



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

August 5, 2024

Missouri Association of County Clerks & Election Authorities
Kathy J. Holstine Campbell, Executive Director
216 Hicks Drive
Macks Creek, MO 65786
Sent via email to: executivedirector@maccea.org

Dear Ms. Campbell:

Protecting the integrity of the election process is one of the most important duties of public officials. As county clerks, you are the vanguard of the statewide effort to ensure that every vote counts and that every vote is legally cast. I am writing to let you know my office stands ready to assist you in this endeavor.

Since 2021, more than eight million illegal immigrants have entered the United States. That is more than the population of Missouri. These numbers are not an accident. There is only one reason eight million people illegally cross a sovereign nation's border: because they know they can get away with it. Since the Biden Administration's inception, there has been an orchestrated lack of enforcement of our nation's immigration laws. That failure has not only led to impeachment proceedings against top officials in the federal government; it has given rise to an unprecedented level of state actions necessary to fill the vacuum created by the federal government's ineptitude. The chaos unleashed at our open southern border has wreaked havoc on our communities, and now the individual states, including the State of Missouri, must stand in the gap as the federal government refuses to act.

There are estimated to be over 72,000 illegal aliens currently residing in the State of Missouri. This influx of illegal aliens into our State raises concerns over unregistered and illegal voting. As Missouri prepares for upcoming elections, we must be on the lookout for any form of voter fraud.

As you are aware, voting without proper documentation and registration is a class one election offense under Missouri law. (§ 115.631, RSMo). Knowingly aiding or assisting someone in voting who is not qualified to do so is also a class one

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election offense. Section 115.631 states that in order to register to vote, a person must be a citizen of the United States, a resident of Missouri, and must be 18 years old by election day.¹

Missouri also has clear voter identification requirements to ensure that voters are registered and to verify their identity at the polls. Acceptable forms of identification include having a current Missouri driver or non-driver license, current military ID, current U.S. passport, or another current U.S. or Missouri issued photo ID. § 115.427, RSMo. Providing false information to an election authority or falsely submitting information on a voter registration application is a violation of state law. § 115.631(1), RSMo.

County clerks have a legal duty to verify proper registration status. See 115.631(21). If an election staffer is unsure if someone is properly registered, they have tools at their disposal, including challenging qualifications until identity has been established or providing a provisional ballot subject to signature verification. See § 115.429.

The citizens of Missouri rightfully expect a high standard of integrity and honesty in their election process, and county clerks are at the forefront of keeping our elections safe and secure. With the recent flood of illegal immigration into our nation and state, it is now more important than ever that we continue to assure the voting public of the reliability of our elections.

My office is no stranger to protecting our citizens and pushing back against the federal government on illegal immigration. We have filed suit against the Biden Administration over flawed DHS programs opening our border to unvetted illegal immigrants.² We've also committed to enforcing the law by cracking down on businesses who take shortcuts and hire illegal aliens.³

As those tasked with upholding the rule of law in Missouri, it is our responsibility to be vigilant to detect and report any suspected election fraud or attempts to vote without proper photo ID. Local county prosecutors have the jurisdiction to prosecute for election crimes, and the Attorney General's Office stands ready to deploy resources in support of these prosecutions.

As elected county clerks, you are the most important line of defense in keeping our elections secure. I appreciate your hard work on behalf of the people of Missouri. If my office can assist in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out.

¹ https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingrights#3_1

² <https://ago.mo.gov/attorney-general-bailey-sues-biden-administration-to-halt-unlawful-new-immigration-program/>

³ <https://ago.mo.gov/attorney-general-bailey-investigates-complaints-of-illegal-immigrant-workers-in-missouri/>

Respectfully,



ANDREW BAILEY
Missouri Attorney General