



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

*Voting Section
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW – 4CON
Washington, DC 20530*

July 14, 2025

Via Mail and Email

The Honorable Jared DeMarinis
State Administrator of Elections
Maryland State Board of Elections
P.O. Box 6486
Annapolis, MD 21401-0486
jared.demarinis@maryland.gov

Dear State Administrator DeMarinis:

We write to you as the chief election official for the State of Maryland to request information regarding the state's procedures for complying with the statewide voter registration list maintenance provisions of the National Voter Registration Act ("NVRA"), 52 U.S.C. § 20501 *et seq.*

Please provide a list of the election officials who are responsible for implementing Maryland's general program of voter registration list maintenance from November 2022 through receipt of this letter, including those responsible officials not employed by your office (such as local election officials) who are also involved in that effort. Please also provide a description of the steps that you have taken, and when those steps were taken, to ensure that the state's list maintenance program has been properly carried out in full compliance with the NVRA. Please include both the actions taken by Maryland officials as well as county officials.

The NVRA requires each state and the District of Columbia to make available for inspection "all records concerning the implementation of programs and activities conducted for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy and currency of official lists of eligible voters." 52 U.S.C. § 20507(i)(1). Section 11 of the NVRA authorizes the Attorney General to bring NVRA enforcement actions. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 20510.

Pursuant to Section 20507(i) of the NVRA, the Attorney General requests that you produce for inspection the following records:

1. The current electronic copy of Maryland's computerized statewide voter registration list ("statewide voter registration list") as required by Section 303(a) of the Help America Vote Act. Please include all fields contained within the list. Please produce each list in a .xls, .csv, or delimited-text file format. Please specify what delimiter is used, if applicable, or provide a file layout along with a database user manual, coding list, or other materials that define or explain how a voter record is coded into the statewide voter

registration list and reported in the electronic copy of the statewide voter registration list.

Additionally, please provide the following information in electronic form. The time period for these requests is close of registration for the November 2022 general election through the close of registration for the November 2024 general election, the same time period as the most recent report from the Election Assistance Commission's Election Administration and Voting Survey ("EAVS"). If you are unable to provide the data, please explain why the data is not available.

1. A review of the most recent EAVS report indicates that in response to Question A1b, there are nearly as many registered voters listed as active as the citizen voting age population in Maryland, with a registration rate in 2024 of 95.9 percent of the citizen voting age population. Furthermore, the EAVS report indicates that the ratio of registered voters to citizen voting age population has been unusually high for several years, with Maryland reporting a registration rate of 93.9 percent of citizen voting age population in 2022 and 96 percent in 2020. Please explain what actions Maryland is taking to ensure that voters who should not be on the voter roll are being removed.
2. In the EAVS data for Question A3a, Maryland had 6,491,862 registration transactions processed, which is significantly more than Maryland's 4,231,112 active registered voters. Please explain why the number of registration transactions was significantly higher than the number of active registered voters. In Question A3b, there are 524,189 new valid registrations, which is less than the 613,352 new registrations listed on your website in the year end activity reports for 2023 and 2024 combined: [Voter Registration Statistics](#). Please explain why there is a difference in those registration statistics.
3. In the EAVS data for Question A10a, Maryland sent 1,559,430 confirmation notices, which is 36.9 percent of all active registered voters and well above the national average of 19.5 percent. Based on the responses to Question A11b, it appears that most of these notices were sent because voters may have moved. Please explain why Maryland sent confirmation notices to so many registered voters.
4. In the EAVS data for Questions A10e and A10f, Maryland combined the responses and stated that 1,520,490 confirmation notices were unreturned, which is 97.5 percent of all notices sent. According to the most recent EAVS report, only 320,634 voters are inactive. Please explain the process for determining how a voter becomes an inactive voter. Please explain why the number of inactive voters is so low relative to the number of confirmation notices not being returned.
5. In the EAVS data for Question A12b, 44,869 voters were removed because they had moved outside of the jurisdiction. In the EAVS data for Question A12e, 123,312 voters were removed because they failed to respond to a sent confirmation notice and had not voted in the two most recent federal elections. Together that means a maximum of 168,181 voters might have been removed for reasons related to confirmation notices. Please explain why the number of voters removed is so low relative to the number of unreturned confirmation notices.

6. In October 2023, the Office of Legislative Audits published a report regarding the State Board of Elections (SBE). [State Board of Elections - 10-31-23](#) The Audit found that “SBE’s match of voter records to State death records were not as comprehensive as necessary to identify certain potentially deceased voters.” Audit at 11. Because SBE only followed up on exact matches and information received by SBE from the Maryland Department of Health was not complete, the Audit identified potentially thousands of deceased individuals with active voter registration. *Id.* Please explain if the process to remove deceased voters has changed since the issuance of that Audit, and if so, please describe the process.
7. The Audit also found that Local Boards of Elections (LBE) were not removing deceased voters promptly. “For example, as of May 2022, one LBE had not removed a voter for 332 days after receiving notification of the voter’s death.” Audit at 12. The Audit’s finding was that the SBE failed to ensure that LBEs were correcting voter data. Audit at 10. The Audit also noted a similar finding and recommended corrective action in 2019 that was not implemented. Audit at 12. Please explain if the process that the State Board uses to ensure that LBEs are promptly updating voter rolls has changed since the issuance of the most recent Audit, and if so, please describe the updated process and when the changes were implemented.
8. The Audit also found that the duplicate voter registrations were not being removed from the voter rolls. The Audit identified potential duplicate voter registrations. *See* Audit at 11. In the EAVS data for Question A3d, Maryland said that there were no duplicate registrations. In the EAVS data for Question A12h, Maryland said it removed only 430 duplicate registrations, well below the national average. Please explain the process for removing duplicate registrations and whether the State Board or the LBEs are responsible for removing those voters. If the records were merged, please provide that information and explain that process. Please provide the number of registrations if they were merged.

Please provide a description of the steps that Maryland has taken, and when those steps were taken, to identify registered voters who are ineligible to vote as well as the procedures Maryland used to remove those ineligible voters from the registration list. Please identify the number of registered voters identified as ineligible to vote for the time period of the close of registration for the November 2022 general election through present for each of the following reasons:

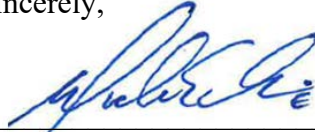
1. Non-citizen
2. Adjudicated incompetent
3. Felony conviction

For each of those voters identified in categories 1-3 above, provide their registration information on the statewide voter registration list, including their vote history.

Please provide this information within 14 days of the date of this letter. The information and materials may be sent by encrypted email to voting.section@usdoj.gov or via the Department’s secure file-sharing system, Justice Enterprise File Sharing (JEFS).

Should further clarification be required, please contact Maureen Riordan at maureen.riordan2@usdoj.gov. We look forward to your assistance in advance.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Gates
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Maureen Riordan
Acting Chief, Voting Section
Civil Rights Division