

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2012

Your Vote Is Your Voice...Speak Up!

For Additional Information Contact:

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Media Alert

## LETTER IMPERSONATING SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Voters in multiple counties have recently received suspicious 'official looking' mail alleging that they are potentially ineligible to vote. The Department of State takes this possible act of voter intimidation and fraudulent activity very seriously and is pursuing all avenues to ensure the practice is immediately stopped.

In addition to being presented on fraudulent letterhead from a Supervisor of Election's office or the Division of Elections, the letter states that the person has only 15 days to respond. This letter has not been issued from the Department of State or from any Supervisor of Election's office.

The Department of State is referring any information about these letters and other cases of potential voter fraud to law enforcement. A person who corruptly influences voting or attempts to commit voter intimidation or voter suppression can be convicted of a felony of the third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 5 years.

Supervisor of Elections, Leslie Swan, is in receipt of two such letters sent to registered voters in Indian River County. The letter informs the recipient that the Indian River County Supervisor of Elections has received information from the Florida Division of Elections regarding the voter's citizenship status, bringing into question their eligibility as a registered voter. The letter urges the voter to contact the Supervisor of Elections Office for further information but does not list an address or telephone number, only an email address. The letter includes a voter eligibility form. The return address on the envelope simply states "County Supervisor, Division of Elections".

Indian River County voters who receive this letter should immediately contact the Supervisor of Elections office at 772-226-3435 to assist with the documentation necessary for this investigation.



## Leslie Swan supervisor of elections

October 18, 2012

Dear

The Indian River County Supervisor of Elections has received information from the Florida Division of Elections regarding your citizenship status, bringing into question your eligibility as a registered voter.

Per Florida law, only U.S. Citizens are allowed to register to vote. See s. 97.041, *Fla. Stat.* (2012). In addition, registering to vote under fraudulent conditions or swearing a false oath are both third degree felonies in Florida. See s. 104.011, *Fla. Stat.* (2012).

If the information from the Florida Division of Elections is inaccurate regarding your citizenship status or if your citizenship status has recently changed, please stop by our main office with any original documentation that demonstrates U.S. citizenship. Do not mail these documents. You may want to call us prior to visiting our main office. Also, you may request an administrative hearing with the Supervisor of Elections to prove U.S. citizenship.

You must complete the attached Voter Eligibility Form and return it to the Supervisor of Elections Office within 15 days of receipt. Failure to submit this form within fifteen (15) days will result in the removal of your name from the voter registration rolls and you will no longer be eligible to vote. A nonregistered voter who casts a vote in the State of Florida may be subject to arrest, imprisonment, and/or other criminal sanctions.

Please contact the Supervisor of Elections Office at the address or telephone number below or e-mail info@voteindianriver.com if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely;

Leslie Swan
Indian River County Supervisor of Elections

**Enclosures:** 

Voter Eligibility Form

Si Usted habla español y desea más información, por favor comuniquese con nuestro Departamento de Servicio al Cliente al Teléfono,772-226-3440 y con mucho gusto le ayudaremos.

Revised 09/25/2012

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