



**DON HUFFINES**  
STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 16

April 23, 2018

The Honorable John. F. Warren  
Dallas County Clerk  
1201 Elm Street, 21st Floor  
Dallas, Texas 75270

Toni Pippins-Poole, CERA, CCPA  
Elections Administrator, *Dallas County*  
2377 N. Stemmons Frwy., Suite 820  
Dallas, Texas 75207

Dear Mr. Warren and Ms. Pippins-Poole:

The right to vote is a foundational aspect of our constitutional Republic. It gives United States citizens the opportunity to exercise their voice and hold their government accountable for the desired outcomes. Reports of potential voter fraud in Dallas County in recent elections greatly trouble me. A fraudulent vote not only cancels out a legitimate one, but also casts doubt over the entire system, sowing distrust in government and dampening voter turnout. Although I am bothered by such reports, I am encouraged by the Dallas County District Attorney's ongoing investigations, and treating these allegations with seriousness and urgency.

While current investigations focus on mail-in voter fraud, I am deeply concerned about another form of fraud casting doubt on our elections: illegal voting by non-citizens. Texas Election Code, Section 11.002(2) requires United States citizenship in order to vote, consistent with the United States Constitution's frequent references to "the right of **citizens** of the United States to vote . . ." [emphasis added]. However, it is my understanding that Texas has no formal citizenship verification process for applicants who register to vote.

Illegal ballots cast by non-citizens are a serious issue. A 2007 report published by the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute demonstrates this is a real problem with practical manifestations, not just theoretical ones:

"From September 1999 to March 21, 2007, Dallas County cancelled the voter registrations of 1,889 individuals because of non-citizenship. Before being deleted from the voter rolls, 356 of those individuals had voted in Dallas County."

Also, in response to the Criminal Prosecutions Division of the Office of the Attorney General successfully prosecuting a non-citizen in Tarrant County in 2017 for illegally voting in the DFW area for over ten years, the Office of the Attorney General surveyed four counties (names of which remain confidential), and discovered that:

"over the previous 24 months, 165 unlawfully registered non-citizen voters had been removed from the voter rolls . . . More concerning, this group of 165 non-citizens had cast 100 illegal votes in Texas elections prior to identifying themselves as non-citizens at jury duty and being removed from the voter rolls."

The Attorney General further found that:

"the process for removing ineligible voters who self-report as non-citizens at jury duty is not being followed correctly, or even at all, in various counties."

These findings are alarming. The public deserves an update. Consequently, and to ensure our elections are fair, and free from fraud and undue influence, I would greatly appreciate your prompt assistance in answering the following questions:

- 1) Are your respective offices in compliance with Texas Government Code Section 62.113(b) and Texas Election Code Sections 16.0332 and 18.068, which, together, call for the monthly compilation of a list of non-citizens registered to vote and for the cancellation of those voter registrations?
- 2) In the past ten years, how many voter registrations have been cancelled for non-citizenship as a result of:
  - a) Texas Government Code Section 62.113(b) and Texas Election Code Sections 16.0332 and 18.068?
  - b) Other reasons, such as a voter requesting that his or her registration be cancelled?
- 3) Of the total voter registrations cancelled for non-citizenship (regardless of the reason), did any of those individuals illegally vote in any federal, state, and/or local elections?
  - a) If so, how many of those individuals voted, and in which elections?
- 4) In those situations where non-citizens voted in federal, state, or local elections, did you report the illegal conduct to the Dallas County District Attorney's office or to the Office of the Attorney General? If not, I highly encourage you to do so to help eliminate future fraudulent voting, and to restore our citizens' confidence in election security and the voting process.

Please respond to these questions at your earliest possible opportunity. Thank you for your service to the people of Dallas County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Huffines", written in a cursive style.

Don Huffines  
State Senator – District 16