

## COMMENTS CONCERNING THE RECENT SBE RULING ON ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

Reagan George  
Virginia Voters Alliance  
[rgeorge137@cox.net](mailto:rgeorge137@cox.net)

### Comments on Using Electronic Signatures for Absentee Ballot Request:

1. The ruling was the result of a request by Del. Bill Howell's campaign in his primary race.
2. My understanding is that electronic signatures as codified in VA does not correspond to electronic signatures in general use in the business world.
3. Typing a name and placing "(electronically signed)" or cutting and pasting a digitized signature block maintained by DMV, should not constitute an electronic signature.
4. Cutting and pasting my name on a document that I have not authorized, such as a check, would constitute fraud.
5. Allowing someone to type my name on the Absentee Ballot Application and place "(electronically signed)" to make it official is opening Virginia Elections to massive election fraud.
6. I would like to remind the Board of the mess created by the Voter Participation Center prior to the 2012 Presidential Election, where Federal Registration Cards were computer generated and filled in with "voter" data. These cards were sent to recipients all over the state including people that had moved out of state, people that had died, and people that were incapacitated. The filled in Federal Registration Card also included family pets that only needed a signature. Thank goodness that Virginia Electronic Signatures do not allow paw prints.
7. If this ruling is allowed to stand, Voter Participation Center or another group, with the same pedigree, can generate bogus Absentee Ballot Applications for the entire voter roll of Virginia.
8. Since the Absentee Ballot Application allows for the mail-in-ballot to be sent anywhere in the world, this fraudulent request can be created and electronically signed, unbeknownst to the legitimate Virginia Voter. On Election Day, that person will not be allowed to vote because an absentee ballot will be outstanding against that voter's registration.

9. By allowing this ruling to stand, the Commonwealth is opening a door that can have grave consequences for all voters in Virginia. Creating a system that is easy to use, but does not consider election integrity, will result in wholesale disenfranchising of Virginia Citizens. This is not a goal worth achieving.

I would like to thank the State Board of Election for this opportunity to speak about this important subject.

## **Continuing Comments on Electronic Signatures for Absentee Ballot Requests**

The public face of Social Security Numbers (SSNs) as a level of security.

1. When I first moved to Virginia, Driver's Licenses used everyone's SSN as the identification number. DMV still maintains SSNs in their database, both as the SSN as-well-as your former DL Number.
2. SSNs were printed on our personal checks for identification purposes.
3. SSNs evolved over time to be a default national personal identification number that it was never meant to be.
4. The IRS would mail us the prior year tax forms and right there on the envelop or address label was our personal SSN.
5. Most recently, accident information forms given out by police have a space for the parties involved to share their SSN numbers. The SSNs are routinely asked for on forms such as schools, levels of government, and businesses.
6. Financial Institutions and Insurance Companies (HIPPA) are required to safeguard everyone's SSN, nor are they allowed to sell that information.
7. It is not illegal to buy or sell SSNs in a commercial environment. In fact they are readily available from national commercial data vendors.
8. If you are interested, anyone can go to the Social Security Administration and purchase the Death Master database that has the SSNs of over 90 million dead Americans.

The dark side of Social Security Numbers as a level of security.

1. Recent computer/network hackers have stolen millions of personal accounts that contain SSNs. During the last ten years over 331,000,000 records were hacked that contained SSNs. Take a look at the following link:  
<http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/worlds-biggest-data-breaches-hacks/>
2. Dark web where SSNs are available for pennies is a perfect source for SSNs. Guess the origin of many of those SSNs?
3. There is a big market for SSNs in the identity theft industry, where any trusted employee in business or government can copy SSNs to a thumb drive and no one would know.
4. Prior to the 2012 election, the Voter Participation Center prepared postcards that resembled the Federal Voter Registration form populated with the voter's personal information including their SSN. The voter was asked to verify and/or correct the card, sign it, and put it in the mail. Unfortunately for the voter the card was intentionally made to look like it was going to a PO Box controlled by the SBE. It wasn't. Eventually the cards were turned-in to the SBE, but only after all the corrected information on the card was collected by the Voter Participation Center, including SSNs.
5. Project Veritas conducted a video sting of campaign workers in Texas where they freely admitted that every Voter Registration form they collected, which included the voter's SSN, was copied and turned into the DNC data center, even though Texas has a law prohibiting such copying. Are we really to believe that those Texas activists were the only ones that got that memo?  
<http://www.projectveritas.com/posts/video/caught-tape-battleground-texas-violating-election-laws-again>

In conclusion, Social Security Numbers are not private and they are not secure. For Virginia to think for one minute that relying on the SSN's last four digits to be a magical, secure key to election integrity is a joke being perpetrated on our fellow Virginians. Virginia Voters Alliance is not against using technology to improve our election processes and its requisite integrity. But the current ruling by the SBE, where anyone typing a name on a form, claiming it is a valid signature, and relying on the last four digits of anyone's SSN is ludicrous and setting the stage for a fraudulent election. Thank you.