ACLU
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
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October 27, 2026

Maricopa County Recorder
301 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor,
Suite 200 Phoenix, AZ 85003

Maricopa County Board of Supervisors
301 West Jefferson Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Dear Recorder Heap, Chair Brophy-McGee and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The ACLU of Arizona writes to address concerns raised by ACLU volunteers and supporters who received confusing and misleading instructions when attempting to drop off their mail-in ballots in-person at a vote center in Maricopa County.

On Saturday October 24, ACLU volunteers and supporters walked together to drop off their mail-in ballots at the A&E Building at 424 N. Central Ave in Phoenix. When they arrived at the vote center to drop off their mail-in-ballot, they were instructed by a poll worker that they must present identification. The poll worker failed to inform them that they could drop their ballots off without identification – that presenting identification was for the sole purpose of allowing tabulation of the ballot without having to go through the signature verification process.

It was only after speaking with an ACLU staff member that the voters learned the correct information and successfully dropped off their ballots. Our coalition has heard from other voters with similar experiences – poll workers requesting identification to drop off mail-in ballots without informing voters that identification is *not* required and is for the sole purpose of enabling faster tabulation.

Arizona law allows voters to present identification when dropping off their mail-in ballot to speed tabulation, but voters may still drop their ballot off at drop boxes and vote centers without providing identification. A.R.S. § 16-579.02. The signature verification process allows election officials to verify the identity of voters that vote-by-mail or drop their mail-in ballot off in person without having to provide a secondary form of identification.

Election officials and poll workers are trusted to ensure voters have accurate, reliable information that enables them to cast their ballot free of undue barriers or interference. Poll workers should instruct voters presenting mail-in ballots for drop off that: (1) mail-in ballots are accepted and (2) voters may present identification if they wish to bypass the signature verification process and enable speedier tabulation of their vote.

We respectfully ask that election leaders review their training, and update if necessary, to ensure poll workers are providing voters the correct information during early voting and on Election Day. No voter should lose their right to vote

due to confusion or mistake. We thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

/s/Darrell Hill
ACLU of Arizona
Policy Director

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