Continuance

Examination of your N400 application shows that additional information, documents or forms are needed before your application can be acted upon. Please return this letter with the requested information and/or documents by...

Failure to do so may result in the denial of your application.

Submission of this information, however, does not guarantee that this case will be approved. We strongly recommend that you submit all the requested information, documents, or forms as listed on the following pages as soon as possible so that we can resume processing. Any interim benefits that may otherwise stem from the filing of this application or petition will be delayed while this case is in suspense awaiting your response.

If you choose to submit only some or none of the requested information, then the application will be adjudicated on its merits. You may also request, in writing, to the Service that this application be withdrawn. If the district director consents to the withdrawal, the application will be denied without further notice to you and without prejudice to any future application. The withdrawal will constitute a waiver of any review pursuant to Section 336 of the Title 8 Code of Federal Regulations. If the district director does not consent to the withdrawal, then the application shall be adjudicated on its merits.
I am applying to: ☑ Register to vote in the State of Illinois  ☐ Change my present voting address  ☐ Change my name (marriage)

1. Last Name  PILAR  First Name  Middle Name or Initial

2. Address  ZIP CODE  City/County/Township

3. Mailing Address (P.O. Box)  City/County/State Zip Code

4. Previous Voting Address  City, State, Zip Code  County

5. Previous Name (if changed)

6. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)  7. Sex  8. Telephone Number with Area Code (optional)

9. Application Number

10. Voter Affidavit – Read all statements and sign within the box to the right. If you check “No” to either questions, do not complete this form.

   I swear or affirm that: I am a citizen of the United States. ☐ Yes ☐ No

   I will be at least 18 years old on or before the next election. ☐ Yes ☐ No

   I will have lived in the State of Illinois and in my election precinct at least 30 days from the date of the next election. The information I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge under penalty of perjury. If I have provided false information, I may be fined, imprisoned, or I am not a U.S. citizen, deported from or refused entry into the United States.

   PHONE: 312-269-7900
   CHICAGO BOARD OF ELECTIONS
   69 W WASHINGTON
   SUITE 600
   CHICAGO 60602

   THIS IS MY SIGNATURE OR MARK IN THE SPACE BELOW

   Date: 4-5-09

Commissioners
MARISEL A. HERNANDEZ, Chairwoman
WILLIAM J. KRESE, Commissioner
JUNE A. BROWN, Commissioner
CHARLES HOLIDAY, JR. Executive Director

69 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602
(312)269 - 7900
FAX (312)263 - 3649
TTY (312)269 - 0027
WWW.CHICAGOELECTIONS.GOV
E-mail Address: CBOE@CHICAGOELECTIONS.GOV

Histories for PILAR

<table>
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<th>Election Date</th>
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<th>Voting Method</th>
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Motor Voter Still Adds Aliens to Voter Rolls

394 noncitizens cancelled from Chicago roll in recent years

Since 2007, Chicago city records show the sporadic removals of **394 foreign nationals** from the voter registration roll. From this group, **20 individuals** are recorded casting **85 ballots**. This is not an inventory of every non-citizen vote, but only those who informed election officials they were not an American citizen.

In Chicago, like many other places PILF has studied, it is not easy to find a single cause for the problem. Some disclosed records show immigrants were honest about their ineligibility but were registered anyway. One can fairly blame the immigrant or registrar (depending on the record), but the federal requirement to register at DMVs exacerbates the problem. After 30 years of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), Chicago shows why the country needs to discuss modernizing aspects of the law.

**Core Figures**

In 2018 and 2023, Chicago election officials disclosed to PILF datasets detailing cancellations of registrants due to citizenship eligibility.

- Total Cancellations for Non-Citizenship: **394**
- Cancelled Records with History of Voting: **20**
- Average Duration of Registration: **7.5 years**
- Longest Single Period of Registration: **30 years**
- Year with Most Registrations Created: **2018 (11)**
- Year with Most Cancellations: **2019 (122)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancellations of Foreign Nationals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2023</td>
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</table>

¹ Chicago records do not show dates of registration for 119 registrants.
Foreign Nationals Are Often Honest About Their Immigration Statuses at Registration

Some disclosed records were copies of voter registration paperwork such as registration forms. They allow PILF to see how citizenship eligibility questions were answered. When asked if the applicant is a U.S. citizen, foreign nationals clearly checked the NO option, yet were registered anyway.
Prior PILF research captured correspondence explaining, in immigrants’ own words, that they believed voter registration applications were used to test their eligibility to vote. If they were honest about their foreign status and were still enrolled, then they could vote in the next election, they assumed. Electioneering for their votes by candidates cemented their misinterpretations.

One of the most damning examples of officials failing to keep foreign nationals off the rolls was when an immigrant honestly declared her status but mistakenly claimed her date of birth as the date of registration. This person failed the two most critical questions for establishing eligibility but was still registered for nearly a year before the errors were resolved.
Printing Voter Applications in Foreign Languages

Unfortunately, multi-lingual election documents may only protect immigrants if officials are paying attention to basic details. Some of the disclosed application records were printed in Spanish, accurately denoted foreign citizenship, and were still accepted by election officials for registration. In both examples shown below, roughly a year passed for each record to be cancelled ahead of likely immigration proceedings.
Common Causes of Foreign Registrants

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (Motor Voter) provides the most common pathway to the voter roll. States that automate Motor Voter, not giving the immigrant the chance to decline registration during their DMV transactions, exacerbate the problem. Illinois began enforcing this kind of policy in 2018. States giving driver’s licenses to illegal immigrants only increase traffic to DMVs. Illinois implemented its law in 2013. States with higher amounts of legal immigration mean more driver’s licenses or state IDs are needed for daily life. Border states by nature increase risks – especially if one has twin cities on both sides of the boundary. Finally, battleground states with increased third-party voter registration drives can expose unassuming immigrants to registration too early.

The Lone Tool to Stop Foreign National Registration: Foreign Nationals

Contrary to popular belief or assumption, the federal government does not have an all-inclusive database election officials can query to identify non-citizens masquerading as citizens in voter rolls. Even the Department of Homeland Security’s alien entitlements database known as SAVE has use restrictions. It also does not have every non-citizen in the United States. This leaves election officials waiting for non-citizens to out themselves – an act that can get them charged with a federal felony.

Foreign nationals typically expose themselves for one reason: they want to remain in the United States as future naturalized citizens. During that process, they face questions

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2 SB 1933 (2017)
3 S 957 (2012)
4 The Obama DHS set the requirement that Alien ID numbers are needed to query SAVE – something local officials would rarely have on file.
about premature registration and voting activities.⁵ If they have any records, they are often ordered by immigration officials to get said records cancelled. These cancel requests generate paper trails, which inform PILF research. Chicago officials told PILF during the document inspection process that legal immigration concerns were the driving cause for removals.

No matter the disclosed sample size of government records or geographic location, most foreigners are registered directly through Motor Voter. The process can be as simple as checking the wrong box or signing the wrong form handed to you by a state employee—sometimes in a different language.

**Prior PILF Research, Litigation on Non-Citizen Voting Issues**

For nearly a decade, PILF has harvested government records of non-citizen voter cancellations. These studies were carried out in places like Arizona, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, Nevada, California, Texas, and sanctuary cities across the nation. Those reports are made available on the PILF website.⁶ Sometimes research cannot occur without litigation to unlock official records. PILF has brought and won federal trial and appellate court cases in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas to secure access.⁷ This campaign has made it easier to study non-citizen election participation than ever before in the Motor Voter era.

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⁵ N-400 – Application for Naturalization (Expires November 30, 2025), [https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/n-400.pdf](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/n-400.pdf)

⁶ PILF Reports archive, [https://publicinterestlegal.org/reports/](https://publicinterestlegal.org/reports/)

⁷ PILF litigation archive, [https://publicinterestlegal.org/cases/](https://publicinterestlegal.org/cases/)
Motor Voter at 30: Time to Modernize

Motor Voter is showing signs of wear. It has made American elections on one hand less secure, while on the other hand more transparent. It created unforeseen consequences and failures worse than the opponents imagined. After 30 years, it is time for Congress to do a serious and thoughtful reexamination of law. It has never been easier to register to vote and vote as it is in 2023. Yet, if an applicant fills out the federally mandated Motor Voter registration form, they must be registered to vote, period. States cannot seek documentary proof of citizenship before registering the applicant, unless the state goes through a complicated process of seeking federal approval. As it stands, only an honor system prevents non-citizens from easily registering to vote (unless officials fail to notice the “NO” on the citizenship question).

PILF President, J. Christian Adams

“On the 30th anniversary of Motor Voter, the law should be celebrated and updated. It has led to more transparency and federally mandated voter list maintenance of deceased and duplicate registrants. Unfortunately, it has led to thousands of foreign nationals registering to vote. Congress must update Motor Voter to fix this vulnerability in our elections.”
GET INVOLVED

The Public Interest Legal Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, relies on contributions to conduct research and develop findings like those contained in this report.

PILF is the only organization performing this level of work with respect to voter registration system integrity in America. Time, travel, and technology help deliver new insights into our election systems to better educate citizens and policymakers alike. We also bring litigation to pry this public information from government officials when necessary. None of this is possible without your support.

Please help us expand our efforts by visiting publicinterestlegal.org to offer your fully tax-deductible gift today.