



News Release

For Immediate Release:

August 6, 2012

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VOTER PARTICIPATION CENTER ISSUE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD

~VPC Issue Not Forwarded for Investigation, Potentially Fraudulent Petitions to be Investigated ~

RICHMOND, VA – The State Board of Elections (SBE) held a meeting on August 6, 2012 in the General Assembly Building, House Room C, at 10:00 a.m. at which the Board discussed issues surrounding the Voter Participation Center (VPC) mailings that took place in June of 2012 and a request received from a presidential campaign to refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General for investigation. The Board operates through motion, and no motion was heard to refer the matter for investigation; however, a representative from the VPC addressed the Board regarding the organization's most recent efforts to refine outreach efforts and correct data for mailing lists, specifically, 13 protocols which will be implemented to ensure increased accuracy of mailings. The SBE looks forward to receiving additional information about these protocols shortly.

While SBE indicated that pre-populated forms should not have been used and inaccurate data may have confused thousands of voters, the Board declined to request the local general registrars remove registered voters who were added to the rolls with pre-populated forms. The Secretary of the State Board of Elections stated that he has confidence in local election officials to identify ineligible voters and indicated the agency will continue to work with the 134 General Registrars statewide to review all applications and registrations with state and federal databases to ensure the eligibility of voters and purity of the statewide voter registration list. The eligibility verification process of both old and recent registrants is an ongoing process and will continue up and until Election Day.

In addition, at today's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to request the Office of the Attorney General to investigate suspected petition fraud on petition forms submitted by the Constitution Party in its efforts to gain ballot access for its Presidential candidate for the November General Election.

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