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June 24, 2020

**PETITION TO: ARIZONA SECRETARY  
OF STATE KATIE HOBBS**

**For State Resident and Judicial Watch Member:**  
**Mr. Eric Raines**  
2030 W. Baseline Rd. Ste. 182-521  
Phoenix, AZ 85041-6574

**Ref: Increasing Numbers Of Americans No Longer Trust The Integrity Of Our Elections As The Left Attacks U.S. Electoral Safeguards**

**To: Eric Raines**

Americans from all walks of life and areas of the country have come to believe that the U.S. electoral system as managed by their respective **Secretary of State** and overseen by the **National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA)** has serious problems.

Your conservative public interest organization **Judicial Watch**, organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, has launched a series of investigations and lawsuits against electoral officials of both political parties in increasing numbers of states regarding charges of dereliction and potential malfeasance in the performance of their lawful electoral duties.

Several of these **Judicial Watch** investigations and lawsuits are currently active and more are contemplated. As a Judicial Watch member and resident of Arizona, you are being asked if you will show your support for these actions by signing and returning the enclosed **DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION** for **Judicial Watch** involving legal actions challenging the accuracy of voter registration lists in **Arizona** and in all 50 states.

**You see, we at Judicial Watch passionately believe that our elections should be conducted honestly and by the letter of the law administered by your Arizona Secretary of State.**

A principal function of every state office of **Secretary of State** is to promote accurate, fair, open and secure elections for its citizens. In doing so, these offices typically oversee voter registration, absentee voting, ballot access for candidates, campaign finance disclosure and voting equipment certification for local election officers.

Your signature on this **DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION** does not make you a party to or bind you in any way to the outcome of **Judicial Watch's** investigations and lawsuits. But your signature does allow **Judicial Watch** to establish an appropriate record of public support of any investigative and litigation proceedings into the public voter registration records



maintained by the office of your **Secretary of State** and other states and any failure to comply with U.S. election law and its requirement that voter registration lists are accurately maintained.

It will help **Judicial Watch** establish a foundation of public support in each state office of Secretary of State across the United States to substantiate sufficient public interest and benefit in the efficacy of pursuing these investigative and legal actions.

Today we face many serious threats to honest elections. And none are more serious than the Left's cynical push for national mail-in voting and ballot harvesting...ostensibly in response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

At a time when states are repeatedly failing to clean their voter registration rolls, mail-in voting and ballot harvesting will make voter fraud easier. But clean, accurate voter registration rolls help stop voter fraud, and that is why Judicial Watch has pursued investigative and legal actions in federal courts across the country.

**If you agree with Judicial Watch expanding this essential program, please sign the enclosed DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION and return it immediately in the registered dispatch envelope provided.**

## **I. THE FACTS REGARDING INACCURATE VOTER REGISTRATION LISTS AND MOUNTING EVIDENCE OF VOTER FRAUD.**

A Rasmussen poll from 2016 reported that only 41% of those polled believe "American elections are fair to voters." A **Washington Post-ABC News** poll from 2016 found that 46% of those polled believed that voter fraud happens either "somewhat" or "very" often.

Particularly revealing is a **Gallup** poll that compared American attitudes with those of other countries. In their poll taken in 2016 – *before* the parties' national conventions that summer — Americans were asked if they had confidence in the "honesty of elections." A "record-low 30%" said that they did, while an astonishing 69% said that they did not.

At its heart, the problem is about voter registration lists and their typically inaccurate condition that lends credence to the public perception that our nation's electoral system is not functioning properly. That's because poor voter registration list maintenance practices create "dirty lists" that are open invitations to the commission of voter fraud on a scale sufficiently significant in size to affect the outcome of elections.

This is why in 1993 Congress mandated all-important voter list maintenance obligations when passing the **National Voter Registration Act (NVRA)**.

As the **NVRA** makes clear in its "**Findings and Purposes**," the law was enacted to achieve two different goals. It was intended, first, to "increase the number of eligible citizens who register to vote," enhancing their "participation . . . in elections for Federal office"; and, second, to "protect the integrity of the electoral process," ensuring "that accurate and current voter rolls are maintained."

The first goal of increasing eligible registrants was intended to be met by increasing the number of state offices where citizens are offered the opportunity to register to vote. The most significant **NVRA** provision supporting this goal is the requirement that every application for a state driver's

license must serve as well as a voter registration application, unless an applicant does not wish to register or is already registered.

There is good evidence that this first goal of the **NVRA** has been largely realized. For example, in the twenty-year period starting in 1992, a year before the **NVRA** was enacted, through 2012, the registration rate increased nationally by more than 11%.

The second goal of protecting electoral integrity by ensuring accurate and current voter rolls was supposed to be achieved by the **NVRA's** requirement to "conduct a general program that makes a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters" from the rolls if they have died or moved elsewhere.

**But mounting evidence suggests that this second goal has not been met.** Therefore, it is a priority of **Judicial Watch** to continue to expose, pursue and litigate incompetence, malfeasance and corruption in the administration and oversight of America's elections.

Seven years ago, these charges were brought forcefully to national attention by a credible and authoritative study noting that "24 million – one of every eight – voter registrations in the United States are no longer valid or are significantly inaccurate"; that "1.8 million deceased individuals are listed as voters," and that "2.75 million people have registrations in more than one state."

Based on **Judicial Watch's** current research, there is every reason to believe that these problems have gotten worse. In July 2017, the **Election Assistance Commission (EAC)** publicly released the responses provided to its most recent election administration survey. By law, the Commission is required to submit a report to Congress every two years "assessing the impact" of the **NVRA** "on the administration of elections for Federal office during the preceding 2-year period." States are required to provide the information requested by the Commission.

**Judicial Watch** hired a political scientist and demographer to compare the registration information contained in the Commission's report with the latest census data. We also contacted particular counties directly to obtain or confirm certain data.

**Our study indicates a pervasive failure by state and county officials to fulfill the voter list maintenance obligations imposed by the NVRA.** There are over 2,800 counties in states covered by the **NVRA**. **What is especially troubling is that of these 415, or about 15% of all covered counties, did not report sending any address confirmation notices during the two-year period from 2014 to 2016.** This suggests a widespread failure to comply with the **NVRA**. Moreover, of the counties that *did* report sending address confirmation notices, another 581, or about 20% of the total, reported sending notices during the last two-year period to fewer than 5% of their registered voters. Since the **U.S. Census Bureau** reports that about 11% of Americans move *every year*, these low rates also lend credence to our belief that these counties are not diligently conducting voter list maintenance.

Counties' overall registration rates also reveal compliance issues and potential problems. For example, **our study showed that, in 462 U.S. counties, the number of voter registrations exceeded the number of citizens over the age of 18 who resided in those counties.** In other words, those counties' registration rates exceeded 100% of the population eligible to register.

**That, of course, is simply incredible.**

Federal courts have repeatedly held that an imbalance between registrations and age-eligible citizens is grounds sufficient for believing that a jurisdiction is not living up to its list maintenance obligations. These 462 counties constitute about 17% of all U.S. counties covered by the **NVRA** where we have enough data to make these calculations.

**These many facts alone show widespread noncompliance with the NVRA.**

It is the contention of **Judicial Watch** that the problem, moreover, is now worse than it was even a few years ago. When Judicial Watch conducted a similar registration analysis in 2015, we found that 312 counties covered by the **NVRA** had more registered voters than voting-age citizen population, which was about 11% of all counties where we had the data necessary to make this comparison.

As federal courts have already acknowledged, the fact that a county has a registration rate exceeding 100% is strong circumstantial evidence that that county is not conducting a reasonable program of voter list maintenance and therefore leaving itself wide open to voter fraud.

**II. THE OBAMA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FAILED TO ENFORCE THE NVRA'S LIST MAINTENANCE PROVISIONS AND IMPAIRED STATES' LEGITIMATE EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THEIR VOTER ROLLS.**

From 2005 to 2007, list maintenance claims were included in federal complaints filed by the **Department of Justice (DOJ)** against **Missouri, Maine, New Jersey, Indiana,** and the city of **Philadelphia.** And the **DOJ** ultimately obtained court-ordered consent decrees with **Maine, New Jersey, and Indiana,** and concluded a settlement agreement with the city of **Philadelphia.**

I know this because Robert Popper, who now heads **Judicial Watch's Election Integrity Initiative** managed each of those litigations for the **Department of Justice** before joining **Judicial Watch.** But the last of the **NVRA**-related consent decrees expired in 2009...the first year of the Obama administration.

And during the **Obama administration** the **DOJ** completely abandoned efforts to enforce the list maintenance requirements of the NVRA. Even worse, the **Department of Justice** engaged in litigation specifically intended to limit the ability of states to remove ineligible registrations from the rolls. I will cite just one example of many that we are aware of:

In 2012, **Florida** sought to conduct a list maintenance program designed to remove noncitizens from its voter rolls. The **Department of Justice** and, in a separate action a group of left-leaning advocacy organizations, sued to enjoin **Florida's** program. The **NVRA** requires that any program to cancel the registrations of those who have moved must stop during the 90 days right before an election. Both the **DOJ** and the private litigants argued that this provision prevented **Florida** from attempting to remove *noncitizens* from the voter rolls during that 90-day period. The argument is extraordinary, considering that noncitizens were never eligible to register or vote, and, consequently, that they only could be listed on the voter rolls because of an error, or by means of a fraudulent registration.

Each of the district courts that heard this argument rejected it. But the private plaintiffs appealed, and, in a surprise 2-1 ruling, an 11th Circuit panel accepted their argument and reversed the lower court's decision. Just as surprising, the administration of Republican Governor Rick Scott refused to appeal that ruling to the **U.S. Supreme Court.** As a result, it is now the law in the 11th Circuit

that noncitizens may *not* be systematically removed from the voter rolls in the 90 days before an election. **My point is not merely that the result is wrong, even outrageous, but that the U.S. Department of Justice actively sought this result.**

We therefore urge the **Department of Justice** to immediately investigate states' and counties' voter list maintenance programs, and to notify and then sue those jurisdictions that fail to comply with these obligations imposed by **Section 8** of the **NVRA**. With our research showing 462 counties with registration rates greater than 100% of the voting age population, there is currently a large number of potential targets for enforcement.

### **III. SINCE LAUNCHING OUR ELECTION INTEGRITY INITIATIVE, JUDICIAL WATCH HAS SCORED A REMARKABLE SERIES OF SUCCESSES IN UPHOLDING THE RULE OF LAW AND HONEST ELECTIONS.**

- In **Florida**, we threatened legal action that led to state election officials removing over 50,000 deceased voters from the voter rolls.
- In **Missouri** and **West Virginia**, warning letters from **Judicial Watch** succeeded in spurring election officials in those states to begin cleaning their voter rolls.
- In **Pennsylvania** and **South Carolina**, we successfully defended voter ID laws in court.
- Our lawsuits in **Ohio** and **Indiana** led to them cleaning their voter rolls and other actions that will protect against voter fraud. (**Ohio's** voter registration law was upheld by the **U.S. Supreme Court** last year, a decision which validated the historic settlement entered into by **Judicial Watch** and the State of **Ohio**).
- In July 2018, a federal court issued a consent decree...to which **Judicial Watch**, the **Commonwealth of Kentucky** and even the Justice Department were parties...in which **Kentucky** agreed to clean its voter rolls. This consent decree is the direct result of a **Judicial Watch** lawsuit filed against **Kentucky** in 2017 over its inadequate voter list maintenance practices. **This list cleaning process is now underway!**
- Judicial Watch won a stunning victory in 2019 on behalf of honest elections in the nation's largest state and largest county. Our lawsuit settlement agreement with the **State of California** and **Los Angeles County** compelled them to begin removing as many as **1.5 million** registered invalid names in **LA County** alone. This historic legal agreement sent shock waves through the offices of state election officials across the country, and the court-ordered list cleaning process is currently underway.
- Judicial Watch opened 2020 by issuing landmark "notices of violation" to 19 counties in **California, Colorado, North Carolina, Pennsylvania** and **Virginia** warning of our intent to sue if they do not clean their voter rolls of up to 2.1 million ineligible voters as required by federal law. In April 2020, we sued **North Carolina** and two of its largest counties (**Guilford** and **Mecklenburg**) for failing to clean their voter rolls). And in May, we sued **Pennsylvania** and three of its largest counties (**Bucks, Chester** and **Delaware**) for their failure to make reasonable efforts to remove ineligible voters from their rolls.

**Judicial Watch is proud of its successful efforts to enforce the NVRA**, and we are proud to have your vital support in this essential work.

But the **Department of Justice** should be leading this effort. The Department has far greater resources at its disposal than **Judicial Watch** and is far more likely to obtain the voluntary cooperation of states and counties when it notifies them of a potential violation. Moreover, the consequences of these failures to act far exceed any flawed election law policy. ***In our informed opinion, electoral corruption endangers the sanctity and foundation of the rule of law which binds our republic together.***

Therefore, the U.S. courts have become the “battleground of last resort” for the future of our elections. And thanks to the generous support of members like you, Judicial Watch has emerged as the most effective non-profit, non-governmental organization in the United States leading this fight for election integrity.

#### **IV. CENTRAL TO OUR FIGHT IS THE NOTION THAT THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT (NVRA) SHOULD AND MUST BE ENFORCED IN ITS ENTIRETY.**

Clearly, there are many sound public policy and legal reasons for enforcing the voter registration list maintenance provisions of the **NVRA** requiring states to clean their voter rolls.

We have all heard about voter fraud and attempts by liberal media organs like *The New York Times* and “ivory tower” academics to dismiss it as a nonexistent problem. **But voter fraud is in fact real, widespread, and substantial to the point that it can and does decide elections.**

(And now, we are facing new threats to honest elections, like the Left’s cynical push for national mail-in voting and ballot harvesting...ostensibly in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, but in reality to make voter fraud easier!)

The fact is that dirty, inaccurate voter registration rolls breed fraud.

Whether impersonation fraud, mail-in voting fraud, absentee ballot fraud, registration fraud, double voting, noncitizen voting fraud, ballot harvesting fraud, dead people voting fraud, or voting by those otherwise ineligible under state law, keeping registration rolls accurate significantly helps stop voter fraud.

**Judicial Watch’s** recent successes in compelling states like **Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky** and **California** to get into compliance with **NVRA** by taking reasonable steps to clean their voter registration lists — and issuing notices of potential non-compliance lawsuits to an additional 5 states — has triggered a counterattack.

In a blatantly political effort to lull the public to sleep, the liberal media are conducting a deeply cynical campaign to convince the American people that **Judicial Watch**-initiated investigations of potential voter registration/voter fraud connections are “bogus” and “without legal merit.” And the same liberal media is amplifying the Left’s call for mail-in voting and ballot harvesting that exploit the Covid 19 pandemic to advance their political agenda.

For that reason, **Judicial Watch** seeks to counter the general media silence about voter fraud with public pressure by gathering signatures in every State to unequivocally establish the importance, legitimacy and clear public support of our work across every state and region of the country.

**The goal is to gather signatures in all 50 states. And the purpose of this letter is to determine if you, as a legal U.S. resident, registered voter of your state, and member of Judicial Watch will**

**support our goal of establishing an unassailable record of support for our efforts to hold states accountable to the rule of law and the U.S. Constitution by signing and returning the enclosed DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION.**

**YOUR MEMBER SIGNATURE ALLOWS JUDICIAL WATCH TO HELP ESTABLISH THIS NECESSARY RECORD OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR ITS INVESTIGATIVE AND LITIGATION PROCEEDINGS INTO VOTER REGISTRATION LIST IRREGULARITIES IN COUNTIES AND STATES.**

**If you agree, please sign the enclosed DECLARATION PETITION and return it immediately in the postage-prepaid registered dispatch envelope provided.**

Over the past twenty-six years, **Judicial Watch** has become the most active litigator against corruption in state and federal governments on behalf of the American people. **And as you know, we are proudly conservative. And we are just as proudly non-partisan. We routinely expose and prosecute both corrupt Republican and Democratic politicians and public officials.** And while **Judicial Watch** is proud of its efforts to enforce the voter registration maintenance requirements of the **NVRA**, it is imperative that the **Trump/Barr Department of Justice** redirect its enforcement efforts more constructively and within the letter and spirit of the law. Because, quite candidly, taking on all 50 states and 2,800 counties covered by the **NVRA** is a monumental task.

And **Judicial Watch** lawyers are opposing other critical challenges to honest elections – many now pushed as urgent by the organized Left “in response to the Covid 19 pandemic” like mail-in ballot voting; ballot harvesting; automatic voter registration; abolition of voter ID requirements; abolition of voter residency requirements; abolition of the Electoral College; same-day voter registration; and out-of-precinct voting.

**Given the enormous importance of these threats, it is vital that an unassailable record of support of Judicial Watch’s lawsuits and investigations into these activities be established.**

If you agree, I ask you for a tax-deductible member contribution today. The caseload and related costs of our work is at a record high and growing rapidly. We depend on voluntary contributions from concerned members like you to continue our work.

When you make a contribution in response to my letter, I will send you our **8 Things You Can Do Now to Help Stop Voter Fraud Handbook**...an invaluable citizen action tool you can use to fight voter fraud locally as well. You’ll also read more details of the 9 critical challenges we face today in protecting the integrity of our elections... challenges that **Judicial Watch** is confronting every day in the courts.

When you contribute generously, I will also send you my new book, ***A Republic Under Assault: The Left’s Ongoing Attack on American Freedom***, scheduled for publication this October. My book highlights the serious threats we face from the Left’s efforts to weaken election safeguards...and it details for you your **Judicial Watch’s** work in challenging these attacks on the rule of law.

## **V. STANDING FIRM FOR THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PEOPLE’S RIGHT TO KNOW**

You are being asked to participate in this undertaking because I know you share our strong belief in fair, open and honest elections. Political corruption and circumvention of our election laws are an affront to the rule of law. And whether or not the **Trump/Barr Justice Department** investigates and enforces all provisions of the **National Voter Registration Act**...**Judicial Watch**

**will!** And whether or not the media educates Americans about the threats to the integrity of our elections... **Judicial Watch will!**

**Your vote and the lawful votes of fellow American citizens must not be canceled by illegal votes and other corruptions of our voting rights.** This is indeed a critical battle...for the rule of law, and for the future of our nation. **President Trump** is clearly with us in this fight...but he **urgently needs help!** That's why **Judicial Watch's** unique and independent work — researching, investigating, and litigating — is so important.

This is not just our fight for honest elections, it is America's fight. It is *your* fight. And the way you can help us win is to:

- Please sign the enclosed **DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION** to help us establish an appropriate record of support in **Arizona** and in all 50 states for our investigations and litigation into potential voting and voter registration irregularities;
- Please make a tax-deductible contribution to help sustain this ongoing undertaking, and all of Judicial Watch's investigations and litigation that fight for the rule of law and the American people's right to know, and *against* public corruption. ***It is work we believe must continue.***

So, Mr. Raines, let me be clear about this. Your signed **DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION** does not make you a party to, or bind you in any way to, the outcome of our lawsuits. But your **DECLARATION** to promote the rule of law is extremely important. This effort is non-partisan and protects the integrity of our elections. So please sign your enclosed document and include your most generous contribution.

Sincerely,



Thomas Fitton  
President

P.S. Taking on the federal and state governments in court and investigating the mountains of election data are both daunting and expensive. Your signed **DECLARATION OF MEMBER SUPPORT PETITION** is a powerful tool. So, too, is your most generous tax-deductible special gift.

Fair, open and honest elections are top priorities for **Judicial Watch**. In recognition of your contribution, I want to send you our ***8 Things You Can Do Now to Help Stop Voter Fraud*** Handbook, while supplies last, containing useful information about the challenges facing us in the 2020 elections. I will also send you a copy of my new book...***A Republic Under Assault: The Left's Ongoing Attack on American Freedom...*** upon publication in October. Thank you!

P.P.S. Mr. Raines, much has changed for many Americans as the coronavirus has the world in its grip, but what is not changing is Judicial Watch's pursuit of justice and accountability, and our relentless defense of the rule of law. You can rest assured that this vital election integrity work and all of our investigations and legal work in state and federal courts continues on all cylinders.





**Judicial  
Watch**  
*Because no one  
is above the law!®*

## THE JUDICIAL WATCH ELECTION INTEGRITY DOCKET

Founded in 1994, Judicial Watch today is the most powerful and broadly supported government watchdog organization in America, defending the American people against corruption, abuse of power and Constitutional overreach. Judicial Watch's commitment is to uphold the rule of law, and to fight for transparency in government and the "people's right to know."

Since 2012, as part of its commitment to upholding the rule of law, Judicial Watch has scored important victories in the critical fight to keep American elections honest. Judicial Watch has been doing the job that the Justice Department consistently fails to do, particularly in challenging states over failures to follow federal law by taking reasonable steps to clean their voter rolls, since "dirty" or inaccurate voter rolls have shown to invite voter fraud. Judicial Watch has also successfully defended states seeking court protection to enact or defend commonsense voter ID measures.

### The Judicial Watch Recent Record of Accomplishment

- In January 2020, Judicial Watch issued landmark "notices of violation" to 19 large counties in **California, Colorado, North Carolina, Pennsylvania** and **Virginia** warning them of its intent to sue if they fail to clean their voter rolls as required by federal law. In April 2020, we sued **North Carolina** and two of its largest counties (**Guilford** and **Mecklenburg**) for failing to clean their voter rolls. In May, we filed similar lawsuits against **Pennsylvania** and three of its largest counties (**Bucks, Chester** and **Delaware**).
- Last year, Judicial Watch reached an historic settlement with **California** and its largest county (**Los Angeles County**). As a result of this settlement, up to 1.5 million registered invalid names in **Los Angeles County** are currently being removed from its voter rolls, and the California Secretary of State has officially notified all other counties in the state of their obligation under federal law to clean their voter rolls.
- In 2017, Judicial Watch filed a lawsuit against **Kentucky** over its inadequate voter list maintenance practices. In 2018, a federal court issued a consent decree to which Judicial Watch, **Kentucky** and the Justice Department were parties, wherein **Kentucky** agreed to clean its voter rolls. This list cleaning process is currently underway.
- Judicial Watch entered a settlement in 2014 with **Ohio** in which the state agreed to undertake cleaning of their voter rolls and other actions to protect against voter fraud. A Soros-backed group challenged this settlement and **Ohio's** new voter registration law all the way to the **U.S. Supreme Court**, which in 2018 upheld the law, thereby validating the landmark settlement.

- A 2012 Judicial Watch lawsuit against **Indiana** to force the state to clean its voter registration lists and overhaul its list maintenance procedures led the Secretary of State to concede that at least one in eight voter registrations contained inaccurate information. The state subsequently undertook a statewide clean-up of voter registration lists; and Judicial Watch threatened legal action in **Florida** that led state election officials to remove over 50,000 deceased voters from its voter rolls. Warning letters alone led election officials in **Missouri** and **West Virginia** to begin cleaning their voter rolls.
- Judicial Watch has also provided assistance to states seeking to enact voter ID laws and other common-sense measures to protect honest elections, and successfully defended **Pennsylvania** and **South Carolina** Voter ID law in court.

### More Challenges to Honest Elections

Judicial Watch has identified growing new threats to honest elections.

Under the guise of “responding to Covid 19,” liberal politicians and leftist groups (many funded through the Soros network) have expanded efforts to enact and expand the scope of “emergency measures”...all of which serve to weaken safeguards against voter fraud; make it easier for ineligible individuals (including non-U.S. citizens) to vote; and otherwise advance the Left’s political agenda. These threats include:

- 1) Mail-in Voting
- 2) Ballot Harvesting
- 3) Opt-out Automatic Voter Registration
- 4) Abolition of Voter ID Requirements
- 5) Abolition of Voter Residency Requirements
- 6) Same-Day Voter Registration
- 7) Out-of-Precinct Voting
- 8) Abolition of the Electoral College

Judicial Watch is monitoring efforts to advance these measures and prepared to undertake legal action when circumstances permit, because nothing is more important to the integrity of our democratic republic than honest elections conducted transparently and according to the rule of law. **Judicial Watch is superbly positioned and uniquely qualified to continue to investigate and litigate the many challenges to the integrity of American elections.**

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