



## STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

6400 Mail Service Center ▪ Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6400

**GARY O. BARTLETT**  
Executive Director

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Executive Director Gary O. Bartlett

**FROM:** General Counsel Don Wright

**RE:** Citizenship Status Inquiry

**DATE:** April 26, 2011

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On February 22, 2011, our agency mailed 637 letters to registered voters to inquire about their United States citizenship status. We sent follow-up letters on April 6, 2011 to those voters who did not respond to our first mailing. In the event that a mailing was returned as undeliverable by the postal service, we obtained updated addresses for these voters and re-mailed these letters to the voters' new address.

To date, we received a written response from 306 of these voters:

- 223 were U.S. citizens by birth/naturalization at the time they registered and there are no issues as to these voters. This was proved by presentation of naturalization or passport documents to our agency or a county board of elections.
- 4 voters, who are now U.S. citizens, registered to vote before becoming U.S. citizens. They will be removed as voters and will need to register anew. None of these individuals have voted.
- 79 registered voters, who are apparently not a U.S. citizen, signed a form requesting to be removed as voters. Of these voters, 67 have not voted and 12 have voted.

We have yet to receive a written response from 331 of the identified voters:

- 253 individuals have not responded to the two mailings. No mailing for these individuals has been returned to our agency as undeliverable from the U.S. Postal Service. 53 of these voters have voted. Our agency is in the process of having these voters removed from the voter registration rolls.
- 78 individuals had their letters returned by post office as undeliverable or they have communicated to us by some means other than a mailed response. A mailed response is needed to determine whether these individuals are a United States citizen and are properly registered. 18 of these voters have voted. Our agency is in the process of having these voters removed from the voter registration rolls.

We will send the voters who are being removed a notice of their removal. A voter registration form will be attached to the notice so that the person may reregister if they become a U.S. citizen at a later time. The form may also be used to re-register to vote in the event that the person was qualified to be registered to vote and they believe that they were removed from the voters rolls in error. Finally, this correspondence will clearly set out that it is illegal for non-citizens to register to vote.

All individuals who will be removed from the voter rolls as a result of this project, regardless of whether they voluntarily rescinded their voter registration, or failed to respond to our mailings, will be referred to the appropriate District Attorney and the U.S. Attorney's Office. As per our practice and the law, we will defer to the District Attorney and the U.S. Attorney on any decision to prosecute individual cases. We stand ready to cooperate with their offices as requested.