

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Voting Section 950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW – 4CON Washington, DC 20530

July 15, 2025

Via Mail and Email

The Honorable Susan Beals Commissioner, Virginia Department of Elections 1100 Bank Street, First Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219 susan.beals@elections.virginia.gov

Dear Commissioner Beals:

We write to you as the chief election official for the Commonwealth of Virginia to request information regarding Virginia's procedures for complying with the statewide voter registration list maintenance provisions of the National Voter Registration Act ("NVRA"), 52 U.S.C. § 20501 *et seq.*

Please provide a list of the election officials who are responsible for implementing Virginia's general program of voter registration list maintenance from November 2022 through receipt of this letter, including those responsible officials not employed by your office (such as local election officials) who are also involved in that effort. Please also provide a description of the steps that you have taken, and when those steps were taken, to ensure that the Commonwealth's list maintenance program has been properly carried out in full compliance with the NVRA.

The NVRA requires each state and the District of Columbia to make available for inspection "all records concerning the implementation of programs and activities conducted for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy and currency of official lists of eligible voters." 52 U.S.C. § 20507(i)(1). Section 11 of the NVRA authorizes the Attorney General to bring NVRA enforcement actions. See 52 U.S.C. § 20510.

Pursuant to Section 20507(i) of the NVRA, the Attorney General requests that you produce for inspection the following records:

The current electronic copy of Virginia's computerized statewide voter registration list ("statewide voter registration list") as required by Section 303(a) of the Help America Vote Act. Please include all fields contained within the list. Please produce each list in a .xls, .csv, or delimited-text file format. Please specify what delimiter is used, if applicable, or provide a file layout along with a database user manual, coding list, or other materials that define or explain how a voter record is coded into the statewide voter registration list and reported in the electronic copy of the statewide voter registration list.

Additionally, please provide the following information in electronic form. The time period for these requests is close of registration for the November 2022 general election through the close of registration for the November 2024 general election, the same time period as the most recent report from the Election Assistance Commission's Election Administration and Voting Survey ("EAVS"). If you are unable to provide the data, please explain why the data is not available.

- 1. A review of the most recent report from EAVS report indicates that in response to Question A1b, there are nearly as many registered voters listed as active as the citizen voting age population in Virginia, with a registration rate in 2024 of 92.2 percent of the citizen voting age population. Please explain what actions Virginia is taking to ensure that voters who should not be on the voter roll are being removed.
- 2. In the EAVS data for Question A3d, Virginia had 1,074,543 voters (33.2 percent) with duplicate registrations, almost three times as high as the nationwide average of 12.7 percent. In response to the same question for the 2022 EAVS Report, Virginia had 1,226,754 duplicate registrations (36.3 percent). Please explain why duplicate registrations are such a high percentage of the total registration applications received. Please explain what actions Virginia is taking to identify duplicate registrations and to remove those duplicates from the voter registration list.
- 3. In the EAVS data for Question A10a, Virginia sent 521,339 confirmation notices, which is 8.8 percent of all active registered voters and well below the national average of 19.5 percent. Please explain why Virginia sent confirmation notices to so few registered voters.
- 4. In the EAVS data for Question A12b, Virginia had 536,460 voters (68.4 percent) removed because they moved out of the commonwealth, which was twice as high as the national average. Please explain how Virginia identifies voters who have moved out of the commonwealth and determines their removal from the voter registration list.
- 5. In the EAVS data for Question A12e, Virginia had 61,151 voters (7.8 percent) removed due to failure to respond to confirmation notices and did not vote in the two most recent federal elections, which was well below the national average. Based on the responses to Question A10f, 415,181 (79.6 percent) of the confirmation notices were unreturned. Please explain why so few voters are being removed in Question A12e. Please provide a list of all registrations that were cancelled because of failure to respond to confirmation notices and did not vote in the two most recent federal election cycles.
- 6. No data was listed in the EAVS survey for Question A12h for Virginia regarding duplicate registrants who were removed from the statewide voter registration database. Please provide a list of all duplicate registrants who were removed from the statewide voter registration list. If they were merged or linked with another record, please provide that information.

Please provide a description of the steps that Virginia has taken, and when those steps were taken, to identify registered voters who are ineligible to vote as well as the procedures the commonwealth used to remove those ineligible voters from the registration list. Please identify the number of registered voters identified as ineligible to vote for the time period of the close of registration for the November 2022 general election through present for each of the following reasons:

- 1. Non-citizen
- 2. Adjudicated incompetent
- 3. Felony conviction

For each of those voters identified in categories 1-3 above, provide their registration information on the statewide voter registration list, including their vote history.

Please provide this information within 14 days of the date of this letter. The information and materials may be sent by encrypted email to voting.section@usdoj.gov or via the Department's secure file-sharing system, Justice Enterprise File Sharing (JEFS).

Should further clarification be required, please contact Maureen Riordan at maureen.riordan2@usdoj.gov. We look forward to your assistance in advance.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Gates

Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Civil Rights Division

Maureen Riordan Acting Chief, Voting Section Civil Rights Division