By mail download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf, print and mail the complete application to 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003; or
- By email download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf, save and email the complete application to <u>DCregistrations@dcboe.org</u>.

#### 10. Do I ever need to re-register to vote?

Once you are registered to vote, you remain registered unless DCBOE is notified that you no longer meet the requirements for voter registration. For example, if DCBOE is notified that you have moved out of the District of Columbia, your registration will be cancelled. You will be required to re-register to vote in the District of Columbia, if you subsequently become eligible to vote again.

In addition, if you move within the District of Columbia or change your name, you should update your voter registration (See **Question #9** above.)

#### 11. How do I cancel my voter registration?

You can cancel your voter registration by submitting signed authorization to the Registrar of Voters requesting that your name be removed from the voter registry.

#### B. Voting

#### 1. When are elections held in the District?

Primary elections are held on the first Tuesday in June of each Presidential election year, and on the third Tuesday in June of every non-presidential even-numbered year.

General elections are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year.

#### 2. What is the difference between a primary election and a general election?

A primary election is an election in which registered members of a party vote to **nominate** the candidates that will represent the party in the various contests for political office in a general election. In these elections, candidates in the same party run against each other. The successful candidate is selected by members of their party.

In the District, primary elections are **closed**. This means that you may not vote for candidates in a party's primary election unless you are registered with that party.

A general election is an election in which registered voters vote to **elect** the individuals to hold the various political offices. In these elections, candidates from different parties run against each other, as well as against no-party/independent candidates. The successful candidate is elected by all registered voters, regardless of party affiliation.

#### 3. What is a special election?

A special election is an election scheduled at other than the usual date for a specific purpose, often to fill an office that has become vacant before the incumbent has completed their term.

#### 4. When and where can I vote in person?

You can vote **on Election Day** at the polling place that serves your residence address between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm.

You can vote early at Early Voting Centers between 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.

Early voting typically begins 15 days before Election Day at One Judiciary Square (441 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW) and 11 days before Election Day at ward-based satellite Early Voting Centers, and typically ends 4 days before Election Day.

#### 5. How can I vote?

Generally, you can vote in person as indicated above, or you can vote by mail. (See Question #9 below for special rules for military/overseas voters.)

You can request a mail ballot by:

- Completing an Absentee Ballot Request form at <a href="https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/Absentee-Request-Form-and-Information-10262020 b.pdf">https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/Absentee-Request-Form-and-Information-10262020 b.pdf</a>, printing it, and mailing it to the DC Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003. If you are unable to print, sign, and/or scan the form, save the completed form as a pdf and email it to DCabsentee@dcboe.org.
- Submitting an electronic request through the DCBOE's online web application.

#### 6. Is there a deadline for submitting a request for a mail/absentee ballot?

DCBOE must receive absentee ballot requests from regular (non-military/overseas) voters by no later than 4:45 pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> day before the election.

DCBOE must receive absentee ballot requests from military/overseas voters by no later than 4:45 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day before the election.

#### 7. What will happen when I go to vote?

When you arrive at the polling location, you will first visit the Registration Clerk (RC) station. There, the RC will ask you to state your name and address. (In the case of a primary election, the RC will also ask you to verify your party affiliation.) You may also be asked to provide your date of birth. The RC will search for your information in the KNOWiNK Poll Pad (an electronic poll book), and if there is an exact match confirming information you provided in the Poll Pad, you will be issued a ballot ticket which you will exchange for a ballot to vote.

In certain circumstances, the RC may need to verify or update additional information for the voter before you can receive a ballot. If this is the case, the RC will give you a Special Ballot Referral Form which will provide the reason that you must provide additional information. (Most frequently, the reason you would need to provide additional information is that you need to register to vote or update your registration information.) After the RC has finished processing the voter, you will be given either a ballot ticket which you will exchange for a ballot to vote, or materials with which to vote a **provisional ballot**.

#### 8. What is a special (provisional) ballot?

A special (or provisional) ballot is the same as a regular ballot **except** that it is used to record the vote of an individual whose eligibility to cast a ballot in an election must be verified before the ballot can be counted.

An individual who votes a provisional ballot is required to provide certain written information along with the ballot so that DCBOE may verify their eligibility to cast the ballot. If DCBOE

determines that the provisional ballot voter is eligible to vote, the provisional ballot will be counted. (Valid provisional ballots are counted even if they will not change the outcome of an election.) If DCBOE determines that the voter is not eligible to vote, the provisional ballot will be rejected.

For more information on special ballots, visit: <a href="https://dcboe.org/Voters/How-to-Vote/Special-Ballot-Voting">https://dcboe.org/Voters/How-to-Vote/Special-Ballot-Voting</a>.

# 9. How do I vote if I am a member of the uniformed services (or a spouse or dependent) or a citizen residing overseas?

Military and overseas voters can use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which serves as both a voter registration application and an absentee ballot request form. The FPCA is available for download from the Department of Defense's Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) at <a href="https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia">https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia</a>. You may email your completed FPCA to uocava@dcboe.org.

Military and overseas voters can receive and return their absentee ballot by mail, fax, or email. If it is getting close to Election Day and you have not received your absentee ballot, you can use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as an emergency, backup ballot. FVAP provides fillable FWABs and provides assistance in using FWABs at <a href="https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia">https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia</a>.

#### 10. What contests and candidates are on the ballot?

For a listing of contests and candidates on the ballot, visit the Candidates section of the DCBOE's website.

#### 11. Can I vote for someone who is not on the ballot?

Yes. You may cast a write-in vote for a candidate other than those who have qualified to appear on the ballot in any primary, general, or special election held in the District of Columbia to nominate or elect candidates to public office.

Local party committees may or may not permit write-in votes in contests held to elect the committee's members and officials.

#### 12. Who are the current elected officials?

For a listing of current and past elected officials, please visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/Elections/Elected-Officials-(Current-Past">https://dcboe.org/Elections/Elected-Officials-(Current-Past)</a>.

#### XI. Relevant Federal and District Law

#### A. The National Voter Registration Act

52 U.S.C. § 20506 - Voter registration agencies

#### (a) Designation

- (1) Each State shall designate agencies for the registration of voters in elections for Federal office.
- (2) Each State shall designate as voter registration agencies—
  - (A) all offices in the State that provide public assistance; and
  - (B) all offices in the State that provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities.
- (3)
  (A) In addition to voter registration agencies designated under paragraph (2), each State shall designate other offices within the State as voter registration agencies.
  - (B) Voter registration agencies designated under subparagraph (A) may include—
    - (i) State or local government offices such as public libraries, public schools, offices of city and county clerks (including marriage license bureaus), fishing and hunting license bureaus, government revenue offices, unemployment compensation offices, and offices not described in paragraph (2)(B) that provide services to persons with disabilities; and
    - (ii) Federal and nongovernmental offices, with the agreement of such offices.
- (4)
- (A) At each voter registration agency, the following services shall be made available:
  - (i) Distribution of mail voter registration application forms in accordance with paragraph (6).
  - (ii) Assistance to applicants in completing voter registration application forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.
  - (iii) Acceptance of completed voter registration application forms for transmittal to the appropriate State election official.
- (B) If a voter registration agency designated under paragraph (2)(B) provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home, the agency shall provide the services described in subparagraph (A) at the person's home.
- (5) A person who provides service described in paragraph (4) shall not—
  - (A) seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration;

- (B) display any such political preference or party allegiance;
- (C) make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to discourage the applicant from registering to vote; or
- (D) make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to lead the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.
- (6) A voter registration agency that is an office that provides service or assistance in addition to conducting voter registration shall—
  - (A) distribute with each application for such service or assistance, and with each recertification, renewal, or change of address form relating to such service or assistance—
    - (i) the mail voter registration application form described in section 20508(a)(2) of this title, including a statement that—
      - (I) specifies each eligibility requirement (including citizenship);
      - (II) contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement; and
      - (III) requires the signature of the applicant, under penalty of perjury; or
    - (ii) the office's own form if it is equivalent to the form described in section 20508(a)(2) of this title, unless the applicant, in writing, declines to register to vote;
  - (B) provide a form that includes—
    - (i) the question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?";
    - (ii) if the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.";
    - (iii) boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register or declines to register to vote (failure to check either box being deemed to constitute a declination to register for purposes of subparagraph (C)), together with the statement (in close proximity to the boxes and in prominent type), "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.";
    - (iv) the statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private."; and
    - (v) the statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with

.",<sup>2</sup> the blank being filled by the name, address, and telephone number of the appropriate official to whom such a complaint should be addressed; and

- (C) provide to each applicant who does not decline to register to vote the same degree of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration application form as is provided by the office with regard to the completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.
- (7) No information relating to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application made at an office described in paragraph (6) may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.

#### (b) Federal Government and private sector cooperation

All departments, agencies, and other entities of the executive branch of the Federal Government shall, to the greatest extent practicable, cooperate with the States in carrying out subsection (a), and all nongovernmental entities are encouraged to do so.

#### (c) Armed Forces recruitment offices

- (1) Each State and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly develop and implement procedures for persons to apply to register to vote at recruitment offices of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- (2) A recruitment office of the Armed Forces of the United States shall be considered to be a voter registration agency designated under subsection (a)(2) for all purposes of this chapter.

#### (d) Transmittal deadline

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a completed registration application accepted at a voter registration agency shall be transmitted to the appropriate State election official not later than 10 days after the date of acceptance.
- (2) If a registration application is accepted within 5 days before the last day for registration to vote in an election, the application shall be transmitted to the appropriate State election official not later than 5 days after the date of acceptance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the District, you may file a complaint with the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003 • 202.727.2525/1.866.DCVOTES (toll-free) / 711 (TTY).

The U.S. Department of Justice, which is responsible for enforcing the NVRA, provides the following guidance on voter registration at VRAs. *See* National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA): Questions and Answers, <a href="http://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra">http://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra</a> (last visited Sept. 17, 2021).

#### SECTION 7 – VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES

#### 1. Under Section 7 of the NVRA, which offices must offer voter-registration services?

Any office in a covered State that provides either public assistance or state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities must offer voter-registration services. Armed Forces recruitment offices must also provide voter registration services. In addition, a State must designate other offices in the State as voter-registration agencies. (See Question 4 below for a description of these other offices).

#### 2. What is an office that provides public assistance under Section 7?

"Public assistance" offices that must offer voter-registration services under Section 7 of the NVRA include each agency and office in a State that administers or provides services or assistance under any public assistance programs. This includes any of the following federal public assistance programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly the Food-Stamp Program), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (formerly the Aid to Families with Dependent Children or AFDC program), the Medicaid program, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). This also includes state public assistance programs.

# 3. What is an office that provides state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities?

Offices that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities include offices providing vocational rehabilitation, transportation, job training, education counseling, rehabilitation, or independent-living services for persons with disabilities. Because States vary greatly in the manner in which they provide services to persons with disabilities, each State must identify the specific offices and agencies that fit this definition. In doing so, States may want to consult with offices that deal with issues related to persons with disabilities, such as the protection and advocacy offices and client assistance program offices within that State.

Section 7 also requires that if an office provides services to a person with disabilities at the person's home, the office must provide the opportunity to register to vote at home. Offices serving persons with disabilities often offer specialized assistance in completing the agency service or benefit application forms, and Section 7 requires such offices to offer voter registration applicants the same degree of assistance in completing voter registration forms as is offered in completing the agency's own application forms.

#### 4. Does Section 7 require designation of other offices as voter registration agencies?

Yes. In addition to offices providing public assistance and services to persons with disabilities, States are also required by Section 7 to designate "other offices" within a State as voter-registration agencies. A State is free to determine which other agencies/offices should be designated, according to its needs and preferences, but it must make additional designations. Such other agency designations may include State or local government offices such as public libraries, public schools, State colleges, universities and community colleges, city and county clerk's offices, marriage license offices, fishing and hunting license offices, government revenue offices, and unemployment compensation offices. Offices not otherwise covered under the NVRA that provide services to persons with disabilities may also be designated. In addition, with the agreement of such entities, States may designate, as voter-registration agencies, nongovernmental offices (such as private colleges) or Federal government offices.

#### 5. Do armed forces recruitment offices have to provide voter-registration services?

Yes. The NVRA requires all federal Armed Forces recruitment offices in each State subject to the NVRA provide voter registration services. Visit <a href="https://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices">https://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices</a> for information on voter registration at Armed Forces recruitment offices.

#### 6. What voter-registration services must be made available?

Each office designated as a voter registration agency under Section 7 that provides services or assistance in addition to conducting voter registration must do the following:

- 1. Distribute voter-registration application forms.
- 2. Provide an "information" form that contains information on the voter-registration process (see Question 10 below for a description of the "information" form).
- 3. Provide the same level of assistance to all applicants in completing voter-registration application forms as is provided with respect to every other service or application for benefits (unless the applicant specifically refuses such assistance).
- 4. Accept completed voter-registration forms from applicants.
- 5. Transmit each completed voter-registration application to the appropriate State election official within a prescribed time frame.

# 7. What persons must be provided the opportunity to register to vote by Section 7 designated offices and agencies?

Designated agencies must provide the opportunity to register to vote to persons when: 1) applying for the agency's assistance or services; 2) seeking recertification or renewal of those services; and 3) changing address for the assistance or services.

# 8. What does Section 7 require with regard to distribution of voter registration forms and information forms?

Each office designated under Section 7 that provides services or assistance must distribute to each applicant for services or assistance, and each applicant for recertification, renewal or change of address with respect to such services or assistance, one of the voter registration application forms described in Question 9 below. In addition, each such office also must distribute to each applicant a form, known as an information form, described in Question 10 below.

#### 9. What types of voter-registration forms can be distributed to applicants?

Section 7 agencies must distribute one of the three voter-registration forms listed below:

- National Mail Voter Registration Form The agency may use this federal form, which has been
  developed by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. This form is available on the EAC's web
  site at <a href="http://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form">http://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form</a>. In addition to
  containing a voter-registration application, this document lists certain state-specific voting
  requirements.
- State mail voter-registration form The agency may use its State mail voter-registration form, so long as it meets the requirements of Section 9 of the NVRA. This State form would not be as lengthy as the federal form, which contains information about voter registration in each state. Such a form should be easier for applicants to navigate and easier for agencies and election officials to process.
- 3. Designated agency's own form<sup>3</sup> The agency also may use its own version of a voter-registration form, if it is equivalent to the federal form and has been approved by the State. This type of form may lead to more efficient voter-registration transactions at designated agencies that provide services or assistance, since it could be made a seamless part of the forms normally used by the designated agency. As an example, where agency assistance/services forms are generated by computer during the process of interviewing the applicant, the voter-registration form likewise might be generated during this same process, pre-populated with information already provided by the applicant. Or a perforated voter-registration application might be attached at the bottom of a State services form, so that it can be easily completed, detached, and transmitted to the appropriate election official.

#### 10. What is the "information form," and what should States put on it?4

Section 7 requires that designated offices provide each applicant for services or assistance an information form containing specific information concerning the individual's opportunity to register to vote. This form, which may be part of or separate from the voter-registration form, must include the following information:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> We strongly recommend the use of DCBOE's voter registration form.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This is our Voter Preference Form.

- 1. The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?"
- 2. If the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency."
- 3. Boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register to vote or declines to register to vote, together with the statement (in close proximity to the boxes and in prominent type), "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME." (Failure to check either box is deemed a declination to register for purposes of receiving assistance in registration but is not deemed a written declination to receive an application)
- 4. The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private." and
- 5. The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ." The blank should be filled by the name, address, and telephone number of the appropriate official to whom such a complaint should be addressed.

No information relating to a declination to register to vote may be used for any purpose other than voter registration. If the information form is separate from the voter-registration form, it is recommended that a statement regarding this non-use of declination information be included on the voter-registration form, as well as a statement that if the applicant registers to vote, information submitted will be used only for voter-registration purposes.

#### 11. Are Section 7 agencies required to assist persons in completing a voter-registration application?

Yes. Section 7 agencies must provide to each applicant the same degree of assistance in completing the voter-registration application form as is provided by the office in completing its own agency forms, unless the applicant declines to register to vote or declines such assistance.

As an example, if it is the practice of a Section 7 agency for its employees to take time to explain to each applicant the various forms involved in the agency application, recertification or other process and answer applicant questions before the applicant completes the forms, this type of assistance must also be given at that time to such applicants with regard to the voter registration application process. Similarly, if it is agency practice to make sure that agency forms are completed and signed when submitted by an applicant, the same practice should apply to a voter registration application submitted by that applicant.

Offices serving persons with disabilities often offer specialized assistance in completing the agency service or benefit application forms. Section 7 requires such offices to offer voter registration applicants the same degree of assistance in completing voter registration forms as is offered in completing the agency's own application forms.

#### 12. Does Section 7 put any restrictions on how office staff may interact with applicants?

Yes. Any person who provides voter-registration services at a Section 7 agency is prohibited from: 1) seeking to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration; 2) displaying any political preference or party allegiance; 3) taking any action or making any statement to an applicant to discourage the applicant from registering to vote; or 4) taking any action or making any statement that may lead the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.

## 13. Do the voter registration requirements of Section 7 of the NVRA apply to all application, renewal, recertification and change of address transactions with designated offices?

Yes. The NVRA requires that voter registration opportunities be provided with respect to all application, renewal, recertification and change of address transactions regarding service and assistance with Section 7 offices. Many Section 7 designated agencies/offices routinely provide services/assistance such as application for, or renewal of, services or change-of-address notification through the internet, by telephone, or by mail. States should ensure the availability of voter-registration opportunities to individuals using such remote service/assistance opportunities from designated agencies. Thus, for all such internet transactions, States should advise of the opportunity to register to vote, and should provide some online capability to download or request a voter-registration form. For phone transactions, designated-agency personnel should advise applicants of the opportunity to register to vote and to request a voter registration form. Materials sent by mail to individuals completing phone or internet transactions (such as statements confirming a phone transaction, or renewal or change-of-address forms) should contain a voter-registration form.

In all such internet, phone, and mail transactions, individuals should be given a toll-free phone number, where possible, to call for information and instruction on how to complete the voter-registration process. Where feasible, as is done at many motor-vehicle agencies, States may consider providing for a simultaneous voter-registration opportunity through the electronic portal when individuals apply for services or assistance at a designated agency by that means. In addition, where possible, agencies may consider assisting the applicant in registering to vote by automatically filling in appropriate fields on voter-registration applications with information previously provided by the applicant in order to make the registration process easier and more efficient.

When upgrading technology related to the application/recertification/change of address process at Section 7 agencies, States should ensure that such upgrade includes the voter registration process.

When a state contracts with a private entity to administer services in an agency that is required to offer voter registration, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring provision of voter registration services remains with the state, and the voter registration requirements under the NVRA remain the same.

## 14. What is a Section 7 agency required to do with completed voter registration applications accepted at its offices?

The designated agency must submit the completed voter-registration application to the appropriate State or local election official within a prescribed period of time unless the applicant desires to submit it himself or herself. The agency providing voter-registration services may not require a registrant to mail in the form himself or herself or discourage him or her in any manner from submitting the form to the agency. When an applicant submits a completed voter-registration application to an agency, the agency must transmit the form to the appropriate State or local election official within ten days. However, if the agency receives a completed voter-registration application within five days before the last day to register to vote in an election, the application must be transmitted to the appropriate State or local election official within five days.

#### B. D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(d)

(1)

- (A) Any agency of the District of Columbia government that provides public assistance or that operates or funds programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities shall be designated as a voter registration agency.
- (B) In addition to the agencies named in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Youth and Rehabilitative Services, the Department of Aging and Community Living, the District of Columbia Public Library, and the District of Columbia Public Schools shall be designated as voter registration agencies; provided, that access to voter registration services at District of Columbia Public Schools shall be restricted to District of Columbia Public Schools students and employees.
- (C) The Mayor may designate any other executive branch agency of the District of Columbia government as a voter registration agency by filing written notice of the designation with the Board.
- (D) The District shall cooperate with the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement procedures for persons to apply to register to vote at Armed Forces recruitment offices.
- (2) The agencies named in paragraphs (1)(A), (B), and (C) of this subsection shall:
  - (A) Distribute with each application for service or assistance, and with each recertification, renewal, or change of address form relating to the service or assistance, a voter registration application, unless the applicant, in writing, declines to register to vote;
  - (B) Provide assistance to applicants in completing voter registration application forms, unless the applicant refuses assistance;
  - (C) Provide the services described in this paragraph at the person's home, if a voter registration agency provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home;
  - (D) Accept completed forms and forward these forms to the Board as prescribed in this section; and
  - (E) Regularly promote election-related information on the voter registration agencies' social media platforms, including by providing information about how to register to vote and vote.
- (3) Each voter registration agency shall, on its own application, document, or on a separate form, provide to each applicant for service or assistance, recertification or renewal, or change of address the following information:
  - (A) The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?";

- (B) Boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register or decline to register to vote (failure to check either box being deemed to constitute a declination to register for purposes of subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, together with the statement (in close proximity to the boxes and in prominent type), "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.";
- (C) The statement, "If you would like help completing the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may complete the application form in private.";
- (D) The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the chief administrative officer of the Board of Elections and Ethics [Board of Elections]."; the name, title, address, and telephone number of the chief administrative officer shall be included on the form; and
- (E) If the voter registration agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.".
- (4) No person who provides a voter registration service at a District of Columbia government agency shall:
  - (A) Seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration;
  - (B) Display any political preference or party allegiance;
  - (C) Make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to discourage the applicant from registering to vote; or
  - (D) Make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to lead the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.
- (5) Each agency that has been designated a voter registration agency in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall provide to each applicant who does not decline to register the same degree of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration application form as provided by the office with regard to the completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses assistance.
- (6) No information that relates to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application made at an office described in this subsection may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.
- (7) No voter registration agency shall reveal whether a particular individual completed an application to register to vote except when ordered by the officer designated in paragraph (12)(A) of this subsection when a complaint has been filed pursuant to paragraph (11) of this subsection or pursuant to § 11 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.
- (8) A completed voter registration application or change of address or name accepted at a voter registration agency shall be transmitted by the agency to the Board by not later than 10 days after its acceptance by the

agency, except that if a voter registration application is accepted at a voter registration agency office within 5 days before the deadline for voter registration in any election, the application shall be transmitted by the agency to the Board not later than 5 days after the date of acceptance.

- (9) An application accepted at a voter registration agency shall be considered to have been received by the Board pursuant to subsection (e) of this section as of the date of acceptance by the voter registration agency.
- (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board shall ensure that the identity of the voter registration agency through which any particular individual is registered to vote is not disclosed to the public.
- (11) An allegation of violation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.] or of this subchapter may be made in writing, filed with the chief administrative officer of the Board and detail concisely the alleged violation.

(12)

- (A) The Board shall designate its chief administrative officer as the official responsible for the coordination of the District of Columbia's responsibilities under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.] and as the official responsible for the coordination of this subchapter.
- (B) The chief administrative officer designated under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and the Board shall have the authority:
  - (i) To request any voter registration agency to submit in writing any reports and to answer any questions as the chief administrative officer or the Board may prescribe that relate to the administration and enforcement of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.] and of this subchapter; and
  - (ii) To bring a civil action in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for declaratory or injunctive relief with respect to the failure of any voter registration agency to comply with the requirements of this subchapter.
- (13) The Board may adopt regulations with respect to the coordination and administration of the National Voter Registration Act Conforming Amendment Act of 1994 and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.].

(14)

- (A) Agencies, other than voter registration agencies, may be designated as application distribution agencies. These agencies shall include the District of Columbia Public Library, the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, the Metropolitan Police Department, and any other executive agency the Mayor designates in writing.
- (B) Each application distribution agency shall request, and the Board shall provide, sufficient quantities of mail-in voter registration applications for distribution to the public.

- (C) These mail-in voter registration applications shall be placed in each office or substation of the agency in an accessible location and in clear view so that citizens may easily obtain a mail-in voter registration application.
- (D) Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to require or permit employees of a mail-in voter registration application distribution agency to accept completed forms for delivery to the Board or to provide assistance in completing an application.
- (15) The Board shall transmit an annual report to the Mayor and Council providing the number of voter registration applications received and the number of voter registration applications approved at each voter registration agency.

District of Columbia

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

# NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT



**AGENCY MANUAL** 

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#### I. Introduction

The purpose of this District of Columbia Board of Elections National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Agency Manual (the Manual) is to serve as a resource and reference guide for District of Columbia agencies that have been designated as **Voter Registration Agencies (VRAs)**. Federal and District law require VRAs to offer voter registration services as part of their agency's core duties.

This Manual addresses various topics, including:

- Which District of Columbia agencies are VRAs.
- What VRAs must do to comply with District and federal law.
- What Voter Registration Services consist of.
- When Voter Registration Services must be offered.
- How Voter Registration Services must be offered.
- What voter information must be kept confidential.
- The roles and responsibilities of Board of Elections and VRA Officials.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) is happy to partner with the District's VRAs to ensure that all eligible District residents who want to register to vote can easily do so. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact DCBOE's Registrar of Voters at 202-727-2525.

#### II. Voter Registration Agencies in the District of Columbia

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) is a federal voter registration law intended to:

- Provide increased opportunities for eligible citizens to register to vote.
- Increase voter participation.
- Ensure voter registries are accurate and up-to-date.

The NVRA requires the District of Columbia to designate any government agency that 1) provides public assistance; or 2) administers State-funded programs, primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, as a Voter Registration Agency (VRA). A VRA is an agency that must provide voter registration services.

The NVRA also requires the District to designate other government offices as VRAs. These offices include public schools, public libraries, offices of city and county clerks (including marriage license bureaus), government revenue offices, and unemployment compensation offices. Also included are federal and nongovernmental offices that agree to serve as VRAs.

The section of the NVRA pertaining to VRAs (52 U.S.C. § 20506) can be found on pages 25 - 27 of this Manual, and the section of District law that covers voter registration at VRAs (D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(d)) can be found on pages 34 - 37.

The following District government agencies and offices are VRAs:1

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Health
- Department of Health Care Finance
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services
- Department on Disability Services
- District of Columbia Public Library
- District of Columbia Public Schools
- Health Benefit Exchange Authority
- Department of Aging and Community Living.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Other entities in the District serve as VRAs, including the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Armed Forces recruitment offices. However, this manual addresses relevant procedures for the VRAs listed above.

#### III. VRA Obligations Under the NVRA

#### A. Providing Voter Registration Services

Under the NVRA, VRAs must provide their clients with the opportunity to register to vote by offering **voter** registration services.

#### 1. What Are Voter Registration Services?

Voter registration services include:

- Distributing voter registration applications (see page 12 of this Manual) and Voter
   Preference Forms (see page 8 of this Manual).
- **Providing the same level of assistance to applicants** who complete voter registration applications that would also be provided to them while completing the agency's forms, unless the applicant specifically refuses such assistance.
- Accepting completed voter registration applications and Voter Preference Forms.
- Reviewing completed voter registration applications to ensure that they contain all of the required information.
- Sending completed voter registration applications to DCBOE for processing no later than 10 days after receipt. (Note: If an application is received within five days before the last day to register to vote in an election, the application must be sent to DCBOE no later than five days after receipt.)

#### 2. When Must Voter Registration Services Be Provided?

VRAs must offer voter registration services whenever clients:

- Apply for assistance or services (e.g. health services) for the first time.
- Renew or recertify their assistance or services.
- Change their address with the agency.

VRAs do not need to offer registration services to clients who engage in the activities listed above if they decline to register to vote using the Voter Preference Form.

If a VRA allows clients to engage in one of the activities listed above **remotely (by phone, by mail, by email, or online),** the VRA **must** offer voter registration services remotely.

#### 3. Where Must Voter Registration Services Be Provided?

Voter registration services must be offered at the VRA. However, **if the VRA provides services to people with disabilities in their homes**, the VRA **must** also provide voter registration services to those individuals in their homes.

#### 4. How Must Voter Registration Services Be Provided?

Voter registration services must be provided in a non-partisan manner that does not improperly influence applicants. While offering voter registration services, employees **must not**:

- Attempt to persuade an applicant to join or not join a particular political party.
- Display any political preference or party allegiance of one's own.
- Say or do anything that would, or might, discourage an applicant from registering to vote.
- Say or do anything that would, or might, lead an applicant to believe that registering or not registering to vote will affect their ability to receive services or benefits.

Generally, VRA employees may encourage clients to apply to register to vote, but they may not discourage clients from registering to vote. To avoid any appearance of improperly influencing clients, employees should avoid discussing politics, political news, and/or political opinions that might influence a client's decision to register to vote or to register with a political party.

To avoid the appearance of any impropriety, DCBOE encourages employees asked about specific party registration to instead call the DCBOE at 202-727-2525.

#### **B.** Maintaining The Confidentiality Of Certain Information

Federal and District law requires that certain information regarding the provision of voter registration services be kept confidential. This information includes:

- The applicant's decision to apply to register to vote, or to decline to apply to register to vote.
- The identity of the agency where the applicant registers to vote.
- The following information on voter registration applications:
  - Month and day of date of birth
  - o Full or partial Social Security numbers
  - Telephone number(s)
  - o Email address(es)

#### C. Retaining Documentation

VRAs are required to retain all Voter Preference Forms for at least 24 months.

#### IV. Voter Registration at VRAs, Step-by-Step

A. Hand the client the Voter Preference Form and ask, "If you are not registered to vote, would you like to register to vote today?"

#### B. If the client:

- 1. Responds that they are already registered at their current address OR that they would not like to apply to register to vote:
  - a. The client should check the box on the Voter Preference Form that corresponds to their response.
  - b. The client should print their name, sign, and date the form in the appropriate places.
  - c. The employee should complete the "For Agency Use Only" section of the form.
  - d. Give the client the white copy of the form.
  - e. Retain the yellow copy of the form for 24 months.

#### 2. Responds that they would like to apply to register to vote:

- a. Have them check the box on the Voter Preference Form that reads, "Yes, I would like to apply to register to vote or update my existing voter registration today."
- b. Ask the client if they would like help with the voter registration application.
- c. Have the client check the box that corresponds to their response.
- d. Have the client print their name, sign, and date the form in the appropriate places.
- e. The employee should complete the "For Agency Use Only" section of the form.
- f. Give the client the white copy of the form.
- g. Give the client a voter registration application;
- h. If the client asked for help with the voter registration application, provide the same level of assistance that would be provided for the completion of the agency's own forms;
- i. When the client has completed the voter registration application, review it completely to ensure that it contains all of the information required for voter registration, including the applicant's signature, before they leave your office;
- j. Date-stamp the voter registration application so that the official date of receipt by the VRA is recorded on the form.
- k. Inform the client that you will send the application to DCBOE and that, if the application is accepted, they should receive a voter registration card within three weeks. Further inform them that they should contact DCBOE if they do not receive a voter registration card within that timeframe.
- I. Transmit the voter registration application to DCBOE within the required timeframe.

#### 3. Declines to both register to vote and complete the Voter Preference Form:

- a. Have the client check the box on the Voter Preference Form that reads, "No, I would not like to register to vote today".
- b. Print the client's name in the space provided on the form.

- c. Print the date in the space provided on the form.
- d. The employee should complete the "For Agency Use Only" section of the form.

#### V. The Voter Preference Form

The Voter Preference Form is the form applicants use to indicate whether they would like to register to vote or update their existing voter registration record. The Voter Preference Form also documents the VRA's compliance with the NVRA.

Every client who applies for, renews, or recertifies benefits or services, or who seeks to change their address at the agency where they receive services, must be asked to complete a Voter Preference Form, regardless of whether they complete a voter registration application.

Under the NVRA, the Voter Preference Form must include:

- The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?"
- If the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency."
- Boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the client would like to register or decline to register to vote, along with the following statement: "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME."
- The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private."
- The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline
  to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register
  to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a
  complaint with the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street,
  SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003 202-727-2525/1-866-DCVOTES (toll-free) / 711 (TTY)."

DCBOE has developed a uniform Voter Preference Form for use by the District's voter registration agencies. (see page 8 of this Manual).

If the client refuses to complete the Voter Preference Form, please document the refusal in the "FOR AGENCY USE ONLY" section of the form. Keep track of all refusals for record-keeping purposes.

The VRA's copy of the Voter Preference Form should not be sent to DCBOE (except at DCBOE's request), but must be retained by the VRA for at least 24 months.

<u>Note</u>: The "FOR AGENCY USE ONLY" section of the form must be completed in all instances, even if the client refuses voter registration services.

## District of Columbia Board of Elections Voter Registration Agency Voter Preference Form

If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today? (You are not eligible to register to vote if you are not a U.S. citizen or if you are not at least 16 years of age.)

Ρļ	ease respond by checking ONE of the three numbered boxes below:
1	• I am already registered at my current address.  NOTE: If you are registered to vote where you live now and you have not changed your address, it is not necessary for you to register to vote again.
2	• Yes, I would like to apply to register to vote OR update my existing voter registration.  (The identity of the agency where you are submitting this application is confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.)  If you would like help completing the voter registration application form, we will help you.  The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may complete the form in private, or outside of this office. If you need help with completing the form outside of this office, please contact the Board of Elections at 202.727.2525.
	$\square$ I would like help with the voter registration application form.
	$\square$ I do not need help with the voter registration application form.
3	■ No, I would not like to apply to register to vote today. (The fact that you have declined to register to vote is confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.)
	you do not check any of the three boxes above, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this me.
A	pplicant's Printed Name:
A	oplicant's Signature/Date:
	IMPORTANT NOTICES
	<ol> <li>Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.</li> <li>If you believe that someone has interfered with your right: a) to register to vote; b) to decline to register to vote; c) to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or; d) your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003 • 202.727.2525/1.866.DCVOTES (toll-free) / 711 (TTY)</li> </ol>
2. 3.	FOR AGENCY USE ONLY (Check all that apply.)  Client applied for:   New services/assistance  Renewal or recertification of services/assistance  Address change  Client applied:  In person  By phone  At home  Online/web service  Client:  Submitted paper registration application.  Submitted electronic registration application onsite.  Did not submit application onsite/took application.  Was sent form/application on// (date).  Client declined to register  (In this case, print the applicant's name and the date in the spaces provided and check Box 3.)

#### VI. The Voter Registration Application

The Voter Registration Application (see page 12 of this Manual) is the form clients use to apply to register to vote. The questions on the Voter Registration Application help DCBOE determine whether an applicant is eligible to register to vote and in which contests.

DCBOE's Voter Registration Application contains the following questions/requests for information (<u>Note</u>: **An asterisk (\*) indicates a required item.**):

#### 1. Question 1: Are you a U.S. Citizen?\*

The applicant must check Yes or No. Only U.S. Citizens may vote in District elections. If the applicant checks No, they should not complete the Voter Registration Application.

## 2. Question 1a: Would you like information on serving as a poll worker for the next election? DCBOE uses this information to establish a pool of potential election workers from among the District's registered voters.

#### 3. Question 2: Reason for completing this form.

Applicants may be applying to register for the first time, or they may be updating or correcting their name, address, or party affiliation. Responding to this question lets DCBOE know whether the applicant is a current or new registrant.

#### 4. Question 3: The applicant's full legal name.\*

If necessary, the appropriate suffix (Jr., Sr., II, III, or IV) should be circled to allow DCBOE to distinguish between two (or more) people at the same address who may have the same name.

#### 5. Question 4: The applicant's full residence address.\*

This information enables DCBOE to register eligible applicants within the appropriate electoral jurisdictions (Ward and Advisory Neighborhood Commission Single Member District), which allows DCBOE to provide the voter with the appropriate ballot in the appropriate precinct and polling place. P.O. Boxes may not be used for residence addresses.

An applicant who does not have a traditional residence address, most typically a homeless applicant, may list a shelter address as their residence address. They may also provide a street corner, park, or other location. They should provide as much detail as they can about the location. For example, they may say that their residence address is "a heating grate on the northwest corner of Half and L Streets, SE." Homeless applicants should be encouraged to register in person at DCBOE whenever possible.

#### 6. Question 5: The applicant's mailing address/email address.

An applicant who wishes to receive registration and election materials, including, potentially, absentee ballots, at an address other than their residence address may provide a different mailing address.

While applicants are not required to provide an email address, doing so will allow DCBOE to contact applicants about their application and, if necessary, share general information about voter registration and District elections. (DCBOE will keep your email address confidential.)

#### 7. Question 6: The applicant's date of birth.\*

Applicants who are at least 18 years of age may vote in all elections in which they are eligible to vote.

Applicants who are at least 17 years of age may vote in primary elections if they will be at least 18 years of age by the next general election.

Applicants who are at least 16 years of age may **pre-register** to vote. This means that they may complete and submit the Voter Registration Application, but their voter registration will not become active until they reach the age at which they may vote.

If the applicant is not at least 16 years of age, they should not complete the Voter Registration Application.

#### 8. Question 7: Daytime phone number.

While applicants are not required to provide a telephone number, doing so will allow DCBOE to contact applicants about their applications and, if necessary, share general information about voter registration and District elections. (DCBOE will keep your telephone number confidential.)

## 9. Questions 8 and 8a: District DMV-issued Identification (ID) Number/Social Security Number (SSN) (last 4 digits).\*

The applicant must provide their DMV-issued ID number. If they do not have a DMV-issued ID number, they should provide the last four digits of their SSN (SSN4). If the applicant does not have either a DMV-issued ID number or an SSN4, they should so indicate in section 8a on the form.

#### 10. Question 9: Party Registration

To vote for candidates in primary elections in the District, the applicant must register with one of the District's major parties. A major party is a party that is eligible to conduct a primary election in the District. As of November 2020, there are four major parties in the District: Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Libertarian.

The applicant does not have to be registered with a major party to vote in the District's general elections.

The DCBOE encourages VRA employees to instruct applicants with questions about party registration to contact DCBOE at 202-727-2525.

#### 11. Question 10: If you need help with voting, please indicate the type of help.

This information allows DCBOE to identify and assist voters with vision, hearing, mobility, or other disabilities.

#### 12. Question 11: What is your primary language if not English?

This information allows DCBOE to identify and assist voters who may not speak English fluently.

#### 13. Question 12: Name and Address on Last Registration.

This information is used to identify people who may already be registered in the District or another jurisdiction, and, if applicable, to notify election officials in the other jurisdiction that the applicant has now registered to vote in the District.

#### 14. Question 13: Voter Declaration/Signature/Date.\*

In this section, the applicant swears or affirms, under penalty of perjury, that they meet all of the requirements necessary to register to vote in the District. To register to vote in the District, the applicant must:

- a. Be a U. S. Citizen.
- b. Live in the District of Columbia (An individual may not vote in an election in the District unless they have lived in the District for at least 30 days before the election in which they intend to vote.)
- c. Be at least 17 years old (As noted above, 17 year olds may register and vote in D.C. primary elections if they will be 18 on or before the next general election. A person may not vote in a D.C. general or special election until they are at least 18 years old. 16 year olds may pre-register to vote.)
- d. Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.
- e. Not claim voting residence outside of the District of Columbia.

The applicant must sign the Voter Declaration in order for the application to be accepted by DCBOE.



#### **Voter Registration Application**

District of Columbia
Board of Elections

Use this form to register to vote, or to update your name, address, or party registration.

To vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- Be a United States citizen
- Be a resident of the District of Columbia
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another U.S. State or territory
- \*Be at least 17 years old\*
- Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote

To vote in a primary election, you must also be registered in the party holding the primary at least 21 days prior to the election unless you are registering for the first time.

\*You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.

Please complete all items on this form. You are not officially registered to vote until the Board of Elections has approved this application. You should receive a voter registration card in the mail within three weeks of submitting this application. If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and submit this application by mall or electronically, you may be required to provide identification that shows your name and current address the first time you vote in an election in the District of Columbia. Your mailed or electronically submitted application must be received by the Board by the 21st day before the next election. After that date, you can register to vote in person at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750. You can also register on the same day that you vote with valid proof of residence, but registering before you arrive at the polis will save you time.

If you do not receive your voter registration card, or if you have any questions, call (202) 727-2525, (866) 328-6837, or 711 (TTY), or visit www.dcboe.org

¿Necesita ayuda en su idioma? Liame al (202) 727-2525 П弗ን索ዎች እርዳታ ማማኘት ይሻሉ? በስልክ ቁጥር (202) 727-2525 ይደውሉ። 設委以您的语言帮助? 技打Call (202) 727-2525 Avez-vous besoin d'aide dans votre langue ? Appelez le (202) 727-2525 모국어로 도움이 필요하세요? (202) 727-2525로 전화해주세요 Cân sự trợ giúp ngôn ngữ của bạn? Hây gọi (202) 727-2525

#### (Use a pen to complete this form)

VRF\_Eng\_09\_21

1	Check one: Are you a U.S. Citizen?  If you checked 'no', do not complete this form.				•	ting this f		Voter to N	
1a	Check one: Would you like information on Yes No serving as an election worker for the next election?	_ 2				□ Party C		Heg. Date	Clait
	Last Name First N	ame					Middle	Name	Suffix
3						-			(Jr., Sr., II, III, IV)
	Address Where You Live Select on	: [	INE	DNW	DSE	DSW	Apartm	ent Numb	Pr Zip Code
4									
	Address Where You Get Your Mail (If different from #4)				Zip Co	de	E-mail	address (C	Optional)
5									
6	Date of Birth Daytime Phone Number (Optional) 8			s <b>sued (D</b> I Security			not have	one, enter	the last 4 digits of
	Party Registration - Check one box **PLEASE NOTE:  Democratic Party To vote in a primary	88	ì			n issued a Number.	Driver's	License I	Number or a
9	Republican Party election in the District of Columbia, you must be registered with the	13	3			ne Voter D that I meet			g qualifications:
	Libertarian Party Democratic, Republican	,		• I am a	U.S. dti	zen			
	**no party (independent) D.C. Statehood Green							the address	s (#4) ebove
	The state of the party (write name below) or Libertarian Party.					3 years old n found by		be legally	incompetent to
10	Optional: If you need help with voting, please indicate the type of help:				ot claim v tate or te		lence or t	he right to	vote in another
	What is your primary language if it is not English?					•	ent even tho	inh vali kaaw	d is untrue, you can
11					. •			ed for up to fin	·
	Name and Address on Last Registration:			ou convex	OO 00-0 (810C	, ch n 41010	v aludi pa	a a w 10 11	e jewa.
12	_								
	(if outside D.C., include county and state)			Signatu	tre .				Date

#### VII. Remote Transactions (Transactions via Phone, Mail, Email, or Online)

The U.S. Department of Justice, which is responsible for enforcing the NVRA, provides the following guidance on remote transactions:

"The NVRA requires that voter registration opportunities be provided with respect to all application, renewal, recertification and change of address transactions regarding service and assistance with [VRAs]. Many [VRAs] routinely provide services/assistance such as application for, or renewal of, services or change-of-address notification through the internet, by telephone, or by mail. States should ensure the availability of voter-registration opportunities to individuals using such remote service/assistance opportunities from designated agencies. Thus, for all such internet transactions, states should advise of the opportunity to register to vote, and should provide some online capability to download or request a voter-registration form. For phone transactions, designated-agency personnel should advise applicants of the opportunity to register to vote and to request a voter registration form. Materials sent by mail to individuals completing phone or internet transactions (such as statements confirming a phone transaction, or renewal or change-of-address forms) should contain a voter-registration form.

In all such internet, phone, and mail transactions, individuals should be given a toll-free phone number, where possible, to call for information and instruction on how to complete the voter-registration process. Where feasible, as is done at many motor-vehicle agencies, States may consider providing for a simultaneous voter-registration opportunity through the electronic portal when individuals apply for services or assistance at a designated agency by that means. In addition, where possible, agencies may consider assisting the applicant in registering to vote by automatically filling in appropriate fields on voter-registration applications with information previously provided by the applicant in order to make the registration process easier and more efficient.

When upgrading technology related to the application/recertification/change of address process at [VRAs], States should ensure that such upgrade includes the voter registration process.

When a state contracts with a private entity to administer services in an agency that is required to offer voter registration, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring provision of voter registration services remains with the State, and the voter registration requirements under the NVRA remain the same."

See National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA): Questions and Answers ¶ 24, https://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra (last visited Sept. 17, 2021).

#### VIII. Roles and Responsibilities of DCBOE and VRA Officials

#### A. DCBOE

DCBOE's Executive Director is the official responsible for the coordination of the District's responsibilities under the NVRA. In this capacity, the Executive Director has the authority to request that any VRA submit written reports and respond to any queries that concern the administration and enforcement of the NVRA and related District laws. The Executive Director may also direct that a civil action be brought against any VRA that fails to comply with pertinent federal and District law.

DCBOE determines the eligibility of each individual who submits a voter registration application at the VRA.

#### **B. VRA Agency Coordinator**

Each VRA should designate an individual within the agency to serve as the Agency Coordinator. The Agency Coordinator manages the VRA's overall voter registration program within the agency and its departments, divisions, and programs; supervises the agency's Site Coordinators (see Subsection C below) in their NVRA-related duties; and ensures that the program is operating in accordance with the NVRA and District law.

The Agency Coordinator is responsible for:

- Monitoring NVRA-related developments and adjusting the VRA's voter registration program and procedures as necessary.
- Compiling Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Forms (see page 17 of this Manual) into the Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form (see page 18 of this Manual) for submission to the DCBOE

(<u>Note</u>: If the agency offers voter registration services at **MULTIPLE** sites, the Agency Coordinator must compile information about the voter registration activity at the various sites and provide it on the NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form. If the agency offers voter registration services at only **ONE** site, the Agency Coordinator must only complete the NVRA Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form.).

- Submitting written reports and responding to queries made by DCBOE.
- Maintaining an up-to-date list of the VRA's Site Coordinators.
- Answering agency questions regarding NVRA procedures.
- Monitoring NVRA compliance (including collecting and analyzing data on the agency's NVRA activities) and overseeing any necessary corrective action plans.
- Serving as a liaison between the VRA and DCBOE.
- Ensuring that the VRA is meeting the NVRA's recordkeeping requirements.
- Ensuring that the VRA sites have adequate supplies of voter registration applications, Voter Preference Forms, and other materials necessary for voter registration.
- Ensuring that all staff, including any volunteers, are trained on NVRA duties.
- Promoting voter registration services via posters, videos, and any other useful media/materials.

#### C. VRA Site Coordinator

The VRA Site Coordinator is the individual responsible for administering the VRA's voter registration program at a particular site/office.

The Site Coordinator is responsible for:

- Maintaining extensive knowledge of the NVRA, including any changes thereto, and relevant procedures/practices.
- Completing Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Forms (see page 17 of this Manual).
- Monitoring and communicating to staff any changes in relevant procedures/practices.
- Supervising daily voter registration activities.
- Resolving site questions and problems relating to the voter registration process.
- Tracking voter registration and declination forms.
- Forwarding completed voter registration applications to Agency Coordinator within the required time frame.

#### IX. Reporting and Accountability (Monthly Reporting Forms)

In accordance with D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(d)(12)(B)(i), and to ensure compliance with the NVRA and assess the impact of the overall voter registration program at each VRA, each VRA Site Coordinator must complete the **Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form** and submit it to the VRA's Agency Coordinator. The NVRA Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form will provide information on each VRA's monthly voter registration activity at a particular site or office.

The VRA Agency Coordinator must, in turn, compile and assemble the data submitted on each Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form into an NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form that must be submitted to DCBOE at the end of each month. The NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form will provide information on the amount of voter registration activity at an entire VRA over the course of a month.

The Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form must include the following information:

- The number of clients served at the site during the reporting month:
   This is the number of clients who applied at the site for assistance or services, or sought to renew or recertify their assistance or services, or filed a change of address.
- 2. The number of clients who were offered voter registration services:

  This is the number of clients in #1 (above) who were asked if they would like to register to vote.
- 3. The number of clients who indicated that they were already registered to vote at their current address.

- 4. The number of clients who declined to apply to register to vote.
- 5. The number of clients who took voter registration applications to complete offsite.
- 6. The number of clients who completed applications online while onsite.
- 7. The number of completed paper applications transmitted to the Agency Coordinator.

## District of Columbia Board of Elections NVRA Site Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form

Agency:	
Site Name/Address:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Site Coordinator:	
Telephone (incl. ext.):	Email:
Report Date (MM/YY):	<del></del>
Site Coordinator Signature:	
<u>Instructions</u> : Please review your report for accuracy and resol blank - if there is no value for a particular query, insert a zero Coordinator by no later than the 7 <sup>th</sup> of each month.	•
Number of clients served at the site during the reporting month	
Number of clients who were offered voter registration services	
Number of clients who indicated that they were already registered to vote at their current address	
Number of clients who declined to apply to register to vote	
Number of clients who took voter registration applications to complete offsite	
Number of clients who completed application online while onsite	
Number of completed paper applications transmitted to Agency Coordinator	

## District of Columbia Board of Elections NVRA Agency Coordinator Monthly Reporting Form

Agency:					
Main Address:					
Agency Coordinator:					
Telephone (incl. ext.):	Email:				
Report Date (MM/YY):	<del></del>				
Agency Coordinator Signature:					
<u>Instructions</u> : Please review your report for accuracy and reso blank - if there is no value for a particular query, insert a zero later than the 15th of each month.	•				
Number of clients served at the agency during the reporting month					
Number of clients who were offered voter registration services					
Number of clients who indicated that they were already registered to vote at their current address					
Number of clients who declined to apply to register to vote					
Number of clients who took voter registration applications to complete offsite					
Number of clients who completed application online while onsite					
Number of completed paper applications transmitted to DCBOE					

#### X. Voter Registration/Voting FAQ

You should be prepared to answer the following FAQs about voting and voter registration. If your clients have questions that do not appear below, please have them contact DCBOE at 202.727.2525, or visit our website at www.dcboe.org.

#### A. Voter Registration

#### 1. Am I already registered to vote?

You can check to see if you are registered to vote at <a href="https://dcboe.org/Voters/Register-To-Vote/Check-Voter-Registration-Status">https://dcboe.org/Voters/Register-To-Vote/Check-Voter-Registration-Status</a>. Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, and zip code to determine your registration status.

#### 2. Who is eligible to register to vote?

You are eligible to register to vote in the District of Columbia if you:

- Are a U.S. Citizen.
- Have lived in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days before the election.
- Are not registered and planning to vote in another U.S. state or territory.
- Are at least 17 and will be at least 18 by the next general election. (If you are at least 16, you can pre-register to vote.).
- Have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.

#### 3. How do I register to vote?

You can register to vote in the following ways:

- In person visit DCBOE (1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003) or a VRA.
- Online visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote/Register-to-Vote/Register-to-Vote/">https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote/</a>
- By mail download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf
   print and mail the complete application to 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003;
- By email download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf, save and email the complete application to <u>DCregistrations@dcboe.org</u>.
- When you vote the District of Columbia offers Same Day Registration (Voters who
  provide valid proof of residence at the time of voting may vote a live ballot, and those
  who do not provide valid proof of residence may vote a special (provisional) ballot.

#### 4. What are acceptable forms of proof of residence?

Acceptable forms of proof of residence include:

- Current and valid District of Columbia DMV-issued ID.
- Utility bill for water, gas, electricity, cable, internet, telephone, or cellular phone service (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Savings, checking, credit, or money market account from a bank or credit union (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Paycheck, stub, or earning statement that includes the employer's name, address, and telephone number (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Government-issued document or check from a federal or District government agency (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Current residential lease or rental agreement.
- Occupancy statement from a District homeless shelter (must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the election).
- Tuition or housing bill from a District of Columbia college or university issued for the current academic or housing term.

#### 5. Is there a deadline for registering to vote or for updating my registration?

The deadline for the receipt of voter registration applications (for purposes of both registering and updating your registration) submitted **online** through the **DCBOE online web application**, or by **mail** is the **21**<sup>st</sup> **day before each election**.

Voter registration applications may be submitted in-person at the DCBOE office or at a VRA after the 21<sup>st</sup> day before each election. However, if early voting has begun, please encourage individuals to participate in same-day registration.

The deadline for currently registered voters to update their party affiliation status is the 21<sup>st</sup> day before a primary election.

**Same-day registration.** The District offers same-day registration, so if you miss the deadline for registering to vote, you may register to vote at the same time that you vote either during the Early Voting period or on Election Day.

#### 6. Do I need to show my identification (ID) when I register to vote or vote?

Generally, you do not need identification to register to vote or vote in the District. However, first-time voters in the District of Columbia who register online through DCBOE's web application, or by mail must provide a copy of their identification either when registering or when voting in person or by mail. Identification includes a valid photo identification or a utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that shows name and address of the voter.

#### 7. May I use my business address or a post office (PO) box number to register to vote?

No. You must use your residential address to register. You can, however, choose to receive mail at your business address or PO Box.

#### 8. Am I required to register with a political party?

No. You are not required to register with a political party. However, you must be registered with one of the parties that are eligible to conduct a primary election in the District of Columbia (Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, and Libertarian) if you wish to vote for candidates in a primary election.

You do not have to be registered with a political party to vote on any referenda or recall measures that may appear on a primary election ballot.

#### 9. How do I change or update my registration?

You can update your registration in the following ways:

- In person visit DCBOE (1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003) or a VRA;
- Online visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote">https://dcboe.org/voters/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-Vote</a>;
- Through the DCBOE online web application;
- By mail download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf, print and mail the complete application to 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003; or
- By email download an application at https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/VRF-English-05242021.pdf, save and email the complete application to <u>DCregistrations@dcboe.org</u>.

#### 10. Do I ever need to re-register to vote?

Once you are registered to vote, you remain registered unless DCBOE is notified that you no longer meet the requirements for voter registration. For example, if DCBOE is notified that you have moved out of the District of Columbia, your registration will be cancelled. You will be required to re-register to vote in the District of Columbia, if you subsequently become eligible to vote again.

In addition, if you move within the District of Columbia or change your name, you should update your voter registration (See **Question #9** above.)

#### 11. How do I cancel my voter registration?

You can cancel your voter registration by submitting signed authorization to the Registrar of Voters requesting that your name be removed from the voter registry.

#### B. Voting

#### 1. When are elections held in the District?

Primary elections are held on the first Tuesday in June of each Presidential election year, and on the third Tuesday in June of every non-presidential even-numbered year.

General elections are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year.

#### 2. What is the difference between a primary election and a general election?

A primary election is an election in which registered members of a party vote to **nominate** the candidates that will represent the party in the various contests for political office in a general election. In these elections, candidates in the same party run against each other. The successful candidate is selected by members of their party.

In the District, primary elections are **closed**. This means that you may not vote for candidates in a party's primary election unless you are registered with that party.

A general election is an election in which registered voters vote to **elect** the individuals to hold the various political offices. In these elections, candidates from different parties run against each other, as well as against no-party/independent candidates. The successful candidate is elected by all registered voters, regardless of party affiliation.

#### 3. What is a special election?

A special election is an election scheduled at other than the usual date for a specific purpose, often to fill an office that has become vacant before the incumbent has completed their term.

#### 4. When and where can I vote in person?

You can vote **on Election Day** at the polling place that serves your residence address between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm.

You can vote early at Early Voting Centers between 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.

Early voting typically begins 15 days before Election Day at One Judiciary Square (441 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW) and 11 days before Election Day at ward-based satellite Early Voting Centers, and typically ends 4 days before Election Day.

#### 5. How can I vote?

Generally, you can vote in person as indicated above, or you can vote by mail. (See Question #9 below for special rules for military/overseas voters.)

You can request a mail ballot by:

- Completing an Absentee Ballot Request form at
   https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/Absentee-Request-Form-and-Information-10262020 b.pdf
   , printing it, and mailing it to the DC Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003. If you are unable to print, sign, and/or scan the form, save the completed form as a pdf and email it to DCabsentee@dcboe.org.
- Submitting an electronic request through the DCBOE's online web application.

#### 6. Is there a deadline for submitting a request for a mail/absentee ballot?

DCBOE must receive absentee ballot requests from regular (non-military/overseas) voters by no later than 4:45 pm on the  $15^{th}$  day before the election.

DCBOE must receive absentee ballot requests from military/overseas voters by no later than 4:45 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day before the election.

#### 7. What will happen when I go to vote?

When you arrive at the polling location, you will first visit the Registration Clerk (RC) station. There, the RC will ask you to state your name and address. (In the case of a primary election, the RC will also ask you to verify your party affiliation.) You may also be asked to provide your date of birth. The RC will search for your information in the KNOWiNK Poll Pad (an electronic poll book), and if there is an exact match confirming information you provided in the Poll Pad, you will be issued a ballot ticket which you will exchange for a ballot to vote.

In certain circumstances, the RC may need to verify or update additional information for the voter before you can receive a ballot. If this is the case, the RC will give you a Special Ballot Referral Form which will provide the reason that you must provide additional information. (Most frequently, the reason you would need to provide additional information is that you need to register to vote or update your registration information.) After the RC has finished processing the voter, you will be given either a ballot ticket which you will exchange for a ballot to vote, or materials with which to vote a **provisional ballot**.

#### 8. What is a special (provisional) ballot?

A special (or provisional) ballot is the same as a regular ballot **except** that it is used to record the vote of an individual whose eligibility to cast a ballot in an election must be verified before the ballot can be counted.

An individual who votes a provisional ballot is required to provide certain written information along with the ballot so that DCBOE may verify their eligibility to cast the ballot. If DCBOE

determines that the provisional ballot voter is eligible to vote, the provisional ballot will be counted. (Valid provisional ballots are counted even if they will not change the outcome of an election.) If DCBOE determines that the voter is not eligible to vote, the provisional ballot will be rejected.

For more information on special ballots, visit: <a href="https://dcboe.org/Voters/How-to-Vote/Special-Ballot-Voting">https://dcboe.org/Voters/How-to-Vote/Special-Ballot-Voting</a>.

## 9. How do I vote if I am a member of the uniformed services (or a spouse or dependent) or a citizen residing overseas?

Military and overseas voters can use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which serves as both a voter registration application and an absentee ballot request form. The FPCA is available for download from the Department of Defense's Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) at <a href="https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia">https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia</a>. You may email your completed FPCA to uocava@dcboe.org.

Military and overseas voters can receive and return their absentee ballot by mail, fax, or email. If it is getting close to Election Day and you have not received your absentee ballot, you can use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as an emergency, backup ballot. FVAP provides fillable FWABs and provides assistance in using FWABs at <a href="https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia">https://www.fvap.gov/district-of-columbia</a>.

#### 10. What contests and candidates are on the ballot?

For a listing of contests and candidates on the ballot, visit the Candidates section of the DCBOE's website.

#### 11. Can I vote for someone who is not on the ballot?

Yes. You may cast a write-in vote for a candidate other than those who have qualified to appear on the ballot in any primary, general, or special election held in the District of Columbia to nominate or elect candidates to public office.

Local party committees may or may not permit write-in votes in contests held to elect the committee's members and officials.

#### 12. Who are the current elected officials?

For a listing of current and past elected officials, please visit <a href="https://dcboe.org/Elections/Elected-Officials-(Current-Past">https://dcboe.org/Elections/Elected-Officials-(Current-Past)</a>.

#### XI. Relevant Federal and District Law

#### A. The National Voter Registration Act

52 U.S.C. § 20506 - Voter registration agencies

#### (a) Designation

- (1) Each State shall designate agencies for the registration of voters in elections for Federal office.
- (2) Each State shall designate as voter registration agencies—
  - (A) all offices in the State that provide public assistance; and
  - (B) all offices in the State that provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities.
- (3)
  (A) In addition to voter registration agencies designated under paragraph (2), each State shall designate other offices within the State as voter registration agencies.
  - (B) Voter registration agencies designated under subparagraph (A) may include—
    - (i) State or local government offices such as public libraries, public schools, offices of city and county clerks (including marriage license bureaus), fishing and hunting license bureaus, government revenue offices, unemployment compensation offices, and offices not described in paragraph (2)(B) that provide services to persons with disabilities; and
    - (ii) Federal and nongovernmental offices, with the agreement of such offices.
- (4)
  (A) At each voter registration agency, the following services shall be made available:
  - (i) Distribution of mail voter registration application forms in accordance with paragraph (6).
  - (ii) Assistance to applicants in completing voter registration application forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.
  - (iii) Acceptance of completed voter registration application forms for transmittal to the appropriate State election official.
  - (B) If a voter registration agency designated under paragraph (2)(B) provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home, the agency shall provide the services described in subparagraph (A) at the person's home.
- (5) A person who provides service described in paragraph (4) shall not—
  - (A) seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration;

- (B) display any such political preference or party allegiance;
- (C) make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to discourage the applicant from registering to vote; or
- (D) make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to lead the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.
- (6) A voter registration agency that is an office that provides service or assistance in addition to conducting voter registration shall—
  - (A) distribute with each application for such service or assistance, and with each recertification, renewal, or change of address form relating to such service or assistance—
    - (i) the mail voter registration application form described in section 20508(a)(2) of this title, including a statement that—
      - (I) specifies each eligibility requirement (including citizenship);
      - (II) contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement; and
      - (III) requires the signature of the applicant, under penalty of perjury; or
    - (ii) the office's own form if it is equivalent to the form described in section 20508(a)(2) of this title, unless the applicant, in writing, declines to register to vote;
  - (B) provide a form that includes—
    - (i) the question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?";
    - (ii) if the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.";
    - (iii) boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register or declines to register to vote (failure to check either box being deemed to constitute a declination to register for purposes of subparagraph (C)), together with the statement (in close proximity to the boxes and in prominent type), "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.";
    - (iv) the statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private."; and
    - (v) the statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with

.",<sup>2</sup> the blank being filled by the name, address, and telephone number of the appropriate official to whom such a complaint should be addressed; and

- (C) provide to each applicant who does not decline to register to vote the same degree of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration application form as is provided by the office with regard to the completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.
- (7) No information relating to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application made at an office described in paragraph (6) may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.

#### (b) Federal Government and private sector cooperation

All departments, agencies, and other entities of the executive branch of the Federal Government shall, to the greatest extent practicable, cooperate with the States in carrying out subsection (a), and all nongovernmental entities are encouraged to do so.

#### (c) Armed Forces recruitment offices

- (1) Each State and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly develop and implement procedures for persons to apply to register to vote at recruitment offices of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- (2) A recruitment office of the Armed Forces of the United States shall be considered to be a voter registration agency designated under subsection (a)(2) for all purposes of this chapter.

#### (d) Transmittal deadline

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a completed registration application accepted at a voter registration agency shall be transmitted to the appropriate State election official not later than 10 days after the date of acceptance.
- (2) If a registration application is accepted within 5 days before the last day for registration to vote in an election, the application shall be transmitted to the appropriate State election official not later than 5 days after the date of acceptance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the District, you may file a complaint with the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003 • 202.727.2525/1.866.DCVOTES (toll-free) / 711 (TTY).

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

The U.S. Department of Justice, which is responsible for enforcing the NVRA, provides the following guidance on voter registration at VRAs. *See* National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA): Questions and Answers, <a href="http://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra">http://www.justice.gov/crt/national-voter-registration-act-1993-nvra</a> (last visited Sept. 17, 2021).

#### SECTION 7 – VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES

#### 1. Under Section 7 of the NVRA, which offices must offer voter-registration services?

Any office in a covered State that provides either public assistance or state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities must offer voter-registration services. Armed Forces recruitment offices must also provide voter registration services. In addition, a State must designate other offices in the State as voter-registration agencies. (See Question 4 below for a description of these other offices).

#### 2. What is an office that provides public assistance under Section 7?

"Public assistance" offices that must offer voter-registration services under Section 7 of the NVRA include each agency and office in a State that administers or provides services or assistance under any public assistance programs. This includes any of the following federal public assistance programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly the Food-Stamp Program), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (formerly the Aid to Families with Dependent Children or AFDC program), the Medicaid program, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). This also includes state public assistance programs.

## 3. What is an office that provides state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities?

Offices that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities include offices providing vocational rehabilitation, transportation, job training, education counseling, rehabilitation, or independent-living services for persons with disabilities. Because States vary greatly in the manner in which they provide services to persons with disabilities, each State must identify the specific offices and agencies that fit this definition. In doing so, States may want to consult with offices that deal with issues related to persons with disabilities, such as the protection and advocacy offices and client assistance program offices within that State.

Section 7 also requires that if an office provides services to a person with disabilities at the person's home, the office must provide the opportunity to register to vote at home. Offices serving persons with disabilities often offer specialized assistance in completing the agency service or benefit application forms, and Section 7 requires such offices to offer voter registration applicants the same degree of assistance in completing voter registration forms as is offered in completing the agency's own application forms.

### 4. Does Section 7 require designation of other offices as voter registration agencies?

Yes. In addition to offices providing public assistance and services to persons with disabilities, States are also required by Section 7 to designate "other offices" within a State as voter-registration agencies. A State is free to determine which other agencies/offices should be designated, according to its needs and preferences, but it must make additional designations. Such other agency designations may include State or local government offices such as public libraries, public schools, State colleges, universities and community colleges, city and county clerk's offices, marriage license offices, fishing and hunting license offices, government revenue offices, and unemployment compensation offices. Offices not otherwise covered under the NVRA that provide services to persons with disabilities may also be designated. In addition, with the agreement of such entities, States may designate, as voter-registration agencies, nongovernmental offices (such as private colleges) or Federal government offices.

#### 5. Do armed forces recruitment offices have to provide voter-registration services?

Yes. The NVRA requires all federal Armed Forces recruitment offices in each State subject to the NVRA provide voter registration services. Visit <a href="https://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices">https://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices</a> for information on voter registration at Armed Forces recruitment offices.

#### 6. What voter-registration services must be made available?

Each office designated as a voter registration agency under Section 7 that provides services or assistance in addition to conducting voter registration must do the following:

- 1. Distribute voter-registration application forms.
- 2. Provide an "information" form that contains information on the voter-registration process (see Question 10 below for a description of the "information" form).
- 3. Provide the same level of assistance to all applicants in completing voter-registration application forms as is provided with respect to every other service or application for benefits (unless the applicant specifically refuses such assistance).
- 4. Accept completed voter-registration forms from applicants.
- 5. Transmit each completed voter-registration application to the appropriate State election official within a prescribed time frame.

# 7. What persons must be provided the opportunity to register to vote by Section 7 designated offices and agencies?

Designated agencies must provide the opportunity to register to vote to persons when: 1) applying for the agency's assistance or services; 2) seeking recertification or renewal of those services; and 3) changing address for the assistance or services.

## 8. What does Section 7 require with regard to distribution of voter registration forms and information forms?

Each office designated under Section 7 that provides services or assistance must distribute to each applicant for services or assistance, and each applicant for recertification, renewal or change of address with respect to such services or assistance, one of the voter registration application forms described in Question 9 below. In addition, each such office also must distribute to each applicant a form, known as an information form, described in Question 10 below.

### 9. What types of voter-registration forms can be distributed to applicants?

Section 7 agencies must distribute one of the three voter-registration forms listed below:

- National Mail Voter Registration Form The agency may use this federal form, which has been
  developed by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. This form is available on the EAC's web
  site at <a href="http://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form">http://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form</a>. In addition to
  containing a voter-registration application, this document lists certain state-specific voting
  requirements.
- State mail voter-registration form The agency may use its State mail voter-registration form, so long as it meets the requirements of Section 9 of the NVRA. This State form would not be as lengthy as the federal form, which contains information about voter registration in each state. Such a form should be easier for applicants to navigate and easier for agencies and election officials to process.
- 3. Designated agency's own form<sup>3</sup> The agency also may use its own version of a voter-registration form, if it is equivalent to the federal form and has been approved by the State. This type of form may lead to more efficient voter-registration transactions at designated agencies that provide services or assistance, since it could be made a seamless part of the forms normally used by the designated agency. As an example, where agency assistance/services forms are generated by computer during the process of interviewing the applicant, the voter-registration form likewise might be generated during this same process, pre-populated with information already provided by the applicant. Or a perforated voter-registration application might be attached at the bottom of a State services form, so that it can be easily completed, detached, and transmitted to the appropriate election official.

#### 10. What is the "information form," and what should States put on it?4

Section 7 requires that designated offices provide each applicant for services or assistance an information form containing specific information concerning the individual's opportunity to register to vote. This form, which may be part of or separate from the voter-registration form, must include the following information:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> We strongly recommend the use of DCBOE's voter registration form.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This is our Voter Preference Form.

- 1. The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?"
- 2. If the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency."
- 3. Boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register to vote or declines to register to vote, together with the statement (in close proximity to the boxes and in prominent type), "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME." (Failure to check either box is deemed a declination to register for purposes of receiving assistance in registration but is not deemed a written declination to receive an application)
- 4. The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private." and
- 5. The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ." The blank should be filled by the name, address, and telephone number of the appropriate official to whom such a complaint should be addressed.

No information relating to a declination to register to vote may be used for any purpose other than voter registration. If the information form is separate from the voter-registration form, it is recommended that a statement regarding this non-use of declination information be included on the voter-registration form, as well as a statement that if the applicant registers to vote, information submitted will be used only for voter-registration purposes.

### 11. Are Section 7 agencies required to assist persons in completing a voter-registration application?

Yes. Section 7 agencies must provide to each applicant the same degree of assistance in completing the voter-registration application form as is provided by the office in completing its own agency forms, unless the applicant declines to register to vote or declines such assistance.

As an example, if it is the practice of a Section 7 agency for its employees to take time to explain to each applicant the various forms involved in the agency application, recertification or other process and answer applicant questions before the applicant completes the forms, this type of assistance must also be given at that time to such applicants with regard to the voter registration application process. Similarly, if it is agency practice to make sure that agency forms are completed and signed when submitted by an applicant, the same practice should apply to a voter registration application submitted by that applicant.

Offices serving persons with disabilities often offer specialized assistance in completing the agency service or benefit application forms. Section 7 requires such offices to offer voter registration applicants the same degree of assistance in completing voter registration forms as is offered in completing the agency's own application forms.

### 12. Does Section 7 put any restrictions on how office staff may interact with applicants?

Yes. Any person who provides voter-registration services at a Section 7 agency is prohibited from: 1) seeking to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration; 2) displaying any political preference or party allegiance; 3) taking any action or making any statement to an applicant to discourage the applicant from registering to vote; or 4) taking any action or making any statement that may lead the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.

## 13. Do the voter registration requirements of Section 7 of the NVRA apply to all application, renewal, recertification and change of address transactions with designated offices?

Yes. The NVRA requires that voter registration opportunities be provided with respect to all application, renewal, recertification and change of address transactions regarding service and assistance with Section 7 offices. Many Section 7 designated agencies/offices routinely provide services/assistance such as application for, or renewal of, services or change-of-address notification through the internet, by telephone, or by mail. States should ensure the availability of voter-registration opportunities to individuals using such remote service/assistance opportunities from designated agencies. Thus, for all such internet transactions, States should advise of the opportunity to register to vote, and should provide some online capability to download or request a voter-registration form. For phone transactions, designated-agency personnel should advise applicants of the opportunity to register to vote and to request a voter registration form. Materials sent by mail to individuals completing phone or internet transactions (such as statements confirming a phone transaction, or renewal or change-of-address forms) should contain a voter-registration form.

In all such internet, phone, and mail transactions, individuals should be given a toll-free phone number, where possible, to call for information and instruction on how to complete the voter-registration process. Where feasible, as is done at many motor-vehicle agencies, States may consider providing for a simultaneous voter-registration opportunity through the electronic portal when individuals apply for services or assistance at a designated agency by that means. In addition, where possible, agencies may consider assisting the applicant in registering to vote by automatically filling in appropriate fields on voter-registration applications with information previously provided by the applicant in order to make the registration process easier and more efficient.

When upgrading technology related to the application/recertification/change of address process at Section 7 agencies, States should ensure that such upgrade includes the voter registration process.

When a state contracts with a private entity to administer services in an agency that is required to offer voter registration, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring provision of voter registration services remains with the state, and the voter registration requirements under the NVRA remain the same.

## 14. What is a Section 7 agency required to do with completed voter registration applications accepted at its offices?

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

The designated agency must submit the completed voter-registration application to the appropriate State or local election official within a prescribed period of time unless the applicant desires to submit it himself or herself. The agency providing voter-registration services may not require a registrant to mail in the form himself or herself or discourage him or her in any manner from submitting the form to the agency. When an applicant submits a completed voter-registration application to an agency, the agency must transmit the form to the appropriate State or local election official within ten days. However, if the agency receives a completed voter-registration application within five days before the last day to register to vote in an election, the application must be transmitted to the appropriate State or local election official within five days.

#### B. D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(d)

(1)

- (A) Any agency of the District of Columbia government that provides public assistance or that operates or funds programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities shall be designated as a voter registration agency.
- (B) In addition to the agencies named in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Youth and Rehabilitative Services, the Department of Aging and Community Living, the District of Columbia Public Library, and the District of Columbia Public Schools shall be designated as voter registration agencies; provided, that access to voter registration services at District of Columbia Public Schools shall be restricted to District of Columbia Public Schools students and employees.
- (C) The Mayor may designate any other executive branch agency of the District of Columbia government as a voter registration agency by filing written notice of the designation with the Board.
- (D) The District shall cooperate with the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement procedures for persons to apply to register to vote at Armed Forces recruitment offices.
- (2) The agencies named in paragraphs (1)(A), (B), and (C) of this subsection shall:
  - (A) Distribute with each application for service or assistance, and with each recertification, renewal, or change of address form relating to the service or assistance, a voter registration application, unless the applicant, in writing, declines to register to vote;
  - (B) Provide assistance to applicants in completing voter registration application forms, unless the applicant refuses assistance;
  - (C) Provide the services described in this paragraph at the person's home, if a voter registration agency provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home;
  - (D) Accept completed forms and forward these forms to the Board as prescribed in this section; and
  - (E) Regularly promote election-related information on the voter registration agencies' social media platforms, including by providing information about how to register to vote and vote.
- (3) Each voter registration agency shall, on its own application, document, or on a separate form, provide to each applicant for service or assistance, recertification or renewal, or change of address the following information:
  - (A) The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?";

- (B) Boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register or decline to register to vote (failure to check either box being deemed to constitute a declination to register for purposes of subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, together with the statement (in close proximity to the boxes and in prominent type), "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.";
- (C) The statement, "If you would like help completing the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may complete the application form in private.";
- (D) The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the chief administrative officer of the Board of Elections and Ethics [Board of Elections]."; the name, title, address, and telephone number of the chief administrative officer shall be included on the form; and
- (E) If the voter registration agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.".
- (4) No person who provides a voter registration service at a District of Columbia government agency shall:
  - (A) Seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration;
  - (B) Display any political preference or party allegiance;
  - (C) Make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to discourage the applicant from registering to vote; or
  - (D) Make any statement to an applicant or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to lead the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.
- (5) Each agency that has been designated a voter registration agency in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall provide to each applicant who does not decline to register the same degree of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration application form as provided by the office with regard to the completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses assistance.
- (6) No information that relates to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application made at an office described in this subsection may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.
- (7) No voter registration agency shall reveal whether a particular individual completed an application to register to vote except when ordered by the officer designated in paragraph (12)(A) of this subsection when a complaint has been filed pursuant to paragraph (11) of this subsection or pursuant to § 11 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.
- (8) A completed voter registration application or change of address or name accepted at a voter registration agency shall be transmitted by the agency to the Board by not later than 10 days after its acceptance by the

agency, except that if a voter registration application is accepted at a voter registration agency office within 5 days before the deadline for voter registration in any election, the application shall be transmitted by the agency to the Board not later than 5 days after the date of acceptance.

- (9) An application accepted at a voter registration agency shall be considered to have been received by the Board pursuant to subsection (e) of this section as of the date of acceptance by the voter registration agency.
- (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board shall ensure that the identity of the voter registration agency through which any particular individual is registered to vote is not disclosed to the public.
- (11) An allegation of violation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.] or of this subchapter may be made in writing, filed with the chief administrative officer of the Board and detail concisely the alleged violation.

(12)

- (A) The Board shall designate its chief administrative officer as the official responsible for the coordination of the District of Columbia's responsibilities under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.] and as the official responsible for the coordination of this subchapter.
- (B) The chief administrative officer designated under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and the Board shall have the authority:
  - (i) To request any voter registration agency to submit in writing any reports and to answer any questions as the chief administrative officer or the Board may prescribe that relate to the administration and enforcement of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.] and of this subchapter; and
  - (ii) To bring a civil action in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for declaratory or injunctive relief with respect to the failure of any voter registration agency to comply with the requirements of this subchapter.
- (13) The Board may adopt regulations with respect to the coordination and administration of the National Voter Registration Act Conforming Amendment Act of 1994 and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.].

(14)

- (A) Agencies, other than voter registration agencies, may be designated as application distribution agencies. These agencies shall include the District of Columbia Public Library, the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, the Metropolitan Police Department, and any other executive agency the Mayor designates in writing.
- (B) Each application distribution agency shall request, and the Board shall provide, sufficient quantities of mail-in voter registration applications for distribution to the public.

#### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- (C) These mail-in voter registration applications shall be placed in each office or substation of the agency in an accessible location and in clear view so that citizens may easily obtain a mail-in voter registration application.
- (D) Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to require or permit employees of a mail-in voter registration application distribution agency to accept completed forms for delivery to the Board or to provide assistance in completing an application.
- (15) The Board shall transmit an annual report to the Mayor and Council providing the number of voter registration applications received and the number of voter registration applications approved at each voter registration agency.

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

+ + + + +

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

+ + + + +

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 4, 2023

+ + + + +

The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Video-Teleconference, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m. EDT, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY THOMPSON, Chair KARYN GREENFIELD, Member J.C. BOGGS, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Executive Director TERRI STROUD, General Counsel CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, Office of Campaign Finance WILLIAM SANFORD, General Counsel, Office of Campaign Finance

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1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	10:34 a.m.
3	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Our court
4	reporter is here. Our meeting is being recorded.
5	Good morning, everybody.
6	My name is Gary Thompson, the Chair of
7	the D.C. Board of Elections. I am with you today
8	by Zoom.
9	And live in our boardroom are my
10	fellow Board members, Karyn Greenfield and J.C.
11	Boggs.
12	So, we have a quorum.
13	And we are proceeding with our regular
14	Board meeting.
15	The first step is to adopt our agenda,
16	which has been distributed to all the Board
17	members.
18	At this time, I would move that we
19	follow the agenda.
20	MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second.
21	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. All in
22	favor?

1	(Chorus of aye.)
2	And also, very quickly, I move that we
3	adopt our minutes from our last regular Board
4	meeting, which we've all had a chance to review.
5	MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second.
6	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. All in
7	favor?
8	(Chorus of aye.)
9	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. I don't have
10	any Board matters to raise. Anything from my
11	fellow Board members?
12	MEMBER GREENFIELD: No, I don't have
13	anything.
14	MEMBER BOGGS: No. No, thanks.
15	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. And
16	hearing none, our Executive Director's Report
17	from Monica Holman Evans.
18	MS. EVANS: Good morning, and thank
19	you.
20	The Executive Director Report for the
21	month of September is as follows:
22	On Monday, September 25th, we met with

Councilmember Bonds to discuss 2024 election planning. We discussed progress to date and the needed equipment purchases.

Precinct mapping. As required by regulations, the Board is looking at our current precinct boundaries to divide the District into appropriating voting precincts based on our Election Wards. A file has been sent to OCTO to verify the SMDs and precinct alignment. We are still working with Gottlieb Simon to finalize the plan that will be submitted to Councilmember Bonds.

ANC vacancies. We have 14 ANC vacancies for the 2023-2025 term. These positions are in different stages of being filled. After candidate filing requirements are met, an open vote of registered voters of the affected SMD will be held during regularly-scheduled ANC meetings. We have been working with the Department of Corrections to fill the vacancy of the ANC that represents the D.C. Jail.

List maintenance. We mailed 305,402

canvas mailers to registered voters who did not participate in the 2022 General Election. That was the first canvass mailer. We have received over 77,000 mailers back from the U.S. Postal Service, and we sent over about 73,000 notices as part of our second canvass mailer. The second canvass mailer has been sent and these individuals are being moved to an inactive status.

We have also identified 65,628 current inactive voters who will be removed from our voter rolls after the 30-day notice period on October 11th.

Foreign delegations. We hosted delegations from Sri Lanka and Nepal on September 21st. The delegations were interested in the D.C. elections process and administering free and fair elections. They traveled to Ohio after leaving D.C.

Next steps as far as our election planning for 2024. Our Draft Primary and General Election calendars for the 2024 election cycle

have been posted on our website. We are implementing the requirements of the Elections Modernization Amendment Act and the Local Resident Voter Rights Amendment Act.

We've met with our vendors and we're working on the data visualization interface on our website that will assist us with having that database solution on our website, and then, also, a solution to house non-citizens who register to vote in local elections. We have entered phase 1 of testing on our non-citizen registration database and interface.

We will acquire additional equipment to assist with our mail ballot processing activities. We received funding in our FY 2024 budget to purchase additional Agilis machine equipment and ballot signature verification software. We are waiting for a purchase order in order to move forward with the vendor.

The comment period for our proposed vote center and mail ballot drop box locations closed on October 2nd. We are in the process of

reviewing comments we received.

Voter education and outreach. During the month of September, the Voter Education and Outreach Division conducted 38 outreach events on behalf of the agency.

September 19th was National Voter
Registration Day. On National Voter Registration
Day, we conducted five outreach events that
included voter registration at the Nationals
baseball game, where we partnered with Arlington
County Board of Elections and Prince George's
County Board of Elections.

During National Voter Registration Week, we registered 239 voters.

Voter registration rolls. In September, we registered 1,853 new voters and processed 215 registration changes. In total, we prepared 2,068 voter registration cards to be mailed.

Additionally, 97 registered voters moved out of D.C.; 103 voters cancelled their registrations and registered with other

jurisdictions, and 755 voters registered in D.C. after cancelling their registrations in other states.

We are continuing to register voters using our website portal. To date, we have processed over 38,466 applications using the portal. These include new voter registrations and updates to existing registrations.

And that concludes my report. Thank you.

CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thank you very much.

Can you just repeat real quick what you said about October 11th removals? I missed the numbers.

MS. EVANS: I'm sorry. We mailed our second canvass mailer, and for the individuals who received the second mailer, they will be positioned to move to an inactive status. And so, we are currently moving those individuals, and that's over 73,000 moving from an active to an inactive status. We also identified 65,628

1 current inactive voters who will be removed from 2 our voter rolls on October 11th, and that's after 3 the 30-day notice. 4 CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Thanks. 5 MS. EVANS: Thank you. CHAIR THOMPSON: 6 Let's see. Moving on 7 now to the General Counsel's Report from Terri 8 Stroud. 9 Good morning, everyone. MS. STROUD: 10 The first item on my agenda is a 11 proposed rulemaking to Title 3 of the D.C. 12 Municipal Regulations. This rulemaking seeks to 13 amend Chapter 1 and Chapters 3 through 20. 14 purpose of the amendment is to have the 15 regulations conform with District law, including 16 the Local Residents Voting Rights Amendment Act 17 of 2022. 18 The rulemaking also reflects court 19 decisions rendered concerning Initiative Measure 20 No. 82, the D.C. Tip Credit Elimination Act of 21 2021.

The rulemaking also updates and/or

clarifies Board procedures for various activities, including meetings, the issuance of Board orders and advisory opinions, and ballot access for candidates in ballot measures.

The amendments also make other non-substantive housekeeping updates and corrections of errors.

Should the Board allow the Office of the General Counsel to proceed with submitting this rulemaking to the D.C. Register, it would be published in the D.C. Register on October 13th for a 30-day review period, which would end on or about November 11th. And so, the Board could take final rulemaking action after that. But I just wanted to make clear that there would be a period during which the public could provide comments on the rulemaking.

And so, my request is that the Board make a motion to allow the Office of the General Counsel to submit this proposed rulemaking for submission to the D.C. Register.

CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Yes,

1	thank you. We've had a chance to review those in
2	detail.
3	And so, at this time, I would so move
4	that the General Counsel submit the rulemaking to
5	the D.C. Register.
6	MEMBER BOGGS: I'll second.
7	CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. All in favor?
8	(Chorus of aye.)
9	All right. The motion carries.
10	MS. STROUD: Thank you.
11	And the last item on my agenda is the
12	litigation status report. And we have four cases
13	that are active currently.
14	The first is the Public Interest Legal
15	Foundation v. Monica Evans. And that was filed
16	in the U.S. District Court. And this is a case
17	that has been going on for some time. It
18	involved the Board's denial of certain records to
19	PILF.
20	And one moment. I'm sorry, one
21	moment, please.
22	So, that case is currently pending in

the D.C. Court. All motions have been filed in this matter. Actually, the Office of the Attorney General, which is representing the Board in this matter, is filing a response to, a reply to an opposition's Motion to Dismiss. They are filing a reply to the response to the Motion to Dismiss that was filed by the OAG.

In Stacia Hall v. the D.C. Board of Elections, this matter is in the U.S. District Court, having been removed from the Superior Court. And it involves a challenge to the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act. And so, that case is being litigated in U.S. District Court and their opinion is forthcoming.

The next two cases involve challenges to Initiative Measure No. 83. They were both filed by the District of Columbia Democratic Party. And they are challenging the Board's acceptance of Initiative Measure 83, which involved an initiative put forth concerning ranked choice voting and opening primaries to independent voters in the District of Columbia.

1	In the first matter, the Board was not
2	served, and in the second matter, the Board was
3	served. And there is a hearing scheduled for
4	December 2023 to discuss next steps with respect
5	to this case.
6	And that is the litigation status
7	report.
8	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thank you
9	very much.
10	And I believe that concludes your
11	overall report. So, we'll move to campaign
12	finance with Director Collier-Montgomery.
13	MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Good morning
14	again.
15	CHAIR THOMPSON: You have to turn your
16	mic on.
17	MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: Good morning
18	again.
19	For the record, the full report of the
20	activity of the Office of Campaign Finance for
21	the month of September 2023 will be posted at our
22	website by the close of business today. The

website address is www.ocf.dc.gov. I will, however, highlight a few items from the report for the public this morning.

First, in the Fair Elections Program
Division, by way of background, I would point out
again that, during the 2022 election cycle, which
was the second cycle of the administration of the
Fair Elections Program by the Office of Campaign
Finance, the agency authorized the total sum of
\$12,358,606.95 for disbursement from the Fair
Elections Fund in base amount and matching
payment to the 42 candidates who were certified
in the program to participate in the June 2022
Primary Election and the November 2022 General
Election.

Again, I would point out that the report, the post-election report, for the 2022 election cycle is available at our website for review by members of the public.

In the 2024 election cycle to date, there are two certified participating candidates in the program and three registered candidates

who are seeking to participate in the 2024 election cycle. There were no new certifications or disbursements from the Fair Elections Fund which were authorized by the agency during the month of September 2023.

With respect to new candidates, there were no new candidates certified during the month of September, again, or disbursements.

With respect to the desk reviews of the Financial Reports of Receipts and Expenditures which have been filed with the agency, the Fair Elections Program conducted 39 desk reviews and, also, issued 21 requests for additional information as a result of those desk reviews.

With respect to remitted funds for the 2022 election cycle, as of September the 27th, the total sum of \$832,207.20 has been remitted for deposit in the Fair Elections Fund, again, from the campaign operations of those candidates who participated in the 2022 election cycle.

With the ongoing 2020 post-election

full field audits which are being conducted by the Fair Elections Program, the OCF initiated 34 full field audits of the campaign operations of the candidates who were certified, again, to participate in the program during the 2020 election cycle. There are currently 11 of these post-election audits which are ongoing in the Fair Elections Division at various stages of the audit process.

The Division has issued a total of 23 final audit reports of the post-election audits which were initiated for the 2020 election cycle. And the audits are available, again, at our website for review by the public.

The status of all the ongoing audits is listed in the report which will be posted at the website.

With our 2022 post-election full field audits, the Office of Campaign Finance issued 42 post-election audit letters for the Primary and the November General Election to the candidates who were certified to participate in the cycle.

To date, the Fair Elections Program has issued 17 Preliminary Statements of Audit Findings and 10 Final Audit Reports for the 2022 election cycle, including during the month of September, D.C. for Terese Crawford 2022, and that was a Preliminary Statement of Findings which was issued on September the 12th.

With respect to Final Audit Reports,
Friends of Faith for Ward 5, which was issued on
September the 19th; Ben for Ward 3, which was
issued on September the 19th; Matthew Frumin
2022, which was issued on September the 25th;
Cheh 2022 for Ward 3, which was issued on
September the 25th; Anosi 2022, which was issued
on September the 25th, 2023.

And again, all the audit reports are available at the website for review by the public.

And the status of all the ongoing audits for the 2022 cycle is listed in our report, which will be posted today.

In the Public Information and Records

Management Division, during the month of
September, there were no due dates for the filing
of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures by the
filing entities who are registered with the
office.

I would point out or note for the record that the D.C. -- 2023 Inaugural Committee filed its Termination Report, Receipts and Expenditures, on Friday, September the 8th, 2023. And the image of the report is available for review by members of the public.

With respect to new candidates and committees in the Judicial Program, currently, there are a total of seven candidates who are registered to participate in the June 2024 Primary Election, and that includes one new registration for the month of September. And that candidate is for the Office of U.S. Shadow Senator in the Primary Election, and it's Ankit Jain, who registered on September the 27th.

In our Fair Elections Program, again, there are currently a total of five candidates

who are registered to participate in the June 2024 Primary Election, which includes one new registration for the month of September. And that candidate is for the Office or Member of the Council from Ward 7 for the Primary. The candidate's name is Veda Rasheed, who registered on September the 14th, 2023.

There were no new committee registrations during the month of September.

In our report's analysis of the Audit Division, and that is a traditional campaign finance program -- for our traditional campaign finance program, the Audit Branch conducted 10 desk reviews -- I'm sorry -- 11 desk reviews and issued one request for additional information as a result of that desk result.

There were no Final Audit Reports issued, but there are ongoing audits before our traditional Audit Branch. The first one is a full field audit of a newly-elected official, and that is of Kenyan McDuffie 2022. The audit field work is in progress.

1 Also, we have three ongoing random 2 audits of the July 31st, 2023 Report of Receipts 3 and Expenditures, which was filed by our Political Action Committee. And those are: 4 5 The D.C. Latino Caucus PAC. The field work is complete and the Preliminary Draft 6 7 Statement of Findings was issued on September the 8 27th. 9 D.C. Young Democrats, the audit field 10 work is complete, and the Audit Branch is, again, 11 preparing the Preliminary Draft Statement of 12 Findings, which will be issued to the Committee 13 for a response before the final report is issued. 14 And with Citizens for Empowerment, the 15 Committee bank account was closed on September 16 the 9th, and a letter from the bank was provided. 17 So, more than likely, if a termination report has 18 been filed, then the Committee will be approved 19 for termination. The last full field audit which is 20 21 ongoing in the traditional Audit Branch is the

D.C. Crown Inaugural Committee. And in that

1 particular matter, the audit pre-work has begun and the audit notification was issued to the 2 3 Committee on September the 9th. That concludes my report, but I would 4 5 ask the General Counsel, William Sanford, to provide the report for the Office of the General 6 7 Counsel. 8 MR. SANFORD: Good morning, Mr. 9 Chairman and Distinguished Board Members 10 Greenfield and Boggs. 11 My name is William Sanford, General 12 Counsel for the Office of Campaign Finance. 13 During the month of September 2023, 14 the Office of the General Counsel received one 15 referral, completed seven informal hearings, and issued seven orders, which included the 16 17 following: 18 Four orders were issued to vacate 19 orders that had previously been issued. Three 20 orders were issued in which a total of \$6,050 in 21 fines were imposed.

During the month of September 2023,

1	the Office of the General Counsel imposed a total
2	of \$6,050 in fines against the following
3	Respondents:
4	Marcus for D.C. Principal Campaign
5	Committee was fined \$2,750.
6	Randy Downs for Ward 2 Principal
7	Campaign Committee was fined \$550.
8	Monica Palacio for City Council
9	Principal Campaign Committee was fined \$2,750.
10	During the month of September 2023,
11	the Office of the General Counsel collected a
12	total of \$2,425 in fines from the following
13	Respondents:
14	The Committee to Elect Karim Marshall
15	paid a fine of \$1,050.
16	The Committee to Elect Ravi K. Perry
17	paid a fine of \$500.
18	Rodney Grant for Mayor Principal
19	Campaign Committee paid a fine of \$825.
20	And Dasha Kleckley ANC paid a fine of
21	\$50.
22	During the month of September 2023,

1 the Office of the General Counsel had no open 2 investigations; received no requests for 3 interpretative opinions, and conducted no show 4 cause proceedings. 5 The contents of this report will be published at the Office of Campaign Finance 6 7 website by close of business on today's date, 8 October 4th, 2023. 9 And that should conclude my report. 10 CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. 11 MS. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY: And that 12 concludes the report for the Office of Campaign 13 Finance. 14 CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you so 15 much. 16 All right. Last, but not least, it's 17 always important to hear from our D.C. residents. 18 So, at this time, if you are a D.C. resident, 19 just raise your hand if you want to make a 20 comment or ask a question, and we'll call on you 21 in order.

Nikolas Schiller?

If you could go ahead and unmute Nikolas Schiller?

And go ahead.

MR. SCHILLER: Thank you so much for having me today. I appreciate the nice speed at which the meeting is happening.

I'm going to post something really fast into the chat because it's sort of an important thing for the webmaster of the D.C. Board of Elections website.

I was doing some research on

Initiative 68 last night, and I found that there
has been a malicious code added to the Board of
Elections server. So, if you did that, I was
looking for the casino information, and lo and
behold, I found that some malicious code had been
added to the Board of Elections website.

As someone who builds websites myself, this has happened to me multiple times, and it's not a hard fix. I don't think any personal information was compromised. They just added some code, and then, it got executed and, all of

a sudden, Google picks it all up, and you've got stuff that you shouldn't have on your server.

So, I just want to bring that to your attention, first and foremost.

I've got a few other matters I'd like to bring up real fast today.

No. 2, the process for non-resident petition circulators. We have a COVID-safe system that we started with Initiative 81, and it also followed into Initiative 82, which was that someone from a campaign would send the Registrar of Voters the form that was completed and photographs of the proof of residency. And the Registrar of Voters would respond either received or not. And that would prevent someone from having to go to the Board of Elections and have to do it in person.

And it sounds like we're going to go back to the original way, which is go to the Board of Elections. I'm just suggesting that, through future rulemaking, that a digital process be adopted. It saves staff time from having to

show up and fill out the paperwork, and also, potentially, can keep the Board of Elections staff members safer in case someone who shows up to register as a petition circulator might be sick. So, I just would like to suggest that.

No. 3, the idea of rotating petitions 90 degrees. Right now, we have what's called a portrait petition. In a lot of jurisdictions, they use a landscape petition. By going long ways sideways, you are able to write someone's address in a longer format than it is on the current system. And I would just like to suggest that the Board of Elections look into the possibility of using a landscape-oriented petition.

No. 4, I looked up some of the names of the 65,000 voters that were put on the removal list, and I realized that there was actually two lists that the Board of Elections maintains.

There's the active list and there's the inactive list. Those 65,000, I looked in one of the older voter rolls of this year, and none of those people are on it because they are already on the

inactive list.

So, my question is, what is -- there were 73,000 that were postcards that were mailed to people that will likely be moved into the inactive list. And what is the timeline in which those 73,000 will be made inactive? Will it happen before the end of this year or will it happen in the next few months?

And my last one, I would like a little bit more clarity about the proposed regulations that are going to be published on October 13th; specifically, more detail concerning the court decisions related to Initiative 82.

Thank you so much for your time, and I appreciate your service to the District of Columbia.

MS. EVANS: Yes. Thank you. And we will absolutely take your comments under advisement.

As far as the timeline for moving the approximately 73,000 individuals from an active to an inactive status, that is currently in

process and that should actually be completed by the end of this week.

And as far as the question about the regulations, I'll turn that over to General Counsel Stroud.

MS. STROUD: So, with respect to the rulemaking that will be published in the D.C.

Register, the decisions that were rendered with respect to Initiative 83 approved the actions that the Board took with respect to several aspects of the way that we processed the measure. And so, it just sort of clarifies and codifies some of the actions that the Board took during the processing of that measure, which the Court approved of.

So, you know, you will get the opportunity to read them in detail. Again, there is a 30-day review period. But it really is just that we had been challenged with respect to some of the actions we took, and the Court affirmed the Board's actions with respect to Initiative 82. And so, the regulations clarify and reflect

1 that. 2 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes. I think an 3 example is official voter count as of the 31st of 4 each month. 5 MS. STROUD: So, that was one of the changes/amendments that is being made. 6 7 CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes. All right. Schiller, thanks so much for all that. 8 appreciated. We'll look into the IT issue and 9 10 the other things you mentioned. Any further 11 hands, Zoom hands, for comment? MS. BRIZILL: Mr. Chairman, this is 12 13 Dorothy Brizill. I'd like to make a public 14 comment. 15 CHAIR THOMPSON: Okay. Please go 16 ahead, Ms. Brizill. 17 MS. BRIZILL: First off, I'd like to 18 talk about the plans for 2024. At the Women's 19 Democratic Club luncheon that you spoke at two 20 weeks ago, I asked you the question of where did

the Board intend to do the processing of absentee

ballots and what the condition of the warehouse

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1	was, and whether or not the Board intended to	
2	continue to use the warehouse.	
3	You indicated that you were not fully	
4	versed on that subject, but that you would look	
5	into it. What have you since found in the past	
6	two weeks?	
7	CHAIR THOMPSON: Hold on. Before we	
8	answer that, do you have any other comments or	
9	questions?	
10	MS. BRIZILL: You want me to go	
11	through all of them?	
12	CHAIR THOMPSON: Yes, like Mr.	
13	Schiller just listed all five and we responded.	
14	Instead of a back-and-forth, can you just finish	
15	your contribution	
16	MS. BRIZILL: I would like a more	
17	CHAIR THOMPSON: Go ahead.	
18	MS. BRIZILL: I would a more detailed	
19	explanation of what Ms. Evans discussed with Ms.	
20	Bonds at the September 25th meeting to discuss	
21	the 2024 elections.	
22	I would like to know a little bit more	

information about the process the Board is undergoing in terms of redrawing ANC and SMD boundaries. Is it all an internal exercise? When do you plan to let the community know?

The second thing I would like to note is, what is the Board's policy regarding citizens and civic groups getting access to the transcript and to the actual recording of Zoom meetings?

Next, I would like something from

Terri Stroud as regards the issue of the

petitions for Initiative 83. As you know, at the

September Board meeting, proponents of Initiative

83 asked for a delay. The Board decided to vote

to put the issuance in abeyance. What is the

status and under what legal argument is the Board

delaying the issuance of the petition?

Finally, I would like to ask the Board about the website. For more than a year -- I would almost say two years -- it has been stated that the website of the Board of Elections would be revised and corrected and changes made. When is that fix going to take place?

And finally, I'd like to ask that, in the future, that on the website, a detailed report be given on the website regarding the report that the Executive Director prepares for the monthly meeting of the Board, as well as on the website there be a direct link to any proposed rulemaking that is underway, whether or not it has already been sent to the D.C. Register or whether or not it's simply on the agenda for the Board to consider. CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so much for those comments. I wrote down six distinct things, and we'll certainly take all that under advisement. And perhaps Director Evans would like to comment on some of those? Or, General Counsel Stroud, if you could go ahead?

MS. EVANS: Absolutely. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

As to the 2024 election cycle, we are working with DGS. They have made and are looking at renderings for improvements to our current

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warehouse space, but a final decision has not been made whether or not they will be able to make enough improvements for us to be in the current space or if we will have to be temporarily moved for that process.

As far as the meeting with

Councilmember Bonds, we went through a lot of
what we discussed during the monthly Board

meetings as far as mail ballot drop box

locations, locations of vote centers, equipment
we need, and plans that we have as far as
implementing new legislation, and where we are
with working with our vendors to make changes to
our systems, including the data visualization
dashboard and creating a database for noncitizens to vote in local elections.

As far as the process for redrawing boundaries, we have a meeting today. Yes, the information will be made public before anything is finalized, and we are working with getting that information to Councilmember Bonds before that information will be shared with the public.

As far as policy regarding information to meetings and the issuance, I believe that would be the General Counsel.

And as far as website updates, we have been making updates to our website. So, that is an ongoing process. It's not a one-time rollout of a new website. But now that we do have our Director of Communications onboard, we are working with her to continue the process and get suggestions as far as things we'll put in place to ensure that the website is more user-friendly.

And we will take all of your suggestions under advisement.

And I'll turn it over to Ms. Stroud.

MS. STROUD: With respect to the issuance of the petition in support of Initiative Measure No. 83, as you indicated, the Board acted favorably to the proposer's request that the issuance be held in abeyance for several reasons that they outlined, including wanting to ensure that any litigation that arose with respect to Initiative 83 was resolved prior to the issuance

of the petition.

And in terms of the Board's authority, the statute does not provide an explicit timeframe within which the petition must be issued. And so, the Board exercises discretion under the law to hold the issuance of the petition in abeyance until such time as it saw fit to issue the petition, which the proposers requested January 2024, but the Board made clear that it could issue it prior to that time. And so, that's what the status of the issuance of the petition for that measure is.

CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so much.

Any other Zoom hands out there for public comment?

All right. It looks like we've got about 25 people here. I can see everybody on my screen. I'm not seeing any other hands. It looks like we have wrapped this up in about 40 minutes.

So, we really appreciate everybody

1	attending, and we are hard at work, as always, at		
2	the BOE and the Office of Campaign Finance. So,		
3	thank you, as always, to our staff who are		
4	working so hard into this fall, as we really gear		
5	up now following our official calendar that's		
6	posted on our website. So, we really appreciate		
7	it.		
8	And unless there's any other comment		
9	from my fellow Board members, at this time I		
10	would move to adjourn.		
11	MS. EVANS: Mr. Chair, when you do		
12	adjourn, will you just stay on the line for a		
13	moment?		
14	CHAIR THOMPSON: Oh, sure. Yes.		
15	MEMBER GREENFIELD: I second it.		
16	CHAIR THOMPSON: All right. All in		
17	favor?		
18	(Chorus of aye.)		
19	All right. Have a great day,		
20	everybody.		
21	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter		
22	went off the record at 11:12 a.m.)		

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# <u>CERTIFICATE</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 10-04-23

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.

Court Reporter

near Nous &

# Are you ready for the 2024 Election Season?

The DC Board of Elections is asking you to check your voter registration information so you can get your mail ballot timely!



# **Checklist:**

- ✓ Have you checked your voter registration? Visit https://apps.dcboe.org/VRS.
- Need to make updates? Visit www.dcboe.org/registertovote or call us at (202) 727-2525.
- Not registered to vote? Scan the QR code to register to vote today.



# Primary Election is June 4, 2024

Hours: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

Early Voting is May 26 to June 2, 2024

Hours: 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Vote Centers are closed on May 27, 2024 for Memorial Day



# Did you know?

Qualified non-citizen DC residents may vote in local elections.



Specifically, non-citizen
DC residents may vote in
elections for Mayor, Attorney General, members
of the DC Council, members of the State Board
of Education, and Advisory Neighborhood
Commissioners. They may also vote on initiative,
referendum, recall, and charter amendment
measures.

Non-citizen DC residents cannot vote in elections for President of the United States, Delegate to the US House of Representatives, US Senator, US Representative, or members and officials of local party committees.

Learn more at https://www.dcboe.org/noncitizenvoter

1015 Half St., SE Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003 • www.dcboe.org • Telephone (202) 727-2525 • 711 (TTY) • #DCB0E #VoteReadyDC



### **District of Columbia Board of Elections**

1015 Half St., SE Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003 www.dcboe.org Telephone (202)727-2525 711 (TTY)





Need help in your language? Call (202) 727-2525

Amharic: በቋንቋዎት እርዳታ ማግኘት ይሻሉ? በስልክ ቁጥር (202) 727-2525 ይደውሉ።

Chinese: 需要以您的语言帮助?拨打Call (202) 727-2525

French: Avez-vous besoin d'aide dans votre langue ? Appelez le (202) 727-2525 Korean: 모국어로 도움이 필요하세요? (202) 727-2525로 전화해주세요 Vietnamese: Cần sự trợ giúp ngôn ngữ của bạn? Hãy gọi (202) 727-2525





From: Terri Stroud

Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 2:35 PM

**To:** O Gc <OGc@dcboe.org>

Subject: FW: News Release: DCBOE to Host Virtual Townhall Focused on the Ability of Non-

Citizen DC Residents to Vote in Local Elections

FYI.

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Sarah Graham < SGraham@dcboe.org>

Date: 4/26/24 2:30 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: MGR-LEADS < MGR-LEADS @dcboe.org >

Subject: News Release: DCBOE to Host Virtual Townhall Focused on the Ability of Non-

Citizen DC Residents to Vote in Local Elections

Hi, all,

Attached is press release that we distributed today in regards to the April 30 Virtual Townhall about non-citizen DC residents and voting. Please review, share with staff, and mark your calendar for 2:00 pm on Tuesday, April 30.

You can also find the release on our website here: https://www.dcboe.org/news.

Best, Sarah

---

Sarah Winn Graham (she/her)
Director of Communications
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
www.dcboe.org
sgraham@dcboe.org
(202) 235-4310 (cell)

Register to vote today!

From: Terri Stroud

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 12:39 PM

Gary Thompson <GThompson@dcboe.org>; Karyn

Greenfield < KGreenfield@dcboe.org>; J.C. Boggs < jboggs@dcboe.org>; Monica Evans

<mevans@dcboe.org>

**Cc:** Deise, Alex <Alex.Deise@mail.house.gov>; Lane, Thomas <Thomas.Lane@mail.house.gov>; White, Grace <Grace.White@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Re: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration

Greetings,

Please find attached DC Board of Elections Chair Gary Thompson's response to Chairman Steil's May 6, 2024 correspondence.

Best,

Terri Stroud General Counsel District of Columbia Board of Elections 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

email: <a href="mailto:tstroud@dcboe.org">tstroud@dcboe.org</a>
Website:www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-3088

From: Bell, March < March. Bell@mail.house.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 1:02 PM

To: Gary Thompson; Karyn Greenfield; J.C. Boggs; Monica Evans; Terri Stroud

Cc: Deise, Alex; Lane, Thomas; White, Grace

Subject: Correspondence from U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration

Greetings Commissioners,

Attached, please find correspondence from Chairman Bryan Steil from the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration. We look forward to your response.

# March Bell

General Counsel Committee on House Administration, Majority Chairman Bryan Steil (WI-01) Main: (202) 225-8281



Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS 1015 HALF STREET SE, SUITE 750 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003-4733 202-727-2525 | DCBOE.ORG

May 15, 2024

The Honorable Bryan Steil Chairman Committee on House Administration 1309 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-6157

Dear Representative Steil:

Thank you for your May 6, 2024 letter concerning the implementation of the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 ("the Act"). I send this reply in my capacity as Chair of the three-member board of the District of Columbia Board of Elections ("the DCBOE"). DCBOE is an independent agency that is not directed or influenced by any outside source.

As you know, DCBOE *administers* the election laws that are in effect; we do not pass or propose any laws ourselves. With adherence to those current federal and local election laws, the agency is run, on a day-to-day basis, by our highly qualified Executive Director and management team of skilled election professionals. Our approximately 70-member staff comprise, I strongly believe, the finest election agency in the United States. Above the agency sits our three-member bipartisan Board of private citizens, to whom you addressed your letter. We are each nominated by the Mayor of the District of Columbia and confirmed by the Council of the District of Columbia for three-year terms. Our three-member Board fulfills several functions, both of an oversight and adjudicatory nature.

By way of background, on October 18, 2022, the DC Council passed the Act by a 12-0-1 vote. On November 21, 2022, the Act was returned by the Mayor without signature. On January 10, 2023, the Act was transmitted to Congress for the mandatory 30-day review period, during which time Congress did not pass a joint resolution disapproving the Act (this is the process followed for all DC local laws). The full legislative history of the Act can be found here: <a href="https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B24-0300">https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B24-0300</a>. Thus, the Act became and remains binding law in DC.<sup>1</sup>

The Act, as it stands, permits non-citizen residents of DC to participate only in local elections as that term is defined in the Act (several other U.S. cities permit the same). Non-citizen residents may *not* participate in elections for the offices of US President and Vice-President, Delegate to the US House of Representatives, US Senator, US Representative, or for

.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Act is currently being challenged in federal court as unconstitutional. We are monitoring this case and DCBOE will cease implementation if the Act is struck down. The legal challenge to the Act was recently dismissed at the U.S. district court level, see <a href="202024-03-20-Opinion-on-order-granting-motion-to-dismiss.pdf">202024-03-20-Opinion-on-order-granting-motion-to-dismiss.pdf</a> (democracydocket.com). This challenge is on appeal to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals.

officials and members of local political party committees. You correctly cite 18 U.S.C. §611 which prohibits "any alien to vote in any election held solely or in part for the purpose of electing a candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, Member of the House of Representatives, Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner." That section continues: "unless (1) the election is held partly for some other purpose; (2) aliens are authorized to vote for such other purpose under a State constitution or statute or a local ordinance; and (3) voting for such other purpose is conducted independently of voting for a candidate for such Federal offices, in such a manner that an alien has the opportunity to vote for such other purpose, but not an opportunity to vote for a candidate for any one or more of such Federal offices." (emphasis added).

Through its Voter Education and Outreach Division ("VEOD"), the Board seeks to provide the most accurate and timely election-related information to the public and to ensure that all eligible voters in the District are aware of their rights and responsibilities as they relate to registration and voting. VEOD activities are extended to all of our DC voters, with various VEOD outreach efforts focused on students, the elderly, public transit riders, and other constituencies. Likewise, VEOD has engaged in neutral activities designed to inform non-citizens and the general public about the fact that non-citizens may register and vote in local elections.

Please rest assured that our agency is merely implementing an Act that was passed by our DC Council and then became law after the period for Congressional review. We do not have a policy or political view as to whether the Act is wise or unwise. For example, if a law that allowed DC citizens to vote at age 16 were passed, , we would implement it, or if a new law required all voting to be in person, we would implement that as well. We implement election laws, and we look to our legislatures (either Congress or the DC Council) to pass and amend those laws.

With the above in mind, we turn to the specific questions you posed:

- (1) To distinguish between citizen and non-citizen voters, your implementation of the Act requires two voter registration forms, two voter lists, and two different ballots.
  - a. If a bifurcated registration database is used, how will elections workers differentiate between those qualified to vote in federal elections and those who are not?

**ANSWER**: In DC, each voter receives a ballot tailored to their specific Ward (of which there are eight) and advisory neighborhood commission (of which there are 46), and in a primary, also to party status. Our system already generates dozens of different ballots depending on the voter's residence and party affiliation. Our system will also easily generate a unique ballot for a non-citizen, excluding the presence of any federal contests. This is much like ensuring that a ballot for someone voting in the Republican primary does not include Democrat contests, and vice-versa. All non-citizen voters will be provided with a ballot that includes *only* the permissible local elections based on their place of residence.

(2) Non-citizen voting in federal elections is a felony under 18 U.S.C. §611. What steps have you taken to ensure foreign nationals will not commit a crime by casting a vote for a federal office, including President of the United States?

ANSWER: Section 611 (quoted above) allows for the Act and the DCBOE's implementation thereof. When anyone registers to vote in DC, they must swear or affirm that they meet each of the qualifications necessary to vote in DC and are put on notice that if they sign the statement of qualifications "even though [they] know it is untrue, [they] can be convicted and fined up to \$10,000 and/or jailed for up to five years." Prior to the passage of the Act, an applicant had to swear or affirm that they are a U.S. citizen, which language served as a prohibition against illegal registrations. Since the passage of the Act, individuals have been allowed to indicate that they are non-citizens and if so, they are provided with the appropriate voter registration application, without the need for an oath of U.S. citizenship. They are then classified accordingly in the voter registration database and, in turn, their ballot will exclude any federal elections. Non-citizens otherwise swear and affirm to residence and other pertinent qualifications.

(3) Can foreign nationals who are here representing their capitals as embassy personnel, including nationals from China, Russia, and Iran, vote in the governance of our nation's capital?

**ANSWER**: No. Such foreign nationals can vote in non-federal local elections in the District of Columbia only if they effectively renounce their right to vote in their country of origin. Under DC Code §1-1001.02(2)(C), a "qualified elector" (whether a citizen or a non-citizen) means a person who "has maintained a residence in the District for at least 30 days preceding the next election *and does not claim voting residence in any state, territory or country.*" (emphasis added). Further, a foreign national applying to vote has to swear under penalty of law through the D.C. registration application that that person is not claiming voting residence in another country.

a. Can non-citizens, who are employed by a foreign embassy in DC, use their embassy's address when registering to vote?

**ANSWER**: No. The DCBOE does not accept commercial or business addresses for voter registration purposes.

b. Can non-citizens use their foreign passport when registering to vote?

**ANSWER**: No. As a foreign passport does not contain the residential address information needed to register to vote, it cannot be used to register to vote in DC.

c. How were the available languages that are used for the Mail in Voter Registration Application determined?

**ANSWER**: The District of Columbia Language Access Act of 2004 requires District of Columbia government agencies, including the DCBOE, to provide translations of vital documents into any non-English language spoken by a limited or non-English proficient population that constitutes 3% or 500 individuals, whichever is fewer, of the population served or encountered, or likely to be served or encountered by the covered entity. Accordingly, the Board's Mail-in Voter Registration Application has been translated into the six languages that meet this threshold: Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, French, and Amharic.

d. Are there plans to have the Application available in Hindi, Russian, Persian, or any other languages?

ANSWER: No.

(4) Your current voter registration application in use for American citizens requires an affirmation of U.S. citizenship. What is your process if a non-citizen fills out this form?

**ANSWER**: See the answer to question 2.

(5) Your current voter registration application in use for American citizens requires that an applicant not be in jail for a felony conviction. The form for noncitizens does not have this requirement. Why not?

**ANSWER**: This question is not accurate. No application to vote in DC requires that the person not be in jail for a felony conviction. *See* the Restore the Vote Amendment Act of 2020, D.C. Law 23-0277, 68 DCR 004795.<sup>2</sup>

a. Can foreign nationals be in jail for a felony conviction and still vote?

**ANSWER**: A DC resident (citizen or non-citizen) who is in jail may continue to vote if they are otherwise eligible to vote in DC.

b. What is your plan to vet foreign nationals who have felony convictions?

**ANSWER**: A felony conviction does not prohibit any voting in DC, so nobody is vetted in this regard.

(6) The non-citizen voter registration application states, "If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and submit this application by mail or electronically, you may be required to provide identification that shows your name and current address the first time you vote in an election in the District of Columbia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The legislative history of the Restore the Vote Amendment Act can be found here: <a href="https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B23-0324">https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/B23-0324</a>.

a. Why is identification not required?

**ANSWER**: The DCBOE does require identification in accordance with federal law. Under Section 303(b) of the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA"), Congress set a minimum identification requirement for first-time voters in federal elections. The DCBOE's identification requirements follow the mandate of the law enacted by Congress.

b. What steps are taken when identification is requested and provided?

**ANSWER**: All first-time voters must present identification in order to vote, which applies to citizens and non-citizens alike.

c. What steps are taken when identification is requested and not provided?

**ANSWER**: If an applicant does not provide the required identification, their registration is incomplete, and when the voter attempts to vote, they will only be allowed to vote by provisional ballot, which will not be counted unless the voter provides the required identification on or before the 7<sup>th</sup> day after election day.

(7) To date, how many non-citizens are registered to vote in D.C.?

**ANSWER**: As of this date, there are 489 non-citizen registered voters in DC.

(8) Does your office plan to use Help America Vote Act ("HAVA") of 2002 funds to help or encourage non-citizens to vote in D.C. local elections?

ANSWER: No.

(9) What legal analyses or guidance has the Board relied upon in implementing the Act?

**ANSWER**: The plain language of the Act and other relevant election laws.

We are currently in the voting period for our June 4, 2024 Primary Election, hard at work in an effort to deliver safe, secure, and orderly elections.

Sincerely,

Gary Thompson

Chair, DC Board of Elections

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

STACIA HALL, et al.,	)
Plaintiffs,	)
v.	) Civil Action No. 23-1261 (ABJ)
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS,	) ) )
Defendant.	) ) )

# MEMORANDUM OPINION

Plaintiffs, seven U.S. citizens who reside in the District of Columbia, brought an action on March 14, 2023 against the D.C. Board of Elections. They allege that the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 violates their Fifth Amendment guarantees of substantive due process and equal protection, as well as "the constitutional right of citizen self-government." Compl. [Dkt. # 1] ¶ 53. On May 4, 2023, defendant removed the case under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441(a) and 1446 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 81(c). *See* Def.'s Notice of Removal [Dkt. # 1] at 1.

Defendant has moved to dismiss the complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1), arguing that plaintiffs lack standing, and it also seeks to dismiss the complaint for failure to state a claim under Rule 12(b)(6). *See* Def.'s Mot. to Dismiss

Plaintiff Stacia Hall is a U.S. citizen and D.C. resident registered to vote. Compl. ¶ 13. In 2022, she was the Republican candidate for Mayor in the District. Compl. ¶ 13.

Plaintiff Ralph Chittams is a U.S. citizen and D.C. resident registered to vote. Compl. ¶ 14. In 2018, he was the Republican candidate for an at-large seat on the District's Council. Compl. ¶ 14.

Plaintiffs Suzzanne Keller, Ken McClenton, Kimberly Epps, Richard Heller, and Nicolle S. A. Lyon are U.S. citizens and D.C. residents registered to vote. Compl. ¶¶ 15–19.

[Dkt. # 8] ("Mot."). Plaintiffs oppose the motion, and the matter is fully briefed. *See* Pls.' Opp. to Mot. [Dkt. # 12] ("Opp."); Def.'s Reply Brief [Dkt. # 15] ("Reply"); Pls.' Notice of Suppl. Authority [Dkt. # 16] ("Pl.'s Suppl."); Decl. of Plaintiff Stacia Hall [Dkt. # 17] ("Hall Decl."); Def.'s Resp. to Pls.' Suppl. [Dkt. # 18].<sup>2</sup>

Because plaintiffs lack standing, the Court will grant defendant's motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(1).

# **BACKGROUND**

In 2022, the Council of the District of Columbia passed the "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022" ("the Act"). Compl. ¶ 3; D.C. Law 24-242, 69 D.C. Reg. 14,601 (Dec. 2, 2022). The Act removed the prior citizenship requirement for voting in municipal elections, thereby enabling noncitizen residents of the District to vote in local – but not federal – elections. Compl. ¶¶ 3, 33–34. Under the Act, noncitizen residents may vote in elections for D.C. government positions, such as mayor, as well as local initiatives, referenda, recalls, or charter amendment measures, so long as they satisfy other D.C. voting requirements. D.C. Law 24-242 § 2(a)(2). The Act also permits noncitizen residents to run for D.C. government positions and to serve on the District's Board of Elections. Compl. ¶ 4.

The gravamen of plaintiffs' complaint is that this enfranchisement of noncitizens "dilutes the vote of every U.S. citizen voter in the District." Compl. ¶ 5. Based on that premise, plaintiffs allege that the Act: (1) infringes on their fundamental right to vote in violation of the Fifth Amendment guarantee of substantive due process; (2) discriminates against U.S. citizens living in

The Court also received an amicus brief in support of defendant's motion to dismiss from the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs. See Brief of Amici Curiae [Dkt. #11].

D.C. based on their citizenship in violation of the Fifth Amendment guarantee of equal protection; (3) discriminates against native-born U.S. citizens living in D.C. based on their national origin, also in violation of the equal protection clause; and (4) violates the "constitutional right to citizen self-government." Compl. ¶¶ 55–70. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief to prohibit defendant from implementing the Act, registering noncitizens to vote, and counting votes cast by noncitizens. Compl. at 16–17.

# **LEGAL STANDARD**

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction, and the law presumes that "a cause lies outside this limited jurisdiction." *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am.*, 511 U.S. 375, 377 (1994) (citation omitted); *see also Gen. Motors Corp. v. EPA*, 363 F.3d 442, 448 (D.C. Cir. 2004) (citation omitted) ("As a court of limited jurisdiction, we begin, and end, with an examination of our jurisdiction."). "[B]ecause subject-matter jurisdiction is 'an Art[icle] III as well as a statutory requirement . . . no action of the parties can confer subject-matter jurisdiction upon a federal court." *Akinseye v. District of Columbia*, 339 F.3d 970, 971 (D.C. Cir. 2003), quoting *Ins. Corp. of Ireland, Ltd. v. Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee*, 456 U.S. 694, 702 (1982). Moreover, a federal court must determine whether it has jurisdiction to hear a case before it may consider whether plaintiffs have stated a cognizable claim. *Hancock v. Urban Outfitters*, 830 F.3d 511, 513 (D.C. Cir. 2016) ("Federal courts cannot address the merits of a case until jurisdiction – the power to decide – is established.").

"To state a case or controversy under Article III, a plaintiff must establish standing." *Ariz. Christian Sch. Tuition Org. v. Winn*, 563 U.S. 125, 133 (2011); *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 561 (1992). Standing is a necessary predicate to any exercise of federal jurisdiction; if it is lacking, then the dispute is not a proper case or controversy under the

Constitution, and federal courts have no subject matter jurisdiction to decide the case. *Dominguez v. UAL Corp.*, 666 F.3d 1359, 1361 (D.C. Cir. 2012). Plaintiffs must show standing for each claim they assert, *DaimlerChrysler Corp. v. Cuno*, 547 U.S. 332, 352 (2006); *Friends of the Earth, Inc. v. Laidlaw Env't Servs.*, 528 U.S. 167, 185 (2000), and the party invoking federal jurisdiction bears the burden of establishing standing. *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 561.

To establish constitutional standing, a plaintiff must show: (1) that he or she has suffered "injury-in-fact"; (2) that the injury is "fairly traceable" to the challenged action of the defendant; and (3) that it is "likely, as opposed to merely speculative," that a favorable decision will redress the injury. *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 560–61; *see also Laidlaw Env't. Servs.*, 528 U.S. at 180-81.

To satisfy the first requirement, plaintiffs must demonstrate that they "suffered an invasion of a legally protected interest that is 'concrete and particularized' and 'actual or imminent, not conjectural or hypothetical." *Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins*, 578 U.S. 330, 339 (2016), quoting *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 560 (internal quotation marks omitted). To be "concrete," the injury "must actually exist," meaning that it is real and not abstract, although concreteness is "not . . . necessarily synonymous with 'tangible.'" *Spokeo*, 578 U.S. at 339–42. And to be "particularized," the injury must affect a plaintiff "in a personal and individual way." *Id.* at 339. Of significance to this case, a "plaintiff raising only a generally available grievance about [the] government – claiming only harm to his and every citizen's interest in [the] proper application of the Constitution and laws and seeking relief that no more directly and tangibly benefits him than it does the public at large – does not state an Article III case or controversy." *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 573–74; *see also Am. Legal Found.* v. *FCC*, 808 F.2d 84, 92 (D.C. Cir. 1987) (observing that an injury-in-fact requires "more than allegations of damage to an interest in 'seeing' the law obeyed or a social goal furthered").

In evaluating a motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(1), the Court must "treat the complaint's factual allegations as true . . . and must grant plaintiff 'the benefit of all inferences that can be derived from the facts alleged." Sparrow v. United Air Lines, Inc., 216 F.3d 1111, 1113 (D.C. Cir. 2000) (internal citations omitted), quoting Schuler v. United States, 617 F.2d 605, 608 (D.C. Cir. 1979); see also Am. Nat'l Ins. Co. v. FDIC, 642 F.3d 1137, 1139 (D.C. Cir. 2011), quoting Thomas v. Principi, 394 F.3d 970, 972 (D.C. Cir. 2005). Nevertheless, the Court need not accept inferences drawn by plaintiffs if those inferences are unsupported by facts alleged in the complaint, nor must the Court accept plaintiffs' legal conclusions. Food and Water Watch, Inc. v. Vilsack, 808 F.3d 905, 913 (D.C. Cir. 2015); Browning v. Clinton, 292 F.3d 235, 242 (D.C. Cir. 2002). Moreover, when considering a motion to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction, unlike when deciding a motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(6), the Court "is not limited to the allegations of the complaint." Hohri v. United States, 782 F.2d 227, 241 (D.C. Cir. 1986), vacated on other grounds, 482 U.S. 64 (1987). Instead, "a court may consider such materials outside the pleadings as it deems appropriate to resolve the question [of] whether it has jurisdiction to hear the case." Scolaro v. D.C. Bd. of Elections & Ethics, 104 F. Supp. 2d 18, 22 (D.D.C. 2000), citing Herbert v. Nat'l Acad. of Scis., 974 F.2d 192, 197 (D.C. Cir. 1992); see also Jerome Stevens Pharms., Inc. v. FDA, 402 F.3d 1249, 1253 (D.C. Cir. 2005).

# **ANALYSIS**

Plaintiffs maintain that the alleged dilution of their votes as U.S. citizens satisfies the requirement of the particularized injury-in-fact that gives them standing to invoke the Court's jurisdiction. Opp. at 3.

The Supreme Court has "long recognized that a person's right to vote is 'individual and personal in nature," *Gill v. Whitford*, 585 U.S. 48, 49 (2018), citing *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S.

533, 561 (1964), and that "voters who allege facts showing disadvantage to themselves as individuals have standing to sue." *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 206, 208 (1962) (holding that qualified voters of various Tennessee counties had standing to challenge an allegedly unconstitutional statewide apportionment scheme because they had "a plain, direct and adequate interest in maintaining the effectiveness of their votes") (internal citations omitted). For example, in the context of malapportionment, voter dilution can support standing when a classification "places [voters] in a position of constitutionally unjustifiable inequality vis-a -vis voters in irrationally favored counties." *Id.* at 207-208.

The Supreme Court has also found the necessary disadvantage to be present when the vote of one member of a group receives less weight than that of another member of the same group based on an arbitrary distinction in the gerrymandering context. *See, e.g., Rucho v. Common Cause*, 139 S. Ct. 2484, 2492 (2019) (noting that partisan gerrymandering could cause an injury in fact because plaintiffs lived in a district that had been either "cracked" or "packed" to lessen the weight of their votes); *contra United States v. Hays*, 515 U.S. 737, 739 744–745 (1995) (holding that plaintiffs failed to produce evidence that they had suffered individualized harm in the racial gerrymandering context when their claims focused on a "majority-minority" district, that is, a district "in which a majority of the population is a member of a specific minority group," but they did not live in that district).

A "cracked" district is one in which "a party's supporters are divided among multiple districts, so that they fall short of a majority in each," while a "packed" district is one in which "a party's supporters are highly concentrated, so they win that district by a large margin, 'wasting' many votes that would improve their chances in others." *Rucho*, 139 S. Ct. at 2492 (internal citations omitted).

The Supreme Court has also recognized that malapportionment based on a flawed census could give rise to a cognizable injury. *See Reynolds*, 377 U.S. at 555, 563 (holding that Alabama residents and voters had standing to challenge a state reapportionment plan that gave the same number of representatives to unequal numbers of constituents and noting that "[w]eighting the votes of citizens differently, by any method or means, merely because of where they happen to reside, hardly seems justifiable."); *Dep't of Com. v. U.S. House of Representatives*, 525 U.S. 316, 331–32 (1999) (plaintiffs satisfied the injury-in-fact requirement for standing when they demonstrated that it was a "virtual certainty" that Indiana would lose a House seat under the proposed census plan because Indiana residents' votes would be diluted by the loss).

But not every alleged dilution of voting rights gives rise to an injury that would support a finding of standing. In *Gill*, Wisconsin residents complained that partisan gerrymandering left them with "a less valuable vote." 585 U.S. at 77 (Kagan, J., concurring). The Court held that the plaintiffs had not come forward with any evidence to show that they had suffered such an injury; the only plaintiff to testify at trial about the alleged gerrymander's effects "expressly acknowledged that his district would be materially identical under any conceivable map," meaning he was not "among the injured." *Id.* As the D.C. Circuit explained in *Daughtrey v. Carter*, 584 F.2d 1050, 1056 (D.C. Cir. 1978), in each case, "the determination of injury must necessarily proceed on an Ad hoc scrutiny of the facts." (internal citations and quotations omitted).

Plaintiffs' complaint, which is more of a memorandum of points and authorities than the required "short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief," *see* Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 8(a)(2), is thin on facts. It posits that "by necessary operation," the Act authorizing noncitizens to vote in local elections dilutes the votes of the citizens who reside in the district. Compl. ¶ 5. But this *ipse dixit* is insufficient to invoke the Court's jurisdiction.

The complaint recites inarguable, important principles – "all qualified voters have a constitutionally protected right to vote, and to have their votes counted," Compl. ¶ 45, and "the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment contains an equal protection component prohibiting the United States from invidiously discriminating between individuals or groups," Compl. ¶ 49 – but it does not include facts showing that *plaintiffs*' right to vote has been denied, that they have been subjected to discrimination or inequitable treatment or denied opportunities when compared to another group, or that their rights as citizens have been "subordinated merely because of [their] father's country of origin." *See* Compl. ¶ 51. They identify nothing that has been taken away or diminished and no right that has been made subordinate to anyone else's.

In sum, plaintiffs have not alleged that they have personally been subjected to any sort of disadvantage as individual voters by virtue of the fact that noncitizens are permitted to vote, too. They may object as a matter of policy to the fact that immigrants get to vote at all, but their votes will not receive less weight or be treated differently than noncitizens' votes; they are not losing representation in any legislative body; nor have citizens as a group been discriminatorily

gerrymandered, "packed," or "cracked" to divide, concentrate, or devalue their votes. At bottom, they are simply raising a generalized grievance which is insufficient to confer standing.<sup>4</sup>

Indeed, the D.C. Circuit has already specifically rejected the contention that the mere expansion of the electorate as a whole gives rise to the necessary particularized injury affecting an existing voter in a personalized and individual way. *See Daughtrey*, 584 F.2d at 1056-57.

In *Daughtrey*, a group consisting of retired and active duty military officers, a civilian former prisoner of war, the minor child of a prisoner of war who died in captivity, and some of

On March 4, 2024, plaintiffs filed a supplemental notice of authority transmitting an opinion issued by the New York State Court of Appeals. See Pl.'s Suppl. In Fossella v. Adams, No. 2022-05794, slip. op. (N.Y. App. Div. Feb. 21, 2024), the court concluded that the voter plaintiffs lacked standing for reasons similar to those outlined in this opinion. Id. at 8. However, it did find that officeholders had standing to challenge New York City's noncitizen voting law. Id. at 11. Given that development, plaintiffs submitted a declaration from plaintiff Hall in a belated effort to base standing on her more recent status as a candidate for the at-large position on the District of Columbia Board of Education. See Pl.'s Suppl; Hall Decl. ¶ 8.

The D.C. Circuit has made it clear that "standing is assessed as of the time a suit commences." *Del Monte Fresh Produce Co. v. United States*, 570 F.3d 316, 324 (D.C. Cir. 2009). The complaint, which was filed in May 2023, simply alleges that "in 2022, Ms. Hall was the Republican candidate for Mayor of the District of Columbia," and it made no reference to any current or impending candidacy. Compl. ¶ 13. In her recently filed declaration, plaintiff Hall states: "*At the time this lawsuit was filed*, I was *planning* to run for public office in the District in 2024, and was being pressed by other members of the District of Columbia Republican Party to run for the at-large seat on the District of Columbia Council in the 2024 election." Decl. ¶ 7 (emphasis added). She asserts that she finalized her plans "[i]n the summer of 2023," and she is now "currently a candidate." Decl. ¶ 8-9.

Even if this out-of-circuit opinion were binding on this Court, the case at hand presents an entirely different set of circumstances. While the court in *Fossella* held that the officeholder plaintiffs had standing because "the record reflects that each of the officeholder plaintiffs *intended* to seek reelection," *Fossella*, slip. op. at 12, plaintiff Hall was not an *officeholder* seeking reelection; at the time of the complaint, she was *intending* to be a *candidate*. While the court stated that "[a]n inaccurate vote tally is a concrete and particularized injury to candidates," *id.* at 11, Hall was not yet a candidate at the time the lawsuit commenced. Moreover, given that the relevant plaintiffs in *Fossella* were "individuals who held or had recently been elected to public office," *id.* at 3, and not merely "candidates," any dicta regarding standing with respect to candidates has no bearing on the instant case.

their spouses alleged that their votes were unconstitutionally devalued when individuals who had left the country to avoid military service during the Vietnam War were permitted to return, with their voting rights restored. *Id.* at 1054. They challenged then-President Carter's Proclamation and Executive Order on the grounds that as eligible voters, their voting rights would be diluted by the reentry of persons they alleged should remain excluded. *Id.* The Court of Appeals observed that the appellants did "not contend that their votes [were] diluted in any particular election or in any particular geographical area" or that they were an "identifiable group of voters whose votes are disfavored Vis-a-vis those of some other group." *Id.* at 1056. It added that "at best," the complaint could be read to claim that as qualified voters, plaintiffs' votes were being diluted "as a result of the reentry into the United States of an admittedly unknown, relatively small number of persons who allegedly should be excluded, and who therefore should not be entitled to vote." *Id.* Because this did not present a "discrete factual context" within which a "concrete injury" had occurred, the court affirmed the district court's dismissal of the complaint for lack of standing. *Id* 5

Plaintiffs point to a general statement contained in an out-of-circuit case to argue that the existence of "a point of comparison" means that they have standing. *See* Opp. at 6-7, citing *Wood v. Raffensperger*, 981 F.3d 1307, 1314 (11th Cir. 2020) (upholding the dismissal of an individual

The Court also concluded that "the dilution of voting rights [appellants] have alleged is so diffuse, minute, and indeterminable that we must conclude the injury asserted is too speculative to support standing under the circumstances presented here." *Daughtrey*, 584 F.2d at 1056 (internal quotations omitted). While plaintiffs here have pointed to a more geographically concentrated impact than the nationwide action challenged in *Daughtery*, they have made no effort to quantify the number of noncitizens who will meet the criteria to vote in local elections, much less, do so. But the Court's ruling here is based on the lack of a particularized injury recognized in *Daughtery* as opposed to the Circuit's concern about the diffuse or speculative nature of the injury alleged in that case.

voter's challenge to the 2020 presidential election results in Georgia for lack of standing, and noting that "vote dilution can be a basis for standing. . . [b]ut it requires a point of comparison."). They maintain that the "point" at which the strength of their votes was diminished was the date when the statute was enacted. Opp. at 6. But they have lifted the term out of context, as the Eleventh Circuit was not talking about a point in time, and it went on to identify examples of the particular forms of vote dilution that could cause a cognizable injury: "For example, in the racial gerrymandering and malapportionment contexts, vote dilution occurs when voters are harmed compared to 'irrationally favored' voters from other districts." 981 F. 3d at 1314, citing *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. at 207-08. Here, the power of plaintiffs' individual votes was not diminished in any way on that date: plaintiffs' votes will be counted and weighted exactly as they were before. 6

#### **CONCLUSION**

Because plaintiffs have failed to establish the injury-in-fact element of standing, the Court will **GRANT** defendant's motion to dismiss [Dkt. #8] for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

Plaintiffs also cite Michel v. Anderson, 14 F.3d 623 (D.C. Cir. 1994), Opp. at 5, but this case presents an entirely different set of circumstances. In Michel, members of Congress and their constituents challenged a House rule allowing delegates from D.C. and U.S. territories to vote in the House Committee of the Whole. Id. at 624-25. The court considered a standing challenge raised by amici given the jurisdictional nature of the issue. Id. at 625. Notably, the amici did "not question the congressmen's standing to assert that their voting power has been diluted." *Id.* Given that the applicability of the vote dilution theory was conceded, the court only needed to decide whether the private voters had standing as well. The *amici* argued that the constituents had merely asserted a "derivative" injury and that the dilution of the voting power of their congressmen was a generalized grievance suffered by every American voter. Id. at 626. The Michel court held that the fact that all voters in the 50 states suffered the injury did not render it "abstract," and that the private citizens faced the same injury as the representatives: "previously they had a right to elect a representative who cast one of 435 votes, whereas now their vote elects a representative whose vote is worth only one in 440." *Id.* The opinion went on to observe: "[t]hat an injury is widespread ... does not mean it cannot form the basis for a case in federal court so long as each person can be said to have suffered a distinct and concrete harm." Id. Here, the ruling that plaintiffs lack standing is based on the absence of a particularized injury suffered by any of the U.S. citizen plaintiffs, not the fact that there may be a large number of other citizens residing in the District.

A separate order will issue.

AMY BERMAN JACKSON United States District Judge

DATE: March 20, 2024

From: Chinyere Offor < COffor@dcboe.org > Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2024 12:47 PM

**To:** Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >; Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >; Alice Miller < APMiller@dcboe.org >; Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org >; Jorge Quintana < JQuintana@dcboe.org >; LaKetha Walker < LWalker@dcboe.org >; Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >

Cc: Kevin Newsome < <u>KNewsome@dcboe.org</u>> Subject: RE: What Every Voter Needs to Know

Good Afternoon,

I have attached an updated version of the What Every Voter Needs to Know poster. It includes the updated language about the Non-Citizen DC Residents as well as the addition of dates under the "When Would I Vote A Provisional Ballot" section of the poster. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

<image001.png>

#### Chinyere T. Offor

Election Support Specialist | DC Board of Elections 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 | Washington, DC 20003 (M) 202.727.2525 | (D) 202.727.6609 | (F) 202.347.2648

Email: coffor@dcboe.org



# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS WASHINGTON, DC



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2024

Contact: Sarah Winn Graham 202-235-4310 (cell) sgraham@dcboe.org

## DCBOE to Host Virtual Townhall Focused on the Ability of Non-Citizen DC Residents to Vote in Local Elections

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – On Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 2:00 pm, the District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) will host a virtual townhall focused on the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022. This legislation granted non-citizen DC residents the right to register and vote in local elections.

During this virtual townhall, DCBOE will discuss:

- The Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 legislation;
- How non-citizen DC residents can register to vote;
- The voting rights and responsibilities of non-citizen DC residents; and
- Voting during the 2024 Election cycle.

After a short presentation, DCBOE will be available to answer questions. The townhall will last approximately one hour and be hosted virtually. Language access, including translation resources, will also be made available.

Questions can be submitted in advance to Sarah Graham at sgraham@dcboe.org.

Members of the public can access the townhall virtually by using the following information:

Join Zoom Meeting: Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 2:00 pm https://zoom.us/j/5546215828?pwd=MkVTRnBVUW8yc1lhY2tFRC9qY0Vvdz09

Meeting ID: 554 621 5828

Passcode: 299837 One tap mobile

+16468769923,,5546215828#,,,,\*299837# US (New York)

+13017158592,,5546215828#,,,,\*299837# US (Washington DC)

#### Dial by your location

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- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <a href="https://zoom.us/u/a9gZ43CBe">https://zoom.us/u/a9gZ43CBe</a>

The District of Columbia Board of Elections is an independent agency of the District of Columbia Government responsible for the administration of elections, ballot access, and voter registration.

##



## WHAT EVERY VOTER NEEDS TO KNOW

#### AM I ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION?

#### YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION IF:

- •You are a resident of the District of Columbia;
- •You have resided in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election;
- •You are at least 17 years old and you will be 18 years old by the next general election;
- •You have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote; and
- •You do not claim voting residence or the right to vote in any state, territory, or country.

Non-citizen DC residents may vote in local elections. A local election is an election for any of the following offices and ballot questions:

- Mayor;
- · Chairman or member of the Council;
- Attorney General:
- Member of the State Board of Education;
- Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner;
- Initiative:
- Referendum;
- · Recall; and
- Charter Amendment.

Non-citizen DC residents cannot vote in elections for the offices of US President and Vice-President, Delegate to the US House of Representatives, US Senator, and US Representative. They cannot vote in elections for officials and members of local political party committees either.

#### CAN I REGISTER AND VOTE ON THE SAME DAY?

YES! You can register and vote on the same day. However, you must provide proof of District of Columbia residence at a Vote Center during Early Voting or on Election Day.

#### WHAT INFORMATION MUST I PROVIDE IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

## IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, YOU MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Your complete name;
- Your current residence address;
- Your date of birth;
- •Your District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)-issued ID number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number; and
- Your original signature.

## AM I REQUIRED TO SHOW IDENTIFICATION IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR TO VOTE?

If you are a first-time voter who registered by mail or online, and you have not already provided proof of identification that shows your name and address, you may have to provide such proof in order for your ballot to be counted.

If you are registering at a Vote Center during Early Voting or on Election Day, you must provide valid proof of District of Columbia residence that shows your name and address in order for your application to be accepted and your ballot counted.

## ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESIDENCE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- •District of Columbia DMV-issued ID (current and valid);
- •Paycheck or government check (dated no earlier than 90 days before Election Day);
- •Bank statement (dated no earlier than 90 days before Election Day);

#### ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PROOF OF RESIDENCE (continued)

- •Utility bill (dated no earlier than 90 days before Election Day);
- Student housing statement/Tuition bill;
- Homeless shelter statement;
- Lease agreement: and
- Any other current and/or valid government document with name and D.C. address.

#### WHERE DO I VOTE?

During the Early Voting period (<u>Sunday, May 26, 2024 - Sunday, June 2, 2024 (voting is closed on Memorial Day)</u>), you may vote at any Early Voting Center between the hours of 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.

On Election Day (Tuesday, June 4, 2024), you may vote at any Vote Center between the hours of 7:00 am and 8:00 pm.

If you wish to update your address at the polls, you may do so at any Vote Center during Early Voting or on Election Day.

#### WHAT IS A PROVISIONAL BALLOT?

A provisional (or special) ballot is a ballot used to record a vote by an individual whose eligibility to vote in a particular election must be determined by the Board. A provisional ballot will be counted once the individual's eligibility to vote is confirmed.

#### WHEN WOULD I VOTE A PROVISIONAL BALLOT?

#### YOU WILL HAVE TO VOTE A PROVISIONAL BALLOT IF:

- •You have already checked in to vote prior to or on Election Day;
- •Our records show that you have returned a "mail-in" ballot;
- You are required to show identification or proof of residence to complete or update your registration, but you do not provide it\*;
- •During a Primary Election, you claim a different party affiliation status than that which is reflected on your voter registration;
- During a General Election, you claim a different ANC/SMD than that which is reflected on your voter registration;
- •A challenge to your eligibility to vote has been upheld by the Site Coordinator or a Board hearing examiner; or
- •You are voting during hours extended by either a Board or court order.
- \* If you do not provide valid identification or proof of residence when you cast your provisional ballot, you must bring it to the Board of Elections by the close of business on the Tuesday after Election Day (June 11, 2024) in order for your provisional ballot to be counted.

#### HOW WILL I LEARN IF MY PROVISIONAL BALLOT IS COUNTED?

Beginning on the Tuesday after Election Day (June 11, 2024), you can go to the Board's website, www.dcboe.org, or call 1-866-DC VOTES (1-866-328-6837) or 711 (TTY), to learn of the Board's preliminary determination to either count or reject your provisional (special) ballot. If necessary, you may challenge the Board's decision not to count your provisional (special) ballot by scheduling a hearing that will take place no earlier than the Wednesday of the week after Election Day and no later than the Friday of the week after Election Day between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:45 PM.

#### **VOTER RIGHTS**

#### AS A VOTER IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- •Be treated with courtesy and respect by election officials
- Register and vote free from discrimination, intimidation, threat, or coercion;
- ·Learn whether your voter registration application has been accepted or rejected;

#### VOTER RIGHTS (continued)

- •Receive instructions from election officials on how to cast your ballot;
- •Inspect a sample ballot and other voting information posted in the vote center;
- •Bring voter information materials into the voting booth;
- Vote privately and independently;
- •Vote in an accessible vote center with accessible voting equipment;
- Receive language access services if you are limited or non-English proficient;
- •Have a ballot brought to your vehicle instead of entering the Vote Center if you are 65 years of age or older, or if you have a disability;
- •Ask for and receive assistance with voting from anyone you choose (other than a poll watcher, an election observer, your employer, or an officer from your union), including an election worker, if you have a disability, are visually impaired, or cannot read or write;
- •Bring resources inside the Vote Center that will help you manage your disability, including wheelchairs, canes, walkers, service items, etc.;
- •Vote a special (provisional) ballot if your eligibility to vote is in question;
- •Learn whether your special (provisional) ballot was counted and, if not, why not;
- •Receive up to two replacement ballots if you make a mistake before casting your ballot; and
- •Vote if you are in line at the time the polls close.

#### **VOTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### AS A VOTER IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- •Treat election workers with courtesy and follow their instructions;
- •Keep your voter registration information (name, address, party affiliation status) up-to-date with the Board of Elections;
- •Familiarize yourself with the candidates and measures on the ballot;
- •Vote at any Vote Center during Early Voting or on Election Day;
- •Bring the proper documentation with you when you vote if you are required to show proof of residence;
- •Make sure you have received the correct ballot before you vote;
- Familiarize yourself with the operation of the voting equipment at your Vote Center;
- •Respect the privacy of other voters; and
- •Report any problems or violations of elections laws to the Site Coordinator.

#### IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO:

- •Make false statements about one's eligibility to register, vote, and/or hold elective office;
- •Interfere with a person who is attempting to register and/or vote;
- •Bribe or intimidate any voter at an election;
- Vote more than once in an election;
- •Steal or hide votes cast in an election, or obtain, cast, and/or count false or fake ballots;
- •Pay, offer to pay, or accept anything of value for registering and/or voting; or
- •Obtain or submit false or fake voter registration applications.

Any person found guilty of engaging in illegal activities may be fined up to \$10,000, imprisoned for up to five years, or both.

If you believe that you have been denied any rights, or that you have witnessed prohibited election practices, contact the Board of Elections' Office of the General Counsel at (202) 727-2194 or 711 (TTY) immediately.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS POSTER IS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLICLY POSTED AT EACH VOTE CENTER DURING VOTING IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS PURSUANT TO 52 U.S.C. 21082(b).





#### **VOTER ELIGIBILITY**

To register to vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- ✓ Be a United States citizen to vote in federal elections. Non-citizens may vote in local elections;
- Be a resident of the District of Columbia;
- ✓ Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote;
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another US state, territory, or country:
- Be at least 16 years old. (You may pre-register to vote if you are at least 16 years old. You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.);
- ✓ Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.

You do not lose your District of Columbia residency status because you are residing in a correctional facility, even outside of the District.

In 2020, the District of Columbia passed legislation giving all incarcerated residents, regardless of their conviction, the right to register to vote and cast a ballot.

Please note, if you were convicted of a felony before 2020, and if you have not already, you will need to register to vote again.



1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003

Phone: (202) 727-2525

**TTY 711** or **Toll-free** (800) 843-3768

**FAX:** (202) 347-2648 Website: www.dcboe.org



W @Vote4DC



@Vote4DC

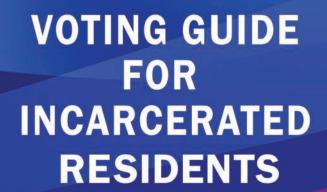


O @Vote4DC



@Vote4DC

## DC BOARD OF ELECTIONS (DCBOE)









# REGISTERING AND VOTING AS AN INCARCERATED DC RESIDENT

## YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

As a District of Columbia resident, you have the right to vote, even if you are incarcerated.

Even if you are in a correctional facility outside of the District of Columbia, if you are registered, you do not lose your residency status and you have the right to vote.

Once you are properly registered, you will be mailed a ballot prior to any District of Columbia election for which you are eligible.

If your ballot was mailed to your place of incarceration and you were released prior to receiving it, you can still vote at any Vote Center during Early Voting or on Election Day.





#### **HELPFUL TIPS**

If you do not currently have a District of Columbia address (that is, no family currently resides in the city), but are still returning to the District of Columbia upon release, you may use either your last known address or the address to which you plan to return, on the Voter Registration Application.

Use the correctional facility address in the mailing address section on the registration application to notify the DC Board of Elections that is where you want your ballot delivered.

#### WHAT TO DO AFTER YOUR RELEASE

Once you are released from a correctional facility, you should update your address with the DC Board of Elections by completing another Voter Registration Application and checking the "Address Change" box.

## REGISTERING WITH A POLITICAL PARTY AND VOTING IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS

If you wish to vote for a candidate in a primary election, you must register with one of the major parties that conduct a primary election in the District.

Currently, the three major parties are the Democratic, Republican, and DC Statehood Green.

You may also register as "No Party" (Independent), or check the "Other" box to register with a minor party. Only those registered with one of the major parties may vote in primary elections; however, all voters may vote in the General Election or any Special Election.

The DC Board of Elections welcomes the opportunity to assist returning and incarcerated citizens with registering and voting. If you have any questions, please use the contact information on the front of this Guide or email us at **outreachspecialist@dcboe.org**.



## **VOTER REGISTRATION CARD**

The DC Board of Elections (DCBOE) issues a voter registration card to all voters, which includes the following information:

- Registration Number
- Name
- **Address**
- Date of Birth
- ✔ Political Party
- ✓ Voting Precinct
- ✓ Ward
- Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC)
- ✓ ANC Single Member District

When you receive your voter registration card, please review it to make sure that all of your information is correct and current. If there is an error, please notify the DCBOE as soon as possible.

While you are not required to show your identification when you vote, bringing your voter registration card with you may expedite the check-in process.



**District of Columbia Board of Elections** 

1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003

Phone: (202) 727-2525

TTY 711 or Toll-free (800) 643-3768

**FAX:** (202) 347-2648 Website: www.dcboe.org



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@Vote4DC

## DC BOARD OF ELECTIONS (DCBOE)

## VOTING IN THE **DISTRICT OF** COLUMBIA







## VOTER ELIGIBILITY

To register to vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- Be a United States citizen to vote in federal elections. Non-citizens may vote in local elections.
- Be a resident of the District of Columbia.
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote.
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another U.S. state, territory, or country.
- Be at least 16 years old. (You may pre-register to vote if you are at least 16 years old. You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.)
- Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.





## VOTER REGISTRATION

There are three ways to register to vote in the District of Columbia

#### 1. ONLINE

Scan here to connect to the DCBOE online voter registration portal.



You can also visit the DCBOE website **www.dcboe.org** to register to vote.



#### 2. IN-PERSON

You can register in person at the DCBOE office, the Department of Motor Vehicles, or any DC Public Library.

#### Registering During Early Voting and on Election Day

When voting begins, you can register and cast your ballot at any Early Vote Center or at any Election Day Vote Center. For same-day registration, you must provide proof of your address using an acceptable form of identification.

#### 3. MAIL. EMAIL. OR FAX

Print a **Voter Registration Application** at **www.dcboe.org** or pick up a form at DCBOE or at any DC Public Library.



Complete and sign the form and return it:

- By mail or in person at DC Board of Elections, 1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20003;
- By email (scanned as an attachment) to DCRegistrations@dcboe.org; or
- By fax at (202) 347-2648.

If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and you submit your application by mail, fax, or online, you must either include a copy of one of the following documents with your application or present a copy of the document the first time you vote:

#### **ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF ID**

- ✓ A current and valid District government-issued photo identification,
- A current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck, which must be dated no earlier than 90 days before the date upon which you return your application or, if you do not submit proof by mail, fax, or online, 90 days before the date you vote.
- A lease, residential agreement, homeless shelter occupancy statement, or university housing or tuition bill, or
- A government-issued document that shows your current name and address.

Your online, mailed, faxed, or emailed application must be received no later than 21 days before an election.

#### **VOTING IN A PRIMARY ELECTION**

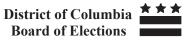
To vote in a primary election in the District of Columbia, you must be registered to vote with one of the parties that is eligible to conduct a primary election (Democratic, Republican, or D.C. Statehood Green). You must be registered with one of these parties 21 days before a primary election, unless you are registering for the first time. In that case, you may register with a party.

3/11/24 7:03 PM





## Voter Registration Application



Use this form to register to vote, or to update your name, address, or party registration.

To vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- •Be a United States citizen
- •Be a resident of the District of Columbia
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote
- Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another U.S. State, territory, or country
- •Be at least 17 years old\*
- •Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote

To **vote in a primary election**, you must also be registered in the party holding the primary at least 21 days prior to the election unless you are registering for the first time.

\*You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.

Please complete all items on this form. You are not officially registered to vote until the Board of Elections has approved this application. You should receive a voter registration card in the mail within three weeks of submitting this application. If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and submit this application by mail or electronically, you may be required to provide identification that shows your name and current address the first time you vote in an election in the District of Columbia. Your mailed or electronically submitted application must be received by the Board by the 21st day before the next election. After that date, you can register to vote in person at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750. You can also register on the same day that you vote with valid proof of residence, but registering before you arrive at the polls will save you time.

If you do not receive your voter registration card, or if you have any questions, call (202) 727-2525, (866) 328-6837, or 711 (TTY), or visit **www.dcboe.org** 

¿Necesita ayuda en su idioma? Llame al (202) 727-2525 በቋንቋዎት እርዳታ ማግኘት ይሻሉ? በስልክ ቁጥር (202) 727-2525 ይደውሉ። 需要以您的语言帮助? 拨打Call (202) 727-2525 Avez-vous besoin d'aide dans votre langue ? Appelez le (202) 727-2525 모국어로 도움이 필요하세요? (202) 727-2525로 전화해주세요 Cần sự trợ giúp ngôn ngữ của bạn? Hãy gọi (202) 727-2525

(Use a pen to complete this form)

VRF\_Eng\_01122024

4	Check one: Are you a U.S. Citizen?	☐ Yes ☐ No	Re	ason for	comple	ting this f	orm	Voter ID Nu	ımber	
1	If you checked 'no', do not complete this form.	□ 162 □ 140	□New Registration □ Party Change							
	Check one: Would you like information on	☐ Yes ☐ No	2 0	Address C	hange □	l Name Cl	nange	Reg. Date	Clerk	
1a	serving as an election worker for the next ele			Citizenship	o Status	Change				
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3									Jr., Sr., I, III, IV)	
4	Address of Residence in DC	Select one:	□NE	□NW	□SE	□sw	Apartm	ent Numbe	Zip Cod	е
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	Mailing Address, if different from #4 (Include	jail or BOP ID Numb	er, if inca	rcerated)	Zip C	ode	E-mail	address (O	ptional)	
5										
•	Date of Birth Daytime Phone Numl	ber	DC DMV-	issued ID	Number	. If you do	not have	one, enter th	ne last 4 dig	gits of
6	7 (Optional)			al Security						
		ASE NOTE:	8a	☐ I have	not bee	n issued a	Driver's	License N	umber or a	ı
		in a primary				Number.				
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	register	ed with the	13				each of	the following	qualificatio	ons:
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	Party.					years old				
	Optional: If you need help with voting, please in	ndicate the type of		I have vote	e not beer	n found by	a court to	be legally i	ncompeten	t to
10	help:	indicate the type of			ot claim v	oting resid	lence or t	he right to v	ote in anoth	ner
	What is your primary language if it is not English?					tory, or co	•	-		
11		. , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			WARNING: If you sign this statement even though you know it is untrue, you can					
	Name and Address on Last Registration:			be convicte	ed and fined	I up to \$10,00	0 and/or jail	ed for up to five	years.	
12										
	(If outside D.C., include county and	state)		Signatu	ıro				Date	
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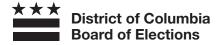
#### Wait! Make sure that you have:

- ✓ Completed the entire application
- ✓ Provided your full name, address, and date of birth
- ✓ Provided your DMV-issued identification number or the last four digits of your Social Security Number
- ✓ Read each point in the voter declaration and signed and dated the application
- ✓ Registered with a political party if you plan to vote in primary elections

If the information on your application is complete and you are qualified to vote in the District of Columbia, you will receive a voter registration card. If you do not receive confirmation within three weeks of mailing this application, please call (202)727-2525, (866)328-6837 or 711 (TTY). The registration-by-mail deadline is 21 days before the next election. If you miss this deadline, you may register in person at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 or use our polling place locator at www.dcboe.org to find out where you can register to vote on Election Day.

**Questions?** Call (202)727-2525, (866)328-6837, 711 (TTY) or visit www.dcboe.org. **Información en espaňol:** Si le interesa obtener este formulario en espaňol, llame al (202)727-2525, (866)328-6837 o 711 (TTY).

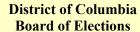
If you mail this form in an envelope, you must add postage and use Zip Code 20003-4733





### NON-U.S. CITIZEN RESI**DENINGIPITADIDISTRA**CIPI**OVACO DEIMBIA**

#### Voter Registration Application





#### Use this form to register to vote, or to update your name, address, or party registration.

To vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- •Be a resident of the District of Columbia
- Maintain residency in the District of Columbia for at least 30 days prior to the election in which you intend to vote
- •Not claim voting residence or the right to vote in another U.S. State or territory or country
- •Be at least 17 years old\*
- •Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote
- •Be a United States citizen to vote in federal elections. Non-U.S. citizens can vote in DC local elections\*\*

To **vote in a primary election**, you must also be registered in the party holding the primary at least 21 days prior to the election unless you are registering for the first time.

- \*You may vote in a primary election if you are at least 17 years old and you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election. You may vote in a general or special election if you are at least 18 years old.
- \*\*DC local elections: Mayor, Chairman and Members of the Council, Attorney General, Members of the Board of Education, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and Ballot Questions.

Please complete all items on this form. You are not officially registered to vote until the Board of Elections has approved this application. You should receive a voter registration card in the mail within three weeks of submitting this application. If you are registering to vote in the District of Columbia for the first time and submit this application by mail or electronically, you may be required to provide identification that shows your name and current address the first time you vote in an election in the District of Columbia. Your mailed or electronically submitted application must be received by the Board by the 21st day before the next election. After that date, you can register to vote in person at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750. You can also register on the same day that you vote with valid proof of residence, but registering before you arrive at the polls will save you time.

If you do not receive your voter registration card, or if you have any questions, call (202) 727-2525, (866) 328-6837, or 711 (TTY), or visit **www.dcboe.org** 

¿Necesita ayuda en su idioma? Llame al (202) 727-2525 በቋንቋዎት እርዳታ ማግኘት ይሻሉ? በስልክ ቁጥር (202) 727-2525 ይደውሉ። 需要以您的语言帮助? 拨打Call (202) 727-2525 Avez-vous besoin d'aide dans votre langue ? Appelez le (202) 727-2525모국어로 도움이 필요하세요? (202) 727-2525로 전화해주세요 Cần sự trợ giúp ngôn ngữ của bạn? Hãy gọi (202) 727-2525

(Use a pen to complete this form)

VRF\_Eng\_Non\_Citizen\_12262023

#### NON-U.S. CITIZEN RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

	NON-U.S. CITIZEN RESID	LINI	OF IB	IE DISTRICT OF COL	JUNIBIA			
1	Check one: Are you a U.S. Citizen? If you checked 'yes', do not complete this form.			teason for completing this factorial leads of the leads		Voter ID Number		
1A	Check one: Would you like information on Serving as an election worker for the next election?	□ No		IAddress Change ☐ Name (	Reg. Date	e Clerk		
3	Last Name F	irst Na	ame		Middle Name	Suffix (Jr., Sr., II, III, IV)		
4	Address of Residence in DC Sele	ct one:	: □NE	□NW □SE □SW	Apartment Numb	er Zip Code		
5	Mailing Address, if different from #4 (Include jail or BOP ID Number, if incarcerated)  Zip Code  E-mail address (Optional)							
6	Date of Birth  7 Daytime Phone Number (Optional)	8		OC DMV-issued ID Number. If you do not have one, enter the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number:				
9	□ Democratic Party vote in a primary el in the District of Columbia, you mus registered with the Democratic, Republication.	Columbia, you must be registered with the Democratic, Republican, or D.C. Statehood Green		BA DI have not been issued a Driver's License Number or Social Security Number.  Read and Sign the Voter Declaration below. I swear or affirm that I meet each of the following qualifica  My residence in the District of Columbia is at the address above I am at least 16 years old I have not been found by a court to be legally incompeted vote I do not claim voting residence or the right to vote in and U.S. state or territory or country				
10	Optional: If you need help with voting, please indicate the type of help:							
11	hat is your primary language if it is not English?  ame and Address on Last Registration in the United States:			WARNING: If you sign this state can be convicted and fined up to				
12	(If outside D.C., include county and state)			Signature				

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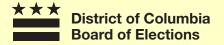
#### Wait! Make sure that you have:

- ✓ Completed the entire application
- ✓ Provided your full name, address, and date of birth
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**Questions?** Call (202)727-2525, (866)328-6837, 711 (TTY) or visit www.dcboe.org. **Información en espaňol:** Si le interesa obtener este formulario en espaňol, llame al (202)727-2525, (866)328-6837 o 711 (TTY).

If you mail this form in an envelope, you must add postage and use Zip Code 20003-4733



From: Antonio Laso

Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 4:50 PM

To: Monica Evans

Cc: Stacy Burrows; Marissa Corrente

Re: Online Regulation Subject:

Great! I will.

#### Antonio

From: Monica Evans

Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 4:41 PM

To: Antonio Laso

Cc: Stacy Burrows; Marissa Corrente Subject: Re: Online Regulation

#### **Monica Holman Evans**

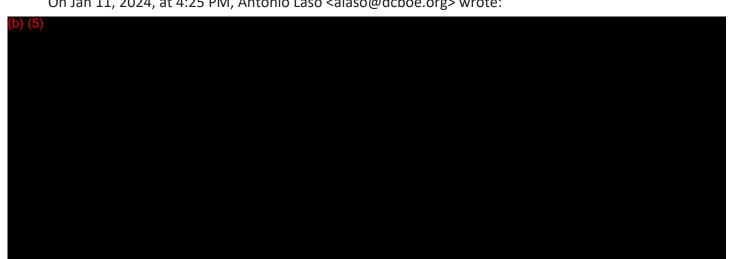
**Executive Director** District of Columbia Board of Elections

1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003 email: mevans@dcboe.org Website: www.dcboe.org Phone: 202-727-2511 Cellular: 202-441-1104

Fax: 202-347-2648

On Jan 11, 2024, at 4:25 PM, Antonio Laso <alaso@dcboe.org> wrote:



#### Antonio

From: Monica Evans

Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 3:45 PM

To: Antonio Laso; Stacy Burrows; Marissa Corrente

**Subject:** Online Regulation

Good afternoon,

Are we set to go live with registering non-citizens?

Thanks!

#### **Monica Holman Evans**

Executive Director
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003
email: mevans@dcboe.org
Website: www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-2511
Cellular: 202-441-1104

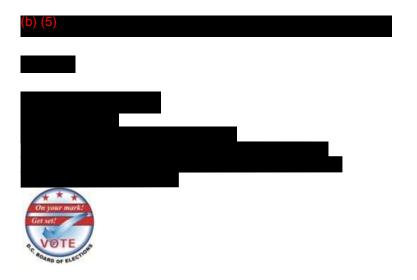
Fax: 202-347-2648

From: Richard Thompson II

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023 3:35 PM **To:** Marissa Corrente; Kevin Newsome

**Cc:** Christine Pembroke

**Subject:** RE: Paper form for noncitizen registration





Kevin Newsome
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE Suite #750
Washington, DC 20003
Election Training Coordinator
202-727-2523 desk
202-727-2525 office
202-631-2683 work cell



From: Marissa Corrente < <a href="MCorrente@dcboe.org">MCorrente@dcboe.org</a> Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 10:27 AM

To: Kevin Newsome < KNewsome@dcboe.org>; Richard Thompson II < RThompson@dcboe.org>

Subject: FW: Paper form for noncitizen registration

(b) (5)

Marissa Corrente
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Christine Pembroke

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023 9:06 AM **To:** Marissa Corrente < <a href="Mcorrente@dcboe.org">Mcorrente@dcboe.org</a> **Subject:** FW: Paper form for noncitizen registration

FYI

From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 4:07 PM

**To:** Millicent Green Wright < <a href="MWright@dcboe.org">MWright@dcboe.org</a> **Subject:** RE: Paper form for noncitizen registration

Here is the corrected form.

From: Millicent Green Wright

**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 4:04 PM **To:** Christine Pembroke < <a href="mailto:CPembroke@dcboe.org">CPembroke@dcboe.org</a> **Subject:** RE: Paper form for noncitizen registration

Ok ©

From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 4:03 PM

**To:** Millicent Green Wright < <a href="MWright@dcboe.org">MWright@dcboe.org</a> <a href="Subject">Subject</a>: RE: Paper form for noncitizen registration

(b) (5)

From:

**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 3:52 PM **To:** Christine Pembroke < <a href="mailto:CPembroke@dcboe.org">CPembroke@dcboe.org</a>>

Cc: Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org >; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org >

Subject: RE: Paper form for noncitizen registration

Thanks, Christine!

Printing them out now!

Best,

Millicent N. Green-Wright
Assistant Registrar
DC Board of Elections
Registration and Voter Services Division
1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750
Washington, D.C. 20003
(P) 202.727.2525
(F) 202.347.2648



From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 3:41 PM

**To:** Millicent Green Wright < <a href="MWright@dcboe.org">MWright@dcboe.org</a>>

**Cc:** Marissa Corrente < <u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>; Terri Stroud < <u>TStroud@dcboe.org</u>>

Subject: Paper form for noncitizen registration



Christine

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 11:29 AM

**To:** Christine Pembroke

**Subject:** Re: ANC Vacancies & Local Residents



From: Monica Evans

**Sent:** Thursday, November 9, 2023 10:48 AM **To:** Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org>

Cc: Christine Pembroke < CPembroke@dcboe.org>; Terri Stroud < TStroud@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** Re: ANC Vacancies & Local Residents

(b) (5)

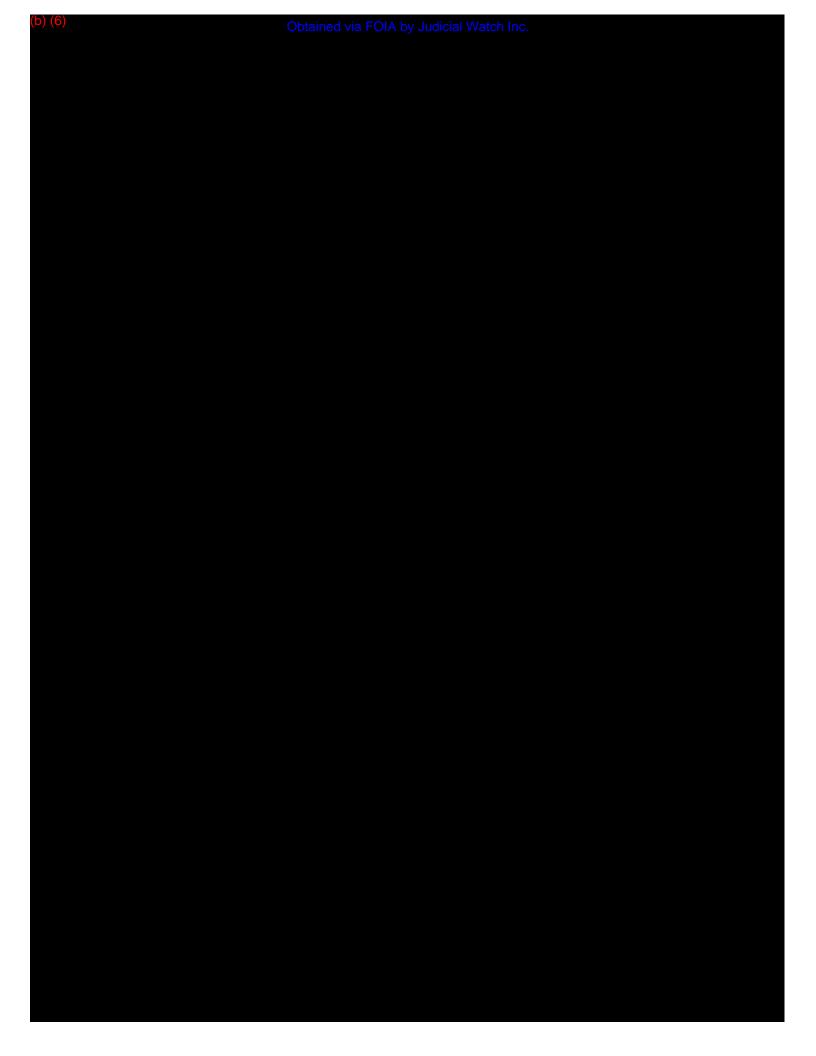
#### Monica Holman Evans Executive Director

**District of Columbia Board of Elections** 

1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003
email: mevans@dcboe.org
Website: www.dcboe.org
Phone: 202-727-2511
Cellular: 202-441-1104

Fax: 202-347-2648





Marissa Corrente
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Stacy Burrows

**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2024 10:53 PM

To: Millicent Green Wright; Mohammed Maeruf

**Cc:** Raynell Nabinett; Marissa Corrente

Subject: Re: April 2024 - Non-US Citizen Applications (RECEIVED)

Thanks Millie!

Stacy Burrows
Stacy Burrows

D.C Board of Elections

Email: <a href="mailto:sburrows@dcboe.org">sburrows@dcboe.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.dcboe.org">www.dcboe.org</a>
Desk: <a href="mailto:202.231-8571">202.221-8571</a>
Work Cell: <a href="mailto:202.235.4289">202.235.4289</a>

From: Millicent Green Wright

**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2024 3:29 PM **To:** Stacy Burrows; Mohammed Maeruf **Cc:** Raynell Nabinett; Marissa Corrente

**Subject:** April 2024 - Non-US Citizen Applications (RECEIVED)

(b) (6)

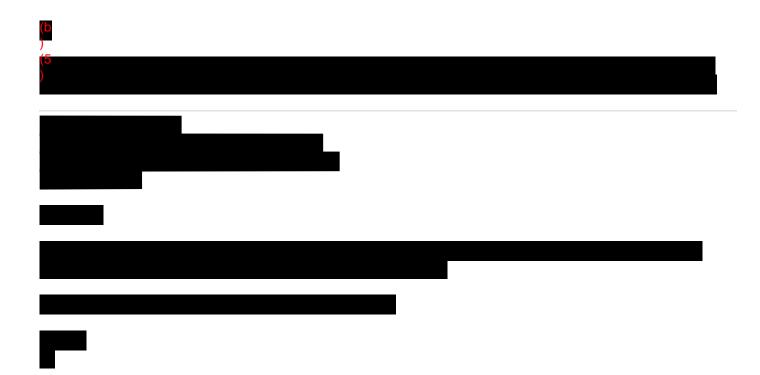
Sincerely,

Millicent N. Green-Wright
Assistant Registrar
DC Board of Elections
Registration and Voter Services Division
1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750
Washington, D.C. 20003
(P) 202.727.2525
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Christine Pembroke

Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2023 8:43 AM

**To:** Marissa Corrente **Subject:** RE: Check in



Marissa Corrente
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 3:33 PM

**To:** Stacy Burrows

**Cc:** Monica Evans; Terri Stroud **Subject:** RE: Local Resident Questions



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Stacy Burrows

**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 11:19 AM **To:** Marissa Corrente < MCorrente@dcboe.org>

Cc: Monica Evans <mevans@dcboe.org>; Terri Stroud <TStroud@dcboe.org>

Subject: Re: Local Resident Questions



Stacy Burrows
Stacy Burrows

D.C Board of Elections

Email: <a href="mailto:sburrows@dcboe.org">sburrows@dcboe.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.dcboe.org">www.dcboe.org</a>
Desk: 202.221-8571
Work Cell: 202.235.4289

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 7:52 AM

To: Monica Evans; Stacy Burrows

Cc: Terri Stroud

Subject: RE: Local Resident Questions



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Monica Evans

Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 5:44 PM

To: Stacy Burrows <SBurrows@dcboe.org>; Marissa Corrente <MCorrente@dcboe.org>

**Cc:** Terri Stroud < <u>TStroud@dcboe.org</u>> **Subject:** RE: Local Resident Questions



#### **Monica Holman Evans**

Executive Director
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003 email: <a href="mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a> Website: <a href="www.dcboe.org">www.dcboe.org</a> Phone: 202-727-2511 Cellular: 202-441-1104 Fax: 202-347-2648

From: Stacy Burrows

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 4:12 PM **To:** Marissa Corrente < <u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>

**Cc:** Monica Evans < <a href="mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mevans@dcboe.org">Subject:</a> Re: Local Resident Questions



Stacy Burrows

Stacy Burrows

D.C Board of Elections

Email: <a href="mailto:sburrows@dcboe.org">sburrows@dcboe.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.dcboe.org">www.dcboe.org</a>
Desk: <a href="mailto:202.221-8571">202.221-8571</a>
Work Cell: <a href="mailto:202.235.4289">202.235.4289</a>

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 3:57 PM

**To:** Stacy Burrows **Cc:** Monica Evans

Subject: RE: Local Resident Questions



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

From: Stacy Burrows

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 3:27 PM **To:** Marissa Corrente < <u>MCorrente@dcboe.org</u>>

**Cc:** Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org > **Subject:** Re: Local Resident Questions

Hello Marissa:

(b) (5)	Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch II	îrê.

From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 4:26 PM

**To:** Monica Evans < <a href="mailto:mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:CE">CE: Stacy Burrows@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:sBurrows@dcboe.org">SBurrows@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:sBurrows@dcboe.org">SBurrows@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:sburrows">CE: Stacy Burrows</a> <a href="mailto:sburrows">SBurrows@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:sburrows">SBurrows@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:sburrows">SBurrows@dcboe.org</a> <a href="mailto:sburrows">sburrows</a> <a hre

**Subject:** Local Resident Questions



Marissa Corrente
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org

(P) 202.221.8570

(F) 202.347.2648

From: Millicent Green Wright

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 3:18 PM

To: Marissa Corrente

**Subject:** RE: Local Resident Voter Registration Processes

Thanks Marissa!

I'm reviewing it now.

Best,

Millicent N. Green-Wright
Assistant Registrar
DC Board of Elections
Registration and Voter Services Division
1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750
Washington, D.C. 20003
(P) 202.727.2525
(F) 202.347.2648



From: Marissa Corrente

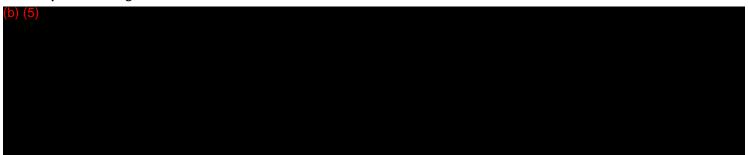
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 3:16 PM

**To:** Millicent Green Wright < MWright@dcboe.org>; Myisha Thompson < MThompson@dcboe.org>; Terron McAbee < TMcAbee@dcboe.org>; Vanessa Smith < VSmith@dcboe.org>; Laquisha Waters < LWaters@dcboe.org>; Darius

Troxler < DTroxler@dcboe.org>

**Subject:** Local Resident Voter Registration Processes

Importance: High

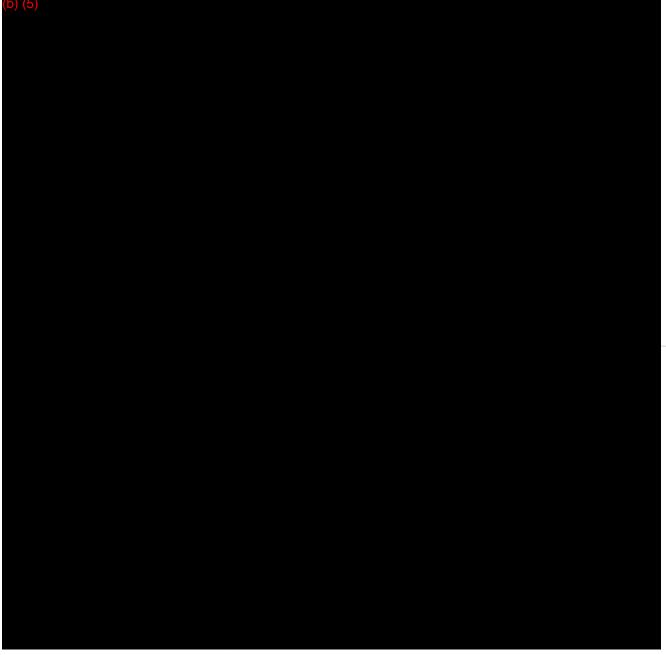


Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570
(F) 202.347.2648

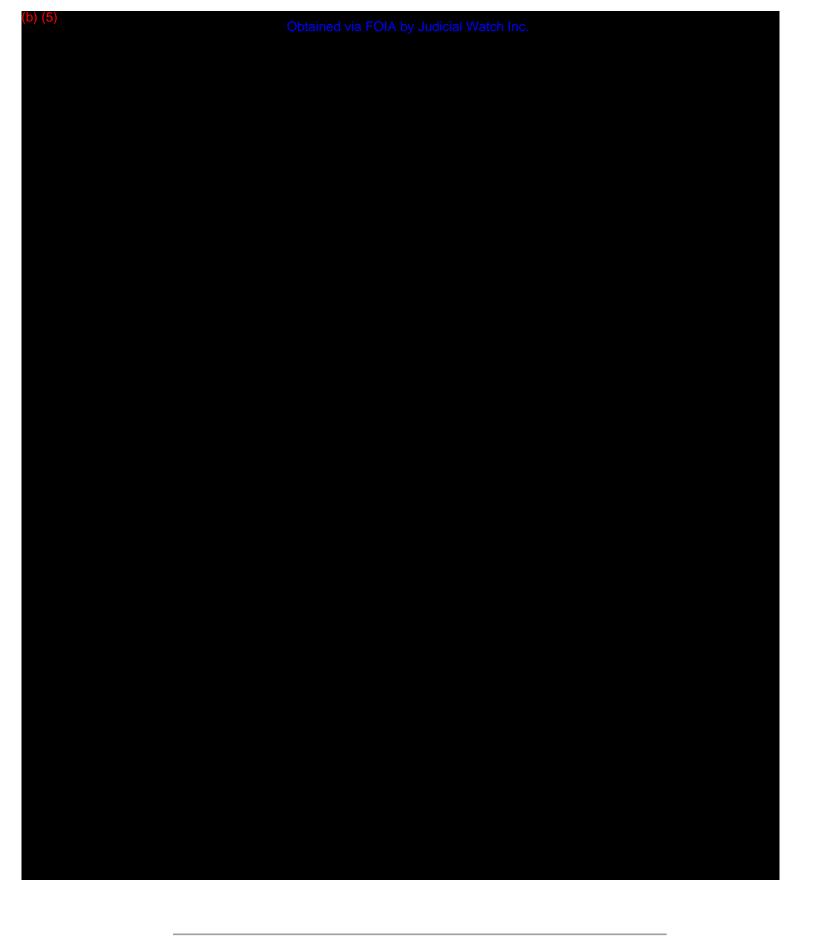
From: Sarah Graham

Sent:Friday, January 19, 2024 11:11 AMTo:Jay Penuel; Marissa CorrenteCc:Millicent Green Wright

**Subject:** RE: Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act



Marissa Corrente (she/her)
Registrar of Voters
DC Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
mcorrente@dcboe.org
(P) 202.221.8570



From: Marissa Corrente

**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2024 9:55 AM

To: Sarah Graham; Jay Penuel

Cc: Millicent Green Wright

Subject: RE: Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act



\_\_\_

Sarah Winn Graham (she/her)
Director of Communications
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
www.dcboe.org
sgraham@dcboe.org
(202) 235-4310 (cell)

Register to vote today!

(b) (6)

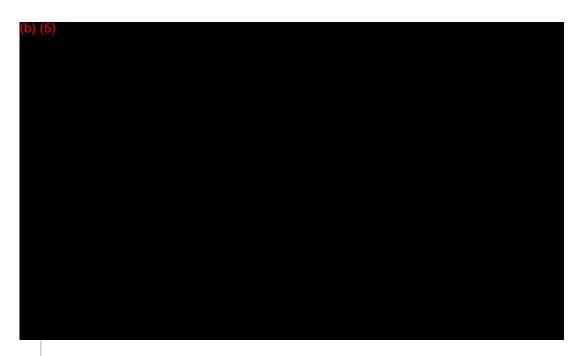
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 6:04 PM **To:** Sarah Graham < <u>SGraham@dcboe.org</u>>

(b) (6)

Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >

Subject: Re: Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act





Sarah Winn Graham (she/her)
Director of Communications
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20003
www.dcboe.org
sgraham@dcboe.org
(202) 235-4310 (cell)

### Register to vote today!

From: Sarah Graham

Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 3:50 PM

To: Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >; (b) (6)

Co: La Dawne White < L White@dcboe.org >; (b) (6)

Cc: LaDawne White < LWhite@dcboe.org >; (b) (6

(b) (6)

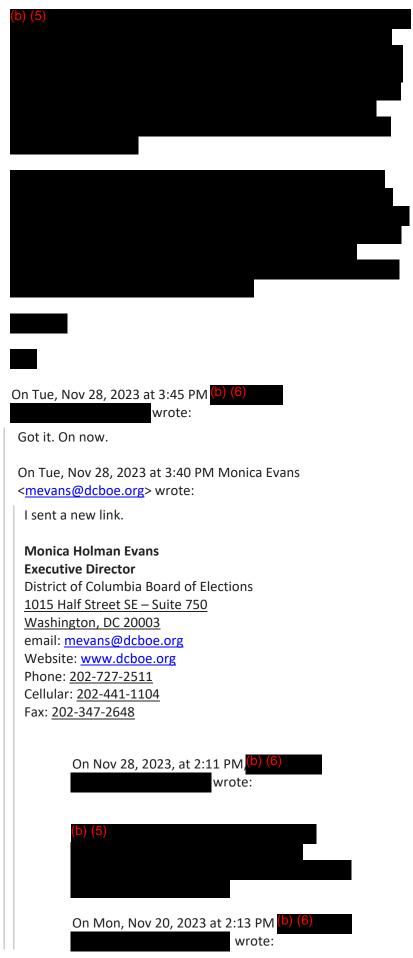
Subject: RE: Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act



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Sarah Winn Graham (she/her)
Director of Communications
District of Columbia Board of Elections
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750





On Fri, Nov 17, 2023 at 11:57 AM Abel Amene <amene@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you so much for the opportunity. Have a great weekend and holiday!

On Thu, Nov 16, 2023, 10:34 AM Monica Evans <a href="mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a>> wrote:

Good morning,

I just sent a meeting invitation for 11/28 at 2 pm.

Here's the information:

Monica Evans is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic: DCBOE Meeting** 

Time: Nov 28, 2023 02:00 PM Eastern Time

(US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87355070707?pwd=OwOuMt7weLYVCSulSpvIRod5i6q3TB.1

Meeting ID: 873 5507 0707

Passcode: 776612

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One tap mobile

+16469313860,,87355070707#,,,,\*776612#

US

+13017158592,,87355070707#,,,,\*776612#

US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location
• +1 646 931 3860 US

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

### Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US

Meeting ID: 873 5507 0707

Passcode: 776612

Find your local number:

https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kboBdKAwvq

### **Monica Holman Evans**

Executive Director
District of Columbia Board of Elections

1015 Half Street SE – Suite 750

Washington, DC 20003 email: <a href="mevans@dcboe.org">mevans@dcboe.org</a> Website: <a href="www.dcboe.org">www.dcboe.org</a> Phone: 202-727-2511

Cellular: 202-441-1104 Fax: 202-347-2648

#### b) (6)

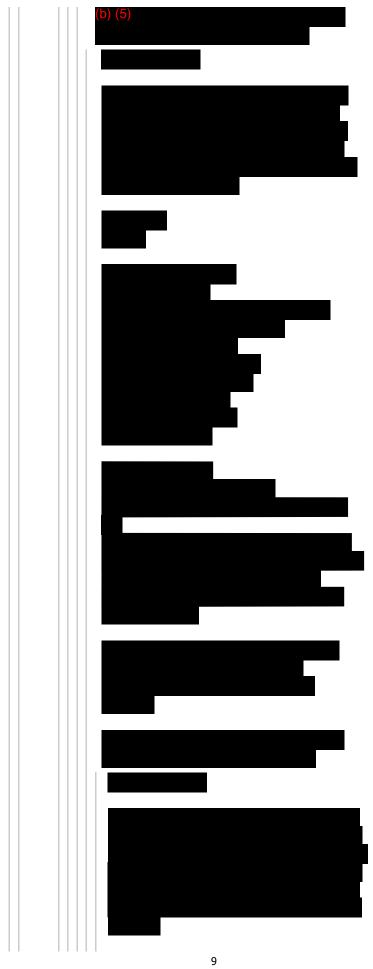
Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 8:00 AM
To: Monica Evans < mevans@dcboe.org >
Cc: LaDawne White < LWhite@dcboe.org >;

#### b) (6)

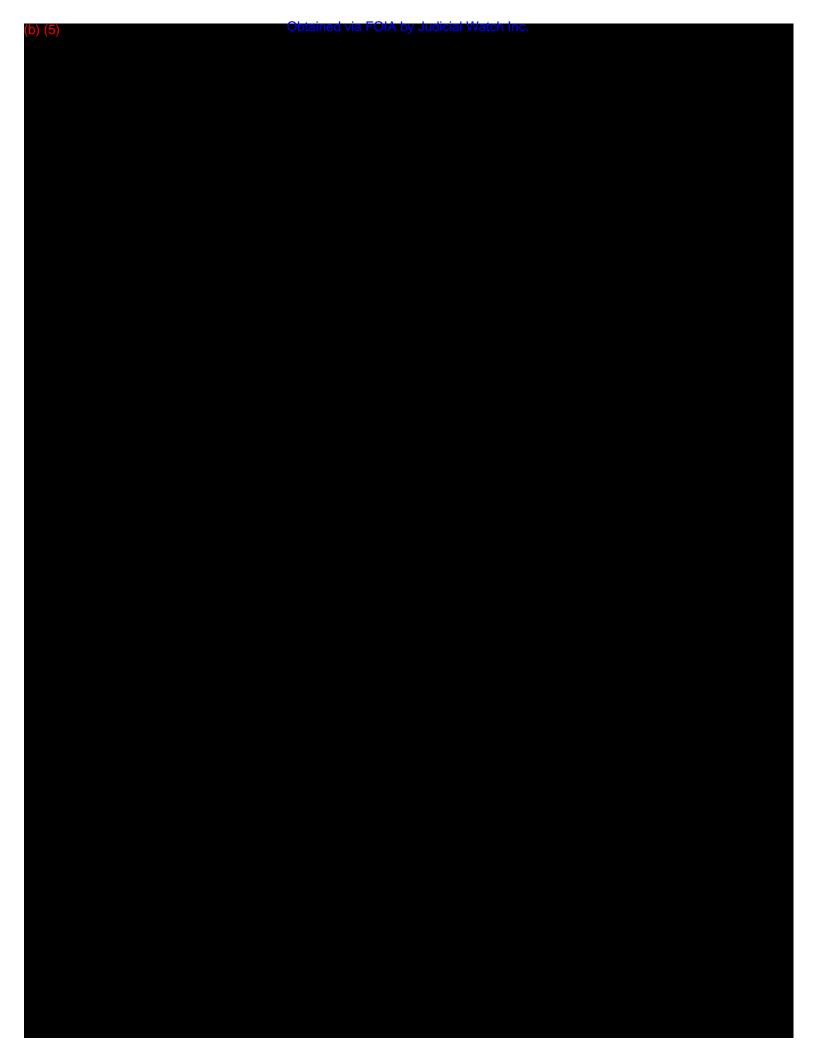
**Subject:** Re: Local Resident Voting Rights

Amendment Act

#### (b) (5)







# Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

	email: mevans@dcboe.org Website: www.dcboe.org Phone: 202-727-2511 Cellular: 202-441-1104 Fax: 202-347-2648
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# **Marissa Corrente**

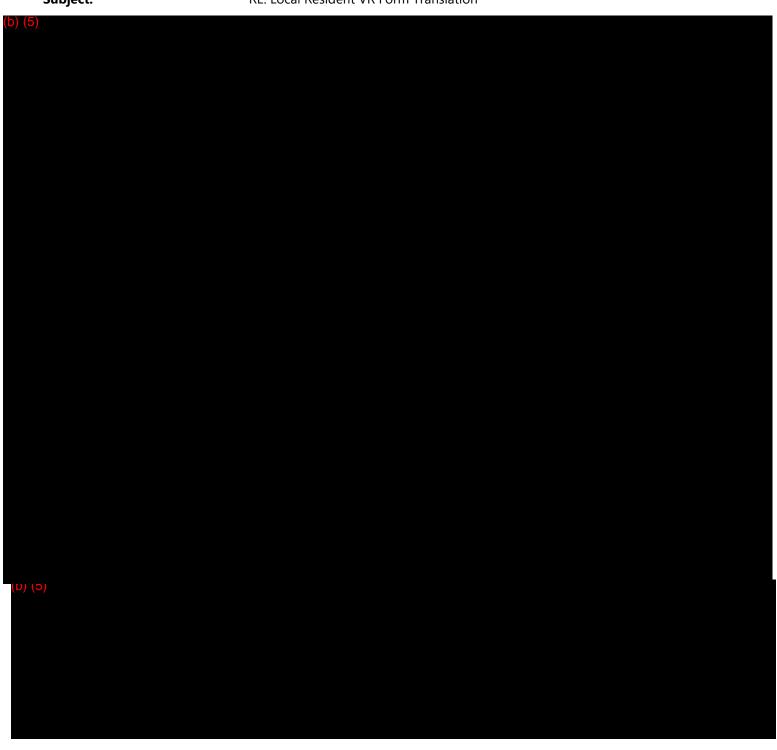
From: Marissa Corrente

Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 4:32 AM

To: Jay Penuel

**Cc:** Terri Stroud; Antonio Laso

**Subject:** RE: Local Resident VR Form Translation



Marissa Corrente (she/her) Registrar of Voters DC Board of Elections

# Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch Inc.

1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20003 mcorrente@dcboe.org (P) 202.221.8570 (F) 202.347.2648