



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

August 28, 2025

Russ Ferguson
United States Attorney
Western District of North Carolina
227 W. Trade St., Suite 1650
Charlotte, NC 28202

Dear US Attorney Ferguson,

I am writing in response to your recent communication regarding the list of individuals who had been registered to vote despite not being U.S. citizens. We have conducted a thorough investigation to determine whether there were any systemic issues or if errors were made contrary to our policies.

Our investigation did not reveal any systemic issues within our processes. However, we did identify one area for improvement. Specifically, we found two instances where errors occurred due to examiner oversight. In both cases, the examiners mistakenly marked the applicants as U.S. citizens, which bypassed the necessary legal presence questions and allowed voter registration.

To address this, we have implemented a new process to notify the Board of Elections Liaison immediately upon identifying such errors. This will ensure that any future occurrences are promptly reported and rectified.

Below are the details of the individuals we were originally asked to investigate:

Name: [REDACTED]

Cause: Customer was issued an ID on May 30, 2024, utilizing the I-766 Employment Authorization Card as ID. Due to examiner error, DMV issued the license without the required Legal Presence (LP) restriction and marked the applicant as a U.S. citizen, which bypassed LP questions and allowed voter registration.

Resolution: This error was corrected on July 9, 2024, when the LP restriction was added.

Name: [REDACTED]

Cause: Customer applied on April 8, 2024, presenting an Illinois Driver's License and a Social Security card with restrictive language. The examiner failed to verify his lawful status and incorrectly selected "Yes" to U.S. citizenship. The applicant also selected "Yes" for voter

registration. SAVE later confirmed that the customer holds a valid I-766.

Resolution: A stop has been placed on his record, and a notice was sent to cancel the voter registration.

Name: [REDACTED]

Cause: Customer began his application on April 23, 2024, and selected “No” to being a U.S. citizen. He confirmed “No” again on May 24. However, on May 28, 2024, “Yes” was mistakenly selected for citizenship, which triggered voter registration. After the transaction was completed, the examiner corrected the answer back to “No” the same day and applied the LP restriction. Prior to the correction, the customer signed the voter registration application, and it was processed.

Resolution: Error was resolved on date of application.

Name: [REDACTED]

Cause: A system error during online transactions on November 19, 2018, and February 13, 2019. He was originally issued an ID with an LP restriction in 2015 and provided immigration documentation for each transaction. He selected “Yes” to being a U.S. citizen and submitted the voter registration form electronically. Since the online system doesn’t verify citizenship status, the registration went through.

Resolution: Customer’s citizenship status is correct in DMV’s system.

Name: [REDACTED]

Cause: Customer was first issued an ID in 1996 using a foreign passport. After 2019, her status was updated to U.S. citizen, although it’s unclear when this status was first selected. There are no LP documents in the 2011 event history. In 2019, she renewed her ID, marked “Yes” to being a U.S. citizen, and also selected “Yes” for voter registration.

Resolution: As of February 7, 2025, she has been issued an ID with an LP restriction.

DMV is committed to maintaining the integrity of our processes and we sincerely appreciate your assistance in this matter. If you have any additional names or information that you have discovered, please share them with us so that we can continue to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our voter registration process. For future inquiries, I’ve asked Patrick Anding (panding@ncdot.gov, 919-897-4885) to serve as your point of contact.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



Paul Tine

DMV Commissioner