



## FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS

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January 22, 2016

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Ronald Labasky, Esq.

Jennifer L. Carrier  
Associate  
Dickstein Shapiro LLP  
1825 Eye Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ms. Carrier,

On behalf of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, I thank you for the cooperative spirit in providing us copies of your materials and advanced notice of the Voter Participation Center (VPC) mass mailing in March. However, based on our past experience, the association still has several reservations and concerns about the campaign.

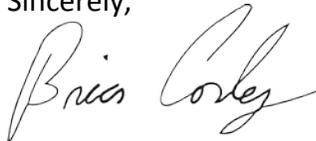
The well-intentioned campaign in the past was seriously undermined by the use of erroneous data, further alienating and eroding the confidence of voters. In light of the existing level of discomfort among the public regarding the ease with which their private information is readily available, the insidious intention of “following up” on applicants personifies public fear, and is we feel, counterproductive in furthering your cause.

Although the goal of registering every eligible citizen to vote is admirable, the campaign makes the assumption that voters in Florida have not had access to voter registration or the opportunity to update. As an association, I can assure you that every county supervisor has been utilizing social media and has a strong education/outreach program to reach the community of students and potential registrants. Anyone who has visited the Division of Motor Vehicles has been offered voter registration, and many counties have partnered with the Tax Collectors to provide training to their staff. For voters who have relocated, our statutorily prescribed list maintenance has reached out to them, and is even more effective in Florida with the implementation of a statewide voter database. We have been working hard to earn the confidence and keep the lines of communication open with our voters. In your past campaigns, voters who received your often redundant mailings were suspicious, confused and angry. As their local officials, we found ourselves having to defend our position and re-earn their trust.

As you move forward with your campaign, the association would appreciate keeping the lines of communication open. If I may offer a little insight based on my experience as Supervisor of Elections for Pasco County, the methods already in place for registering voters are sufficient. What is truly missing in our country is a public service that offers unbiased information on the parties, candidates and campaign issues. My staff can attest that there is a definite need that is unfulfilled for a public that is craving education in order to cast an informed vote. I believe this lack of resources has a direct impact on low voter turnout and voter apathy, and will not be addressed simply by increasing the numbers of registered voters. As public servants who are ministerial in nature, we are not in a position to rectify this problem by providing such a service; but the Voter Participation Center certainly is. I think I speak for the association when I share my vision for the future of elections in which a solidly-educated voting populace was eagerly and willingly exercising their right to vote in an effort to affect change in this great country of ours.

If the association can further assist you in any way, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Corley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Brian E. Corley  
President, FSASE

/tsb