

PUBLIC INTEREST

— LEGAL FOUNDATION —

Court Allows Election Integrity Group to File Brief Defending Virginia Law *Only Outside Group Defending Virginia Election Laws in Federal Court*

(Alexandria, VA) – September 21. A federal court in Richmond, Virginia, has accepted the filing of a brief by the Public Interest Legal Foundation defending Virginia’s voter identification law. The brief questions whether the plaintiffs are even permitted to bring the case in the first place.

A coordinated trio of lawsuits was filed by lawyers funded by billionaire George Soros attacking state election integrity laws in key swing states ahead of the 2016 Presidential election. One of the attacks involves Virginia’s voter ID requirement, its system for restoring felon voting rights, and allegedly long lines at voting precincts. The defendants have asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit.

[PILF’s *amicus curiae* brief](#) argues that the case against Virginia law is even weaker than Virginia itself argued in court. The brief argues that “while the Democrats claim that hundreds of Virginians cannot vote because of the challenged voter identification statute,” not one of them is a co-plaintiff in this case.

“The Democrats, without showing actual harm to minorities, have turned the fact-of-life that voting takes some nominal amount of time into a federal civil rights lawsuit,” said J. Christian Adams, President of the PILF. “But for a federal court to intrude in a state’s constitutional prerogative to run state elections, the challenged law must, in reality, result in unequal access to participation on account of race. No such showing has been made here.”

PILF is the only outside group to file a brief with the court. Last month, a group that includes a State Senator, county electoral board members, and voters, sought to intervene in the case to defend Virginia law. The court denied their request.

The case is *Lee v. Virginia State Board of Elections*, Case No. 3:15-cv-357 (E.D. Va., Richmond).

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.

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Court filings can be found here: <http://publicinterestlegal.org/cases/oh-wi-and-va-voting-lawsuits/>

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