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The Virginia Voters Alliance, Hampton Chapter, submitted a complaint to the Hampton Commonwealth's Attorney calling for an investigation and action against Election Officers who violated Virginia Code by disregarding voter identification requirements.

HAMPTON, VA – August 7, 2018 – Virginia Voters Alliance announces today that its Peninsula chapter submitted a formal complaint to the Hampton Commonwealth's Attorney on July 16, 2018 alleging that the chief and assistant chief election officers at a voting precinct in Hampton willfully disregarded Virginia law regarding voter identification requirements.

On Election Day, November 7, 2017 a voter presented an out-of-state driver's license as his identification to an election officer staffing a screening station for voting. As a Virginia driver's license is the only driver's license permitted for voter identification, the election officer referred the voter to the chief election officer who decided that the out-of-state license was permissible for voter identification.

The chief and assistant chief election officers instructed the election officers performing the screening to accept out-of-state licenses without question and to not ask for any of the other forms of ID that are permitted by Virginia law.

At least one election officer questioned this practice. Considering the chief and assistant chief's positions of authority, their experience, and that they had recently been trained on election procedures, the subordinate election officers assumed that voter ID requirements had changed.

Because the precinct serves a local university, the presentation of out-of-state licenses was

not uncommon there. A valid student ID from a Virginia university is an alternative to a driver's license, but the election officers were instructed to not ask for one.

It is estimated that a large number of the voters at that precinct were university students and that the acceptance of out-of-state ID may have been repeated many times.

The normal procedure when voters who do not have acceptable ID but are registered to vote at the precinct, is to provide them a provisional ballot for their completion and submission to the chief election officer on site. The voter then has several days to present a valid ID at the city registrar's office. The city Electoral Board reviews provisional ballots and allows those it determines to be valid to be included in the final count of ballots.

The election officer who brought this to the attention of the Virginia Voters Alliance was new to this precinct. There is reason to believe that this illegal practice was not an isolated incident and may have been in force in many previous elections.

About the Virginia Voters Alliance (VVA)

Virginia Voters Alliance is an initiative developed by citizens for citizens, meant to inspire and equip volunteers for involvement at every stage of our electoral process. VVA promotes ideas that actively protect the rights of legitimate voters, regardless of their political party affiliation. The Virginia Voters Alliance was formed to provide a transpartisan, state-wide organization that is devoted to improving election laws and voting processes in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Its goal is to eliminate opportunities for voter fraud and ensure open and honest elections for all citizens of Virginia. For more information, please visit <u>www.virginiavotersalliance.org.</u>

### VIRGINIA VOTERS ALLIANCE Hampton Chapter

Mr. Anton Bell Commonwealth's Attorney 236 North King St. Hampton, Virginia 23669 July 9, 2018

Subject: Request for Investigation

Dear Mr. Bell:

We request your investigation of, and appropriate action on, the following matter.

It has been reported that on Election Day, November 7, 2017 at the **Precinct** Precinct polling place in Hampton, Virginia, the Election Chief and Assistant Chief were repeatedly in violation of the law. As these Election Officers were experienced and recently trained, the nature of their acts appears to be willful neglect or corrupt conduct, as cited in the Virginia Code § 24.2-1001.

On that day, Chief Election Officer and Chief Election Officer and Chief Election Officer, reportedly instructed subordinate election officers to accept non-Virginia drivers' licenses as a forms of identification for voting. Election officers were told to accept any state's driver's license with a photo as a legitimate voter ID, rather than offer voters a provisional ballot when valid ID was absent.

It was further reported that election officers at this precinct were admonished to not request university students provide a university student ID (a legal voter ID) instead of an out-of-state driver's license.

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Although several other means of ID are permitted, election officers were instructed to not ask for any of them if a license with a photo from any state was presented. This was repeated many times that day, as students from a local university commonly offered out of state licenses as their form of ID.

It is noted that **a second of** had not been trained since the previous year's election and at least one other election officer had no training. Therefore, they acquiesced in good faith that the experienced supervising election officers, having received updated training just days before, had the most current information on the law and its requirements.

The sworn statement of **Sector and a letter** from the Hampton Electoral Board documenting election officer training is attached.

Considering the upcoming election in November, 2018, we urge that your investigation and action on your findings be taken without delay.

Sincerely,		
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Chairman Hampton Chapter Virginia Voters Alliance	Member Hampton Chapter Virginia Voters Alliance	Member Hampton Chapter Virginia Voters Alliance

Attached: 1. Affidavit, Election Officer 2. Letter, Hampton Electoral Board

cc: Clara Belle Wheeler, Vice Chair, Virginia State Board of Election Matthew Scott, Chairman, Hampton Electoral Board Reagan George, Virginia Voters Alliance

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#### AFFIDAVIT

## COMMENWEALTH OF VIRGIINIA CITY OF HAMPTON

- , being duly sworn, do hereby depose and state as follows:
  - 1. On Election Day, November 7, 2017, I performed as an Election Officer at

Election Officer in November, 2016 at a different precinct. Just prior to the opening of the poll on Election Day 2017, I was provided with a current copy of the "WHAT IF... Quick Reference to Problems" Guide (Rev. 07/2017) handout. I did not have time to read it thoroughly prior to serving voters.

- I was one of three Election Officers assigned to a computerized poll book station, where voters present identification, were screened for eligibility, and provided with a card to proceed to a voting booth if eligible. We were supervised by **Election**, Chief Election Officer and **Election**, Assistant Chief Election Officer.
- 3. Prior to 8 a.m., a potential voter provided a driver's license as proof of identification. He matched the photo on the license, but it was not a Virginia license, which to my knowledge is the only driver's license acceptable for identification. This was made clear in our training. The voter did not wish to provide one of the alternative forms of ID. However, he was able to provide the address that was in the poll book.
- 4. Before offering the voter the opportunity to use a provisional ballot, the standard practice when an ID is absent, I requested verification from the Chief or Assistant Chief, as they control the provisional ballot process. I was instructed by **and the same** and **and the same** to accept his out-of-state driver's license as a valid picture ID and to do the same for any other potential voter going forward. I wondered if there was a change to the procedures and did not challenge her.
- 5. and and instructed the Election Officers at the other two stations to do the same.
- 6. This precinct serves a local university that has many students from outside Virginia. I observed this outof-state driver's license scenario being repeated throughout the day but do not know how many times.

- 7. Later that day I was reprimanded by when she observed my interaction with another voter. He provided an out-of-state license and asked if I wanted to also see his college ID. I agreed, because the college ID was a valid form for identification, but did not say that to him. admonished that if a person presented a photo ID, his name was in the poll book, and he was able to provide the address, I was not to question it.
- 8. We were instructed to prompt potential voters to recite previous addresses until a reasonable facsimile to the address in the digital poll book was provided. Provisional ballots were to be offered if they had no ID or were not able to provide the address in the poll book, even after several attempts and prompting. Consulting the voter guide I noted a specific process for determining the audit trail for change of address but was instructed to disregard because the voter moved with every college semester.
- 9. At no time during this process did I prevent any voter from voting. Any non-compliant voters were forwarded to the Chief or Assistant Chief Election Officer for further action.

Dated this 10 day of April , 2018.

Signature of Affiant

SWORN to and subscribed before me, this the  $10^{\text{H}}$  day of  $4^{\text{H}}$ 2018

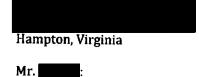


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Elena Via rubirovna Malakhova Commonwealth of Virginia Notary Public Commission No. 7627716 My Commission Expires 9/30/2019

#### April 30, 2018

Hampton Electoral Board 1919 Commerce Drive, Ste. 280 Hampton, Virginia 23666



This letter is in response to your request for information on the training provided to Election Officials prior to elections. Specifically, you inquired regarding the training of the "Chief" and "Assistant Chief" of the **Election** Precinct prior to the election dated November 7, 2017.

Our training session was conducted on November 1, 2017, for that election at One Franklin Street in Hampton. The Electoral Board is responsible for training, while our Registrar, Tara Morgan, and Assistant Registrar, Nancy Kidd, primarily facilitate the presentation under our supervision. I was present at that training session.

One of the documents distributed, reviewed, and discussed at every training is the "What Ifs". This document is generated by the state Department of Elections. One of the "Topics" we covered, at length, in this training, included the list of acceptable photo IDs as established by law.

All of our Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs are required to attend the training session for each election. If they are unable to do so a separate training is scheduled to accommodate them. Please be advised that both accommodate. Chief, and accommodate the precinct, were in attendance on November 1, 2017. Their names are on the requisite sign- up sheet, and our records indicate they were paid accordingly.

Lastly, I am attaching three (3) documents germane to this meeting; one (1) was edited to remove personal phone numbers of those who were in attendance. I trust this information resolves any issues associated with your inquiries, however, do not hesitate to contact me for further clarification or additional information.

Sincerely,

Matt Scott, Chairman Hampton Electoral Board

Cc: Tara Morgan, Registrar William E. Lewis, Vice Chair Margaret Wilson, Secretary September 26, 2017

# **OFFICIAL TRAINING MEETING**

TO: All Chief and Assistant Chief Officials

# DATE: Wednesday, November 1, 2017

If you are unable to make this meeting, please call the Registrar as soon as possible.

TIME: 7:00 PM Doors open 6:45 PM

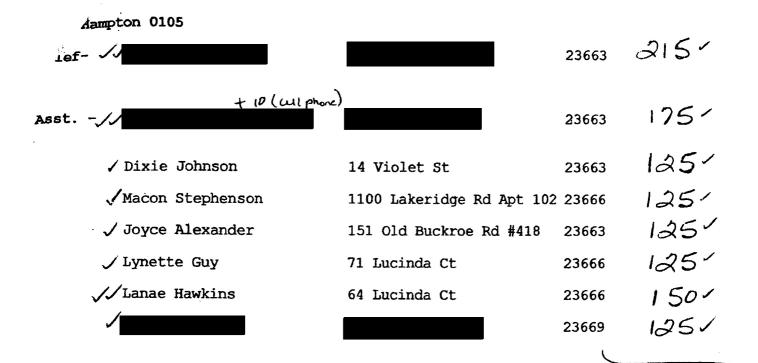
**Ruppert L. Sargent Building - Conference room B** (building where Treasurer's and Commissioner of Revenue are located) 1 Franklin Street Hampton, VA 23669

<u>PLEASE NOTIFY</u> the registrar's office at 727-6218 as soon as possible if you <u>will or</u> <u>will not</u> be able to work the <u>November 7, 2017 General Election</u>.

Sincerely,

Margaret Wilson Secretary, Hampton Electoral Board

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