

From: Greg D. Ott

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 2:54 PM

To: 'dhs.iga@hq.dhs.gov' <dhs.iga@hq.dhs.gov>

Subject: FW: Election Security Follow Up

Dear DHS Office of Intergovernmental Affairs,

I write in response to your email dated September 9, 2026, in which you asserted—incorrectly—that Nevada has all the information it needs to conduct an analysis with confidence of whether the individuals described by DHS are United States citizens. Once again, unless your Office can provide the information that Nevada has repeatedly requested since Secretary Mullin first raised this issue in his July 16 letter to me, the State will be unable to determine with confidence whether the individuals referenced by DHS are non-citizen voters.

1. To Date, DHS’s Assertions Have Not Given Us Reason to Believe the Individuals it Cites are Ineligible to Vote

On July 16, 2026, DHS sent the Nevada Secretary of State a letter, alleging that there may be as many as 15,903 non-citizens registered to vote in Nevada, and asked for collaboration.

On July 29, 2026, the Nevada Secretary of State responded to DHS’s letter and requested the data sources and methods used to calculate the 15,903 number. The Nevada Secretary of State’s Office reiterated its request for this information prior to its virtual meeting with DHS.

On August 13, 2026, we had a virtual meeting with DHS to discuss the allegations in DHS’s July 16 letter. On the call, DHS officials said that they had identified 185 individuals whom, following a manual review, they believe are non-citizens. The DHS officials said that they were still reviewing the rest of the individuals that were referenced in the 15,903 number. Also, the DHS officials said that they had used a copy of Nevada’s voter file from July 2025. On the call, we requested more information about the list of individuals DHS thinks may be non-citizens.

On August 14, 2026, we received an email from Ms. Kimberley Vogt, attaching a spreadsheet list of 185 “voter case numbers” on whom DHS completed its manual review, as well as 6,218 voter case numbers that had not yet been similarly reviewed.

On August 19, 2026, we responded, asking for the first name, middle name, last name, date of birth, residential address, and any other data points DHS matched for the 185 individuals identified in the spreadsheet.

On August 20, 2026, Ms. Vogt responded that DHS would “prefer to limit our information sharing to just providing you the voter ID from your public voter list.”

Also on August 20, 2026, we reiterated that the State was “unable to conduct an analysis without real verifiable information.”

On September 9, 2026, we received your email in which you purported to describe matching criteria that may have been used to generate a list of 15,903 individuals and noted that the more attributes of the individual voter that match an individual in DHS’s records, the higher the confidence level of a match. But the response did not indicate the number of criteria that matched for individuals included on the 15,903 list or the confidence level in that list. The September 9 email further states that “each one of the 15,903 individuals identified should be carefully reviewed by your state to determine eligibility for voting in a federal election.” However, DHS has never provided Nevada with a list of 15,903 individuals. Even as to the 6,218 voter identification numbers that have been provided, DHS still has not provided any additional verifiable information for the individuals it suggests are non-citizens.

As for the 185 individuals, our records indicate that they were citizens. You have provided nothing of substance to suggest otherwise.

We understand that “voter case numbers,” as used in DHS’s spreadsheet, mean Nevada’s voter registration numbers, which are an administrative identifier that point to a person’s registration record. A person’s voter registration number is not proof of a person’s identity, nor citizenship status.

The problem with using only voter registration numbers to identify non-citizen voters is that a single voter registration number may belong to multiple individuals. This is because Nevada recently transitioned to a single statewide voter-registration system. Previously, counties operated their own voter registration databases and assigned county voter identification numbers. When the legislature passed a new law to move to a centralized statewide system, voters were assigned new state voter identification numbers. As a result, the same number may appear at different points in time in connection with different voter records.

For example, assume DHS provides the number “123456.” Our records might show that 123456 was once assigned by one county to Jane Smith, while the statewide system later assigned that same number to John Doe. So, without additional information, such as a date of birth, address, or another verifiable data point, the number does not tell us whether DHS is referring to Jane Smith, John Doe, or potentially neither person.

The number also doesn’t tell us whether an individual was born in the United States, naturalized, derived citizenship through a parent, or holds any particular immigration status. Election records commonly reflect the information supplied during registration. For example, if someone registered to vote in 1970, the registration record may be incomplete; the name, address, and date of birth may be incomplete, changed, entered differently, or shared by more than one person. A number that matches a voter record thus establishes only that a number exists in, or once existed in, a voter registration system.

2. The Evidence Upon Which DHS Has Generally Relied to Determine the Citizenship Status of Prospective Voters Is Unreliable

There is mounting evidence that the information upon which DHS has relied to determine the status of prospective voters is unreliable. The federal district court for the District of Columbia noted that DHS was aware of “[s]hortfalls in data accuracy” in SSA citizenship data integrated into the new SAVE system, which “could cause incomplete or false results.” *League of Women Voters v. U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec.*, 835 F. Supp. 3d 79, 101 (D.D.C. 2026). For example, there is no obligation for individuals to report a change in their citizenship status to SSA unless they need to request a replacement card or file a claim for a Social Security benefit, so any naturalized citizen who “interacted with SSA prior to naturalization may be incorrectly identified as a non-citizen in SSA records.” *Id.*

In addition, a whistleblower disclosure that was made public last week confirms that DHS is using unreliable data and techniques to identify noncitizens who may be registered to vote. See Letter from Senator Padilla and Senator Schumer to DHS leadership (Sept. 13, 2026).

https://www.padilla.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/09.13.26-Senate-Whistleblower-Letter-DHS-USCIS_combined_signed.pdf. According to the whistleblower disclosure, DHS and USCIS leadership abruptly diverted FDNS staff to an “Unlawful Voter Initiative” that has been “using highly questionable data methods to identify purported unlawful voters.” *Id.* DHS “materials admit these investigations will include naturalized U.S. citizens,” and “USCIS personnel are being tasked with unreliable DHS voter data of dubious origins, that is compiled with ‘supplemental magic,’ which they are required to accept, as accurate.” *Id.* The training video provided to FDNS staff “establishes that both headquarters and USCIS personnel understand the shortcomings of both the state voter data and the federal immigration citizenship data . . . but personnel are required to accept the data even when they believe it to be inaccurate.” *Id.* This “sudden surge indicates that the Department’s top priority is now manufacturing evidence for election conspiracy theories, rather than FDNS’s fraud detection and national security mission.” *Id.*

The whistleblower disclosure further notes that FDNS staff have been using potentially unlawful collection methods to obtain data, including by impersonating voters to access state voter databases. *Id.*; see also Nick Corasaniti & Hamed Aleaziz, *Whistle-Blower: Federal Agents May Have Broken State Laws in Search of Voter Fraud*, NY Times (Sept. 14, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/14/us/politics/homeland-security-voter-fraud-investigation.html?smid=url-share>. As you may know, Nevada’s voter database contains an attestation that “[b]y continuing, you confirm that you are that voter or are directly helping that voter.” <https://www.nvscs.gov/votersearch/>. The attestation continues that “[b]y using this site, you agree not to use or share the information for any reason that the law does not allow.” *Id.*

The Virginia Attorney General has already called for an investigation into whether DHS violated Virginia law by attesting on its voter database website that “the information provided to access my voter registration is my own or I am expressly authorized by the voter to access this information.” See News Release, Office of the Virginia Attorney General (Sept. 18, 2026), <https://www.oag.state.va.us/media-center/news-releases/3120-what-virginians-are-seeing-attorney-general-jay-jones-shares-weekly-roundup-of-actions-taken-15>. The attestation continues that it is “unlawful to access the record of any other voter.” *Id.*

Senators Padilla and Schumer have submitted questions to DHS and USCIS leadership about the legality of these initiatives to which DHS and USCIS have not yet responded and both Senators have called for an immediate end to these initiatives and related activities. At least 18 Senators have called for an Office of Inspector General investigation related to these initiatives. See Press Release, Office of Senator Mark Warner, *Following Whistleblower Disclosure, Warner, Kaine Demand Investigation Into DHS Data Misconduct in Virginia, Nationwide* (Sept. 18, 2026), https://www.warner.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/following-whistleblower-disclosure-warner-kaine-demand-investigation-into-dhs-data-misconduct-in-virginia-nationwide?utm_source=chatgpt.com.

Moreover, on September 18, 2026, a coalition of civil rights groups filed a lawsuit against DHS, ICE, and other defendants, alleging a violation of 11(b) of the Voting Rights Act related to the federal agencies’ voter intimidation conduct, which included the Unlawful Voter Initiative. See Compl., *NAACP v. DHS*, No. 1:26-cv-03263 (D.D.C. Sept. 18, 2026).

3. Nevada Has a Strong Interest in Preventing the Disenfranchisement of Eligible Voters Ahead of the 2026 Election and Will Continue to Follow Applicable Federal and State Laws

Nevada takes allegations of noncitizen voting seriously, but it also has a strong interest in preventing the wrongful disenfranchisement of voters ahead of the fast-approaching 2026 election. The State is committed to preventing the chilling effect on the right to vote from taking actions based on unfounded and unverifiable allegations of noncitizen voting.

Nevada continues to follow applicable state and federal laws governing voter list maintenance, including the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. The State will also continue to comply with state laws to determine voter eligibility.

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Best Regards, Greg

From: DHS.IGA <dhs.iga@hq.dhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 11:21 AM

To: Mark Wlaschin <mwlaschin@sos.nv.gov>

Cc: Elections <elections@hq.dhs.gov>

Subject: Election Security Follow Up

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Deputy Secretary Wlaschin,

We are writing in response to your recent emails in which you mischaracterize DHS findings and indicate that you “are unable to conduct an analysis without real verifiable information.”

As discussed during our meeting, in prioritizing national security regarding elections, President Trump made the SAVE system available to states free of charge. Many states have processed their full voter lists to identify and remove ineligible aliens. As you have not processed Nevada’s voter list through the SAVE system, FDNS – the Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate (FDNS) conducted an analysis of Nevada’s publicly available voter file.

States are required by federal law to ensure that voter registration records are accurate. To assist Nevada with this important effort, FDNS employees tirelessly reviewed millions of records. As outlined by the FDNS representatives during the call, there are potentially 15,903 aliens on Nevada’s voter rolls. As described in the meeting, this number was arrived at through a review of matching criteria – the more attributes from the individual registered voter that match an individual in DHS immigration records, the higher the confidence level. The highest confidence level of matching indicators, for example, first name, last name, middle name, date of birth, address, and phone number would be a 6-attribute match. If an individual did not have the same phone number or the same address, this would be listed as a lower confidence match but likely still the same individual. An address that does not match does not mean that they are not the same individual as people often move and do not update their address. DHS holdings often contain other data points which were also reviewed – such as previous addresses or spousal information to increase the confidence of the match. Each one of the 15,903 individuals identified should be carefully reviewed by your state to determine eligibility for voting in a federal election.

Based upon your request for further assistance during our meeting, FDNS agents offered to have each file manually reviewed – a laborious process that often includes the review of paper documents in addition to those held electronically. The manual process described by FDNS included the steps taken when FDNS makes a law enforcement referral. Here, they are not making a law enforcement referral to Nevada, instead, they are offering assistance to you to protect the voting rights of US citizens. By narrowing your list of nearly 2.3 million registered voters to just 15,903 who match an alien in DHS records, we are reducing the effort required by your office. DHS is providing a service to the citizens of Nevada.

The Department of Homeland Security is responsible for immigration enforcement and protecting election infrastructure. Alien voting is a crime. President Trump and Secretary Mullin are committed to ensuring free, fair, and honest elections. To that end, we are requesting that instead of mischaracterizing good faith efforts by FDNS agents, Nevada does its part to investigate and remove ineligible registrants – as the vote of each alien dilutes the vote of a U.S. citizen.

If you would like to provide FDNS with federal enumerators for the registrants already identified, we can help you to eliminate any mismatched records and false positives. We would then be in the position to provide you with a refined list of non-citizens so that you can take the steps necessary to remove ineligible registrants. Conversely, you can use the list provided to engage in your own analysis. Since each voter ID is unique to an individual registrant, you already have the information necessary to conduct the necessary review.

Sincerely,

DHS Office of Intergovernmental Affairs