

PUBLIC INTEREST

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1000+ Noncitizens Discovered on Voter Rolls in Virginia

State elections officials are hiding noncitizen participation in elections

(Alexandria, VA) – October 4. A Public Interest Legal Foundation investigation [has uncovered](#) over 1000 noncitizens who have registered to vote in just 8 of Virginia’s 133 voting jurisdictions. These ineligible voters have cast nearly 200 ballots in American elections. Each fraudulent registration and vote is a potential felony.

Worse, Commonwealth elections officials are refusing to provide public records showing the election activity of thousands of other noncitizens. The cover up is being directed by the Commissioner of the State Board of Elections, Edgardo Cortes, who was appointed by Democrat Governor Terry McAuliffe. Commissioner Cortes told local election officials to deny our requests for additional election records despite the fact that federal law requires them to be provided.

In April, the Foundation sued the general registrar of Alexandria for her failure to remove ineligible voters—including noncitizens—from the county’s voter lists and for refusing to allow access to election records. The lawsuit resulted in the Foundation obtaining a list of 70 noncitizens who were registered and able to vote.

The records the Foundation received demonstrate that noncitizen voting is a substantial problem in the Commonwealth. In Prince William County alone, 433 aliens were registered to vote and many were casting ballots, year after year. Yet not one of these potential felons was referred to law enforcement officials for investigation or prosecution.

The failure of law enforcement is not the only thing contributing to this epidemic. There are effectively no safeguards in place to ensure that individuals who register to vote are citizens of this country. Rather, registration forms used in Virginia require individuals to simply check a box “yes” or “no” to confirm their citizenship status. No documentary proof is required. Noncitizens can simply lie in order to be placed on the voter rolls.

“Virginia election officials don’t seem to care that thousands of ineligible aliens have corrupted their voter rolls by illegally registering to vote,” said J. Christian Adams, president of the Public Interest Legal Foundation. “Even worse than doing nothing about it, they are trying to cover it up.”

The Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) is a 501(c)(3) public interest law firm dedicated to election integrity. PILF exists to assist states and others to aid the cause of election integrity and fight against lawlessness in American elections. Drawing on numerous experts in the field, PILF seeks to protect the right to vote and preserve the Constitutional framework of American elections. Media inquiries: media@publicinterestlegal.org.