



MARK S. EARLEY
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

July 3, 2017

Dear Secretary Detzner and Director Matthews,

As Director Matthews anticipated, my office is receiving a substantial number (greater than 2 dozen so far) of calls relating to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, and that commission's request for Florida's "voter roll data".

The calls have been unanimous in demanding that my office, and Florida in general, not comply with the commission's request.

I and my staff are explaining what is and what is not public information per FL Statute, but these voters are rightfully concerned about the motives behind this commission and the release of their personal data.

They are expressing their belief that not only is the commission a fraud, but also their concern that their voter registration data is publicly available and is being released to further a political agenda instead of improving the integrity of elections.

As you know, every highly respected study that has looked into voter fraud confirms there is no widespread illegal voting. With all of the concerns being raised about election hacking and illegal voting, the real problem facing elections is maintaining public faith in the process.

While there are many steps that can be undertaken to improve public trust in the elections we administer, an obvious first step is NOT falsely claiming that there are millions of people voting illegally. That claim, in and of itself, is fraudulent and harmful to our democracy.

Another key step is the use of effective and transparent post-election audits to validate the integrity of our elections, as I have worked tirelessly to implement in Leon County.

The concern and anger being expressed by the public is real. Many of our voters feel intimidated by the work of the commission, and several have asked me to remove them from the rolls to protect their personal data. So far, I and my staff have avoided the need to remove anyone. But instead of "preventing voter intimidation or disenfranchisement", the committee's work is causing voter intimidation and increasing the likelihood of voter disenfranchisement.

I understand that your offices face difficulty not complying with a request for public data, but I urge you to at least withhold all data pertaining to minors who have pre-registered to vote. These children are not registered voters. Thus they should fall outside of the request to provide "voter roll data".

I also ask for your future support in protecting the personal data of our voters from misuse by statutorily limiting who can get voter data, and restricting the uses that data can be put towards.

Your partner in democracy,