

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

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October 10, 2023

VIA EMAIL

Virginia Voter Assistance (571) 648-8882 Help@VirginiaVoterAssistance.org

Re: Cease and Desist Distribution of Misinformation to Voters in Virginia

Dear Virginia Voter Assistance:

It has come to our attention that you are distributing election-related materials—including mailers, flyers, and door hangers—containing false and/or misleading information to voters in Loudoun, Prince William, and Fauquier Counties. Some of these materials contain statements that are intimidating or threatening to voters. For example, one of the messages states: "Failure to vote may result in a loss of: Social Security Income, Medicare Eligibility, Unemployment Benefits, Child Tax Credits and Child Custody Rights, Concealed Carry Permit." It further states: "Failure to vote may also result in seizure of personal assets, including but not limited to firearms, bank accounts, cars, and real estate." Another message states that "[g]etting an absentee ballot . . . may prevent the loss of government benefits, tax credits, and seizure of your personal assets." These statements are patently false and can serve no other purpose than to intimidate, threaten, or coerce a potential voter.

We ask that you immediately cease and desist from distributing any materials that contain such intimidating, threatening, or coercive information. Continuing to distribute these communications may result in criminal penalties under various provisions of Title 24.2 of the Code of Virginia. See, e.g., Va. Code §§ 24.2-1005 ("Any person who intimidates, threatens, or coerces or attempts to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person in giving his vote or ballot or who intimidates, threatens, or coerces, or attempts to intimidate, threaten, or coerce a voter to deter or prevent him from voting is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor."); 24.2-1005.1 ("It shall be unlawful for any person to communicate to a registered voter, by any means, false

information, knowing the same to be false, intended to impede the voter in the exercise of his right to vote.").

Note that our request to cease and desist from this conduct applies to any Virginia localities in which you are distributing false, intimidating, or threatening election materials—not only to your activities in Loudoun, Prince William, and Fauquier Counties.

Please confirm acknowledgement of this letter within three (3) business days of receipt. Failure to acknowledge receipt of this letter, and failure to cease and desist from the unlawful conduct described herein, may result in criminal prosecution as described above.

Sincerely yours,

THandrews

Travis S. Andrews

Assistant Attorney General

Cc: Look Ahead America (by certified mail and email, Info@LookAheadAmerica.org)
Commissioner of Elections Susan Beals (by email, Susan.Beals@elections.virginia.gov)