



Jared DeMarinis
State Administrator

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Michael Summers, Chairman
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Victoria Jackson-Stanley

August 13, 2025

Michael E. Gates
Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Maureen Riordan
Acting Chief, Voting Section
Civil Rights Division
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW - 4CON
Washington, DC 20530

Sent via email: voting.section@doj.gov

RE: Voter Registration List Request

Thank you for your request for Maryland's voter registration list.

Maryland law requires that the voter registration list not be used for "commercial solicitation" and, more importantly, may not be used for "any other purpose not related to the electoral process." Md. Code Ann., Elec. Law § 3-506(a)(1). Based upon the current request and similar requests made to other states, it is not clear what you intend to do with Maryland's voter registration list.

From your request, we understand the Department of Justice (Department) to be creating a system of records of Maryland voters, subject to the Federal Privacy Act (5 USC § 552a). Accordingly, the Department must share the Department's purpose in creating that system of records, including the notice published in the Federal Register required by 5 USC § 552A(e)(4) and how the public voter registration list requested is necessary and relevant to that purpose.

Because the request seeks past records, could you also share how the system of records you seek to establish of Maryland's voters will be maintained with "such accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and completeness as is reasonably necessary to assure fairness to the individual in the determination." *Id.* at § 552A(e)(5). Moreover, since the voter registration list the Department requested includes party affiliation and voting history information, could you please provide your analysis for how the system of records the Department is establishing avoids maintaining a record "describing how any individual exercises rights guaranteed by the First Amendment." *Id.* at § 552A(e)(6).

Finally, I request that the Department state whether the voter registration list will be

used in any investigative actions for potential violations of federal law. Specifically, whether the voter registration list will be used for enforcement of immigration laws against Maryland residents.

The voter registration list may not be used in a manner that intimidates a voter from going to the polls, results in or has the intent to result in the denial or abridgement of the right of a Maryland citizen to vote or causes a qualified voter to be stricken from voter registration list.

Maryland voters have the right to know what the Department intends to do with the state's voter registration list. That is why use is restricted to purposes related to the electoral process in Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. DeMarinis', is written over the printed name.

Jared DeMarinis
State Administrator of Elections