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Public Interest Legal Foundation Applauds Voter Integrity Decision in Ohio
Federal Court Rejects Move to Keep Ineligible Voters on Rolls

(Alexandria, VA) – June 30. A federal court in Ohio has rejected an attempt by left-wing groups to prevent Ohio from removing ineligible voters from its rolls in the months preceding the 2016 election.

A group of plaintiffs, led by an Ohio branch of the AFL-CIO, had challenged Ohio's voter roll cleaning procedures in federal court. They oppose Ohio's reasonable use of voter inactivity to help maintain clean voter rolls.

Only voters who do not participate in an election for six consecutive years and do not respond to repeated notice mailings may be removed from the rolls under Ohio's process.

Yesterday, federal judge George C. Smith ruled that Ohio's voter removal procedure is both reasonable and consistent with federal law.

The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) "does not prohibit" Ohio's system, wrote Smith. The "unambiguous text of the NVRA specifically permits" the process that Ohio uses to verify whether someone is eligible to vote.

The Public Interest Legal Foundation filed an amicus brief in this case showing that voter inactivity is an important and permissible tool in keeping clean rolls. Judge Smith agreed.

"Ohio is using the tools permitted by Congress to make sure only legitimate votes are counted in this year's election," said J. Christian Adams, President of Public Interest Legal Foundation. "This decision is an important step for voter integrity as we approach the 2016 election."

The case is A. Philip Randolph Institute et al. v. Husted, No. 2:16-cv-303-GCS-EPD (S.D. Ohio).

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.

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