

PUBLIC INTEREST

— LEGAL FOUNDATION —

Judge Denies Efforts to Block Citizenship Verification

States May Continue to Require Citizenship Verification at Registration

(Alexandria, VA) – June 29. The Public Interest Legal Foundation applauds the [decision](#) of the U.S. District Court in the District of Columbia to allow states to continue to verify citizenship on voter registration forms. The court today denied the request of an array of well-funded left-wing groups to prevent three states from using citizenship verification instructions in the federally mandated voter registration form (“Federal Form”). Shockingly, the Justice Department refused to defend the actions of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (“EAC”), an independent federal agency. The Public Interest Legal Foundation stepped up to the plate and was allowed to intervene to help defend the states.

The lawsuit, brought by the League of Women Voters, among other interest groups, seeks to enjoin the January 29, 2016 EAC decision to update the Federal Form to include the States’s proof of citizenship requirements. The plaintiffs sought a preliminary injunction against the EAC’s actions, an audacious request the judge found to be a “thinly veiled request for the relief normally accorded in a final judgment.” According to the judge, plaintiffs’ “demands are dramatized all the more by the fact that the United State Department of Justice has somehow decided to *consent* to such remarkable relief.”

“This case is yet another example of the clear hostility of the Obama Justice Department towards ensuring voter integrity,” said J. Christian Adams, President and General Counsel of the Foundation. “Non-citizens have participated in American elections and verifying citizenship is the first step to stopping aliens from influencing who is in power.”

The case is League of Women Voters, et al. v. Newby, et al., No. 16-cv-00236 (D.D.C.)

The Public Interest Legal Foundation 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.

###