



## **Voter Data – Registering Concerns**

### Keeping a Closer Eye on the Distribution of County Voter Registration Data

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#### **Summary**

News articles continue to shock and stun Californians with revelations of social media outlets, credit report agencies, and nationwide retail businesses losing the data security battle to hackers. The articles chronicle, in painful detail, the destruction of lives caused by the theft of millions of confidential records.

Yet, California elections code requires county elections departments to share voter data, including a key piece of data that would assist hackers: an individual's complete date of birth. While date of birth has not been clearly defined as personally identifiable information in the California elections code, date of birth is often used in identity theft, as well as social engineering and phishing attacks.

State law requires each county to provide access to data collected during the voter registration and election processes. This data contains Personally Identifiable Information (PII) as defined by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

There are reports of voter registration data being offered for sale on hacker websites. Furthermore, in states where use is not well regulated or monitored, brokers can buy and sell voter registration data.

An extreme example of misuse occurred in 2017, when a third party was hacked after uploading the entire California voter registration data (19 million records), and the data was ransomed.

County election departments should examine their processes to make sure that best practices are being employed, and all precautions are being taken to ensure that voter registration data is secure.

## Background

The frequency of security breaches involving personally identifiable information (PII) has contributed to the theft of hundreds of millions of records over the past few years.<sup>[1]</sup> Breaches involving PII are hazardous to both individuals and organizations. Individual harms may include identity theft, cyber-extortion, or blackmail.<sup>[2] [3]</sup>

Organizational harms may include a loss of public trust, legal liability, or remediation costs. To appropriately protect the confidentiality of PII, organizations should use a risk-based approach; as presidential advisor McGeorge Bundy once stated, "... If we guard our toothbrushes and diamonds with equal zeal, we will lose fewer toothbrushes and more diamonds."<sup>[4]</sup>

Over the past decade, there has also been a number of cases involving criminal misuse of voter registration data.<sup>[5] [6] [7] [8] [9] [10] [11] [12] [13]</sup> These offenses include voter identity theft, illegal sale of voter registration data, attempted election disruption, fraud, and cyber-extortion.

## Scope and Methodology

This report examines federal and state laws governing voter registration data, the process of the sale of voter registration data in Santa Cruz County, how the data is used, and explores ways to protect voters' PII against fraudulent or inappropriate use.

During the course of this investigation, the Grand Jury reviewed the following:

- Federal and state election statutes governing the sale of voter registration data
- County policies, practices, and implementation of these statutes
- National standards and definitions for PII
- Misuse of voter registration data
- Unauthorized or criminal use of PII

In addition, the Grand Jury interviewed current officials with the Santa Cruz County Elections Department (County Elections Department). We also contacted VoteCal,<sup>[14]</sup> a division of the California Secretary of State Elections Office (SoS Elections Office).

## Investigation

### ***California Statutes and Regulations Governing Santa Cruz County Voter Data***

The state of California acquires citizen data (Collected Data) during the process of voter registration and elections. Collected Data includes unique identifiers such as Social Security, California Driver's License, or California Identification Card numbers. Collected Data may be used within the County Elections Department to authenticate the prospective voter's information in order to protect against voter fraud.

The offices of the California Secretary of State (SoS) and California county registrars are also required by statute to provide partial voter registration data (Distributed Data) to qualified Applicants who request that information for scholarly, journalistic, political, or governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State.<sup>[15]</sup>

The following section contains a summary of California statutes related to voter registration data. The prefixes ELEC, GOV, CCR, and AB in the following citations refer to the State of California Elections Code, Government Code, Code of Regulations and Assembly Bill, respectively. The suffixes refer to the section of the code, and the year it became law.

- ELEC\_2166 (1994) Allows for protection of those who would be harmed by disclosure—Safe at Home.<sup>[16]</sup>
- ELEC\_2188 (1994) Defines requirements and responsibilities for Applicants requesting voter registration Information.<sup>[17]</sup>
- ELEC\_2194 (1994) Permits obtaining voter registration information.<sup>[18]</sup>
- ELEC\_18109 (1994) Describes penalties for misusing voter registration data.<sup>[19]</sup>
- GOV\_6254.4 (1998) Describes what is considered confidential.<sup>[20]</sup>
- CCR\_19001-19009 (1976) Describes use of registration information.<sup>[21]</sup>
- AB 1678 (2018) Amends ELEC\_2188 (1994) to include reporting of data breach and specifying additional penalties for misuse.<sup>[22]</sup>
- AB 1044 (2019) Amends ELEC\_2188 (1994) to allow for data security training and best practices.<sup>[23]</sup>

[Appendix A](#) describes in more detail some of the above California elections statutes.

### *Recent Amendments to California ELEC Statutes*

Recent state legislation added provisions for making Distributed Data more secure, but much of the responsibility falls to the Applicant.

For instance, AB 1678 (2018) amends ELEC\_2188 (1994) to require Recipients of Distributed Data to report a breach or theft to the California Secretary of State. It further criminalizes misuse of the Distributed Data, in an attempt to prevent crimes such as redirecting voters to an incorrect polling place or mailing counterfeit ballots.

AB 1044 (2019) amends ELEC\_2188 (1994) to require the Secretary of State to:

***...adopt regulations that describe the best practices for storage and security of voter registration information received by an applicant pursuant to Section 2188.*** ELEC §2188.2.(a)<sup>[24]</sup>

AB 1044 (2019) also authorized the Secretary of State to require applicants who request voter data to receive data security training as a condition of receipt of the data. This security training requirement has not yet been implemented.

The VoteCal Help Desk (a department of the SoS Elections Office) reported that the Secretary of State is in the process of evaluating various training programs for possible use.<sup>[25]</sup> <sup>[26]</sup>

### **California Consumer Privacy Act**

The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA)<sup>[27]</sup> was passed in 2018 and went into effect in January of 2020. CCPA regulates business use and transparency of consumer data. However, government use of an individual's data is exempt from regulation:

***“Personal information” does not include publicly available information. For purposes of this paragraph, “publicly available” means information that is lawfully made available from federal, state, or local government records.***<sup>[28]</sup>

As a result of CCPA, California consumers now have the choice to opt in or out of allowing businesses the privilege of making commercial use of their data.<sup>[29]</sup> However, except in extreme cases involving personal safety,<sup>[30]</sup> <sup>[31]</sup> California voters are not allowed to make decisions about the distribution of their own voter registration data.<sup>[32]</sup> One could argue that distribution of this data for academic or governmental use serves the greater good. The argument is tenuous when the data is used for political purposes, given that voters have no ability to opt out.

Perhaps lawmakers could answer this question: why are individual consumers protected with the right to opt out of distribution to businesses of their PII,<sup>[33]</sup> but California voters do not enjoy the same privileges of opting out of government distribution of their personal information acquired via voter registration?

Other questions arise when comparing CCPA regulations to statutes governing Distributed Data. Do all of the Recipients need all of the Distributed Data? Could the Distributed Data be tailored for specific use? Could voters be permitted to opt out of some uses? These issues are outside the scope of the Grand Jury and this report. However, reforms could yield a system that is more secure and democratic if they accommodated voter choice, and included a more flexible, non-one-size-fits-all approach to voter registration data distribution.

### **Federal Statutes**

The Help America Vote Act 2002 (HAVA)<sup>[34]</sup> was designed to reform election practices that led to controversy surrounding the 2000 U.S. presidential election.

*The goals of HAVA are:*

- *replace punchcard and lever-based voting systems;*
- *create the Election Assistance Commission<sup>[35]</sup> to assist in the administration of federal elections; and*
- *establish minimum election administration standards.*<sup>[36]</sup>

HAVA specifies what voter data local election agencies are allowed to collect for the purposes of authenticating a voter's identity. However HAVA does not specifically address those cases where states already have laws on the books permitting the distribution of voter registration data. HAVA stipulates that unless otherwise specified, release of confidential voter registration data is punishable as a felony. The original California ELEC statutes predate HAVA.

### ***County Policy and Process***

The County Elections Department policies and processes comply with all local, county, state, and federal laws and regulations governing Collected Data and Distributed Data.

#### *Application*

Entities or individuals wishing to obtain Distributed Data must submit a County Application ([Appendix B](#)) to the County Elections Department. The County Application must be submitted either in person or by mail, and must be validated with a picture ID. The County Applicant declares under penalty of perjury that the information requested will not be sold, leased, loaned, or given to any person, organization, or agency, and that the information on the County Application is true and correct. The two-page County Application does not contain references or text for all applicable State codes and regulations, but it does include a list of permitted and prohibited uses for the Distributed Data. Currently, the County Application does not contain provisions for data security training.

#### *Uses*

Permissible and prohibited uses of the Distributed Data, per the County Elections Department, are listed in [Appendix C](#). They conform to those specified in ELEC\_2194 (1994)<sup>[37]</sup> and California Code of Regulations 19001-19009 (1976).<sup>[38]</sup>

#### *Distribution*

The County Elections Department typically provides Distributed Data on CD media, although paper versions of the data are also available. The Distributed Data can also be placed on a secure server which the County Recipient can access via a Secure File Transfer (SFTP) connection. The Distributed Data is not encrypted, and no instruction is given to the County Recipient about how to safeguard Distributed Data against theft or breach.<sup>[39]</sup> <sup>[40]</sup>

#### *Fees*

Charging of fees is permitted by CCR section 19006.<sup>[41]</sup> The County Elections Department's charges for CD-based data are \$50 for up to 50,000 records, \$100 for up to 100,000 records, and \$150 for more than 100,000 records.<sup>[42]</sup> The fees are nominal and reasonable to cover the cost of data preparation and duplication.

## *Transparency*

The County Elections Department website posts a list of County Recipients that have obtained Distributed Data from 2018 to the present.<sup>[43]</sup> The list includes name, requesting entity, voting jurisdiction, and acquisition date. It currently contains approximately 150 entries.

## *Distributed Data*

The following Collected Data is made available to County Recipients<sup>[44]</sup>

- voter's name
- date of birth
- residence and mailing addresses
- political party
- phone number
- email information
- whether or not the voter has voted in up to four elections

## ***Data Distribution Via California Secretary of State (SoS)***

State Applicants can receive State Distributed Data through the SoS Elections Office. A State Applicant can request up to ten individual voter records, as well as single county, multiple county, and all-counties records.

Though applications for Distributed Data are easily found on most county websites, the SoS website offers no direct link. Advisors at the VoteCal Help Desk state that this is intentional;<sup>[45]</sup> State Application requests must be made by telephone.<sup>[46]</sup> The State Application is then provided by email. (See [Appendix D.](#))

The State Application requires narrative descriptions of intended use and how the Distributed Data will be maintained securely and confidentially. The State Applicant must also identify and define the relationships of all entities, proxies, and other individuals who will be responsible for the Distributed Data.

The six-page State Application includes the complete ELEC, GOV, and CCR codes governing the State Applicant's use of Distributed Data, and some guidance about system requirements and security encryption.<sup>[47]</sup> No data security training is offered or required by the SoS Elections Office at this time. However, State Applicants must agree to maintain information in a secure and confidential manner and notify the SoS immediately of any violation or breach.<sup>[48]</sup> If approved, the State Recipient receives an encrypted DVD containing the requested data. Further security measures include two-factor authentication. Some counties have adopted the State Application; others, like Santa Cruz County, employ their own forms.<sup>[49] [50]</sup>

## ***Definitions and Standards for Personally Identifiable Information (PII)***

The National Institute of Standards and Technology has developed standards and definitions for PII.<sup>[51]</sup> Date of birth (DOB) is considered to be a Type II PII—that is, DOB

can uniquely identify an individual when used in conjunction with another piece of information, such as address.<sup>[52]</sup>

A Massachusetts Institute of Technology study showed that 97% of the names and addresses on a voting list were identifiable using only ZIP code and date of birth.<sup>[53]</sup>

### ***What Other States Are Doing***

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL),<sup>[54]</sup> the scope, accessibility, permitted use, and confidentiality policies pertaining to PII vary widely from state to state. NCSL has compiled a table of these factors for all of the states.<sup>[55]</sup> From this table we conclude that:

- California is one of a handful of states that includes full DOB as part of Distributed Data.
- Many states include partial DOB, such as birth year only, or age.
- 26 states consider full DOB to be confidential PII, and explicitly disallow its inclusion in Distributed Data (see [Appendix E](#)).
- Other permutations of state policies include commercial use of Distributed Data, Applicant qualifications, vetting criteria, authentication, restrictions to governmental or election purposes only, opt out provisions, and various definitions of what data is considered to be confidential.

### ***Use of PII in Identity Theft and Fraud***

DOB, in combination with other datum such as home address, is frequently used by financial, medical, governmental, business, and other institutions to identify and authenticate individuals.<sup>[56]</sup> An example is the IRS “Get My Payment” website in [Appendix F](#).

DOB is also used extensively to impersonate individuals for the purposes of identity theft and other forms of fraud,<sup>[57]</sup> including but not limited to voter fraud.<sup>[58] [59] [60] [61] [62] [63]</sup>

Since security measures required of Recipients may be lax or non-existent, these Recipients and their organizations may become targets for hacking and data theft,<sup>[64]</sup> particularly if information about the Recipients is published on a website, as is done in Santa Cruz County. Once criminal elements have acquired the Distributed Data, all control over it is lost, and it can be sold to those with criminal intent. Informing the Secretary of State of a data breach in these cases will have little effect. To date, the Secretary of State has not instituted the Data Security Training program authorized by ELEC\_2188.2.(b) (2019).<sup>[65]</sup>

## **Conclusion**

The original California election statutes governing distribution of voter registration data were formulated in the mid-1990’s, long before data theft and breaches became commonplace.<sup>[66] [67]</sup> County election departments should examine their processes to make sure that best practices are being employed, and all precautions are being taken to ensure that voter registration data is secure.

## Findings

- F1.** Risk of misuse of voter registration data acquired by ELEC\_2194 (1994) could be mitigated by stronger security measures at the County of Santa Cruz level.
- F2.** County Applicants are not informed of recent amendments to ELEC\_2188 (1994), and thus may not be taking all reasonable precautions to protect voter registration data, avoid data breaches, and report breaches if they occur.

## Recommendations

- R1.** In Distributed Data that is provided to County Recipients, the County Elections Department should replace voter full date of birth with year of birth only. This action should be implemented before the end of FY2021. (F1)
- R2.** On appropriate website pages, the County Elections Department should include links to the full text of all relevant statutes. In addition, the County Application should conform to the State Application by including the full text of relevant statutes. These actions should be implemented before the end of FY2021. (F2)
- R3.** The County Elections Department should modify the County Application to conform to the State Application by requiring the County Applicant to provide a narrative stating the intended use of the Distributed Data, as well as how the Distributed Data will be secured. This action should be implemented before the end of FY2021.
- R4.** The County Elections Department should incorporate amendments to ELEC 2188 (1994), as specified in AB 1678 and AB 1044, in the County Application and website information, namely that County Recipients must inform the SoS of a data breach, and that County Applicants may be subject to data security training. This action should be implemented before the end of FY2021. (F2)
- R5.** The County Elections Department should provide County Applicants with data security training, consistent with any guidance from the SoS, with the goal of implementing best practices aimed at protecting voter registration data. This action should be implemented before the end of FY2021. (F2)
- R6.** The County Elections Department should encrypt Distributed Data to prevent data tampering and unauthorized use. This action should be implemented before the end of FY2021. (F1)



## Commendations

**C1.** The Grand Jury sets a high bar when issuing commendations. Performance of an agency must far exceed due diligence and expectations. We concur with the 2016-2017 Grand Jury and commend the Santa Cruz County Clerk and the Santa Cruz County Elections Department for their exemplary performance of one of the most complex and indispensable functions of local government—the democratic process of voting. The Santa Cruz County Elections Department demonstrates accountability, agility, responsiveness, transparency, attention to detail, desire for improvement, and forward-looking planning—all key indicators of outstanding leadership and process.

## Required Responses

<i>Respondent</i>	<i>Findings</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>Respond Within/ Respond By</i>
Santa Cruz County Clerk	F1–F2	R1–R6	60 Days August 18, 2020
Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors	F1–F2	R1–R6	90 Days September 17, 2020

## Definitions

- **AB:** California State Legislature Assembly Bill.
- **Applicant, Applicants:** A person or persons applying to receive voter registration data.
- **County Application:** The Santa Cruz County Elections Department’s application for receiving voter registration data.
- **County Elections Department:** The Santa Cruz County Elections Department.
- **Collected Data:** The voter data that is collected during the voter registration process.
- **Distributed Data:** The voter data that is distributed to Recipients.
- **State Application:** The Secretary of State’s application for receiving voter registration data.
- **County Applicant, County Applicants:** An **Applicant(s)** applying to the Santa Cruz County Elections Department. A County Applicant need not be a resident of the County.
- **State Applicant, State Applicants:** An **Applicant(s)** applying to the California Secretary of State’s Office.
- **CCPA:** California Consumer Protection Act.

- **CCR:** California Code of Regulations. The official compilation and publication of the regulations adopted, amended, or repealed by state agencies pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). Properly adopted regulations that have been filed with the Secretary of State have the force of law.
- **DOB:** Date of birth.
- **ELEC:** California Elections Code.
- **GOV:** California Government Code.
- **HAVA:** Help America Vote Act.
- **NIST:** National Institute of Standards and Technology.
- **NCSL:** National Conference of State Legislatures.
- **PII:** Personally Identifiable Information. Any unique data that could potentially be used to identify a particular person. Examples include a full name, Social Security number, driver's license number, bank account number, passport number, and email address.
- **Phishing Attack:** the fraudulent attempt to obtain sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details by disguising oneself as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication.
- **Recipient, Recipients:** An Applicant whose application has been approved.
- **County Recipient, County Recipients:** A Recipient or Recipients who have been approved by the Santa Cruz County Elections Department.
- **SoS:** California Secretary of State, the chief clerk of the state, often the primary custodian of important state records
- **SoS Elections Office:** The California Secretary of State Elections Division
- **State Recipient, State Recipients:** A **Recipient** or **Recipients** who have been approved by the California Secretary of State's Office.
- **SFTP:** Secure File Transfer Protocol
- **Social Engineering Attack:** The attempt to gain access to restricted information or to a physical space without proper permission.
- **Two-Factor Authentication:** An authentication method in which a computer user is granted access only after successfully presenting two pieces of evidence (or factors) to an authentication mechanism: knowledge (something the user and only the user knows), possession (something the user and only the user has), and inherence (something the user and only the user is).
- **VoteCal:** the "help desk" for the **SoS Election Office**

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## Appendix A California Election Code Details

### ELEC\_2166<sup>[68]</sup>

Makes provisions for voters for whom publication of registration data might give rise to a life-threatening circumstance. These voters might be victims of domestic or gang violence, sexual assault, stalking, or criminal prosecution witnesses where intimidation or retaliation might result from the release of their data. These voters must apply for confidential status and obtain a superior court order to confirm their status. (Also, see the California Secretary of State's "Safe at Home" application.<sup>[69]</sup>)

### ELEC\_2194 (1994)<sup>[70]</sup>

Requires that voter registration information shall be confidential except for provisions in ELEC\_2188 (1994).<sup>[71]</sup> Voter registration information shall be provided:

*...to any candidate for federal, state, or local office, to any committee for or against any initiative or referendum measure for which legal publication is made, and to any person for election, scholarly, journalistic, or political purposes, or for governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State. ELEC §2194.(a)(3)*

### ELEC\_2194 (1994)<sup>[72]</sup>

Explicitly protects uniquely identifiable voter data such as social security number and signature from being made public unless there is a challenge to the voter's authenticity. The code does not specifically address whether voter date of birth (DOB) is considered uniquely identifiable data or not.

### ELEC\_18109 (1994)<sup>[73]</sup>

Makes it a misdemeanor for a person in possession of voter registration data to use it in ways other than described in the above ELEC statutes. It is also a misdemeanor to acquire voter registration data by means other than those described in the above ELEC statutes.

# Appendix B

## Santa Cruz County Application for Voter Information<sup>[75]</sup>

### Application for Voter Information

Santa Cruz County Clerk-Elections Department  
701 Ocean St., Room 310  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
831-454-2060 / 831-454-2445 (FAX)  
[www.votecount.com](http://www.votecount.com)

Pursuant to Elections Code Sections 2188 and 2194, I am requesting voter registration information for:  
*(check one)*  
 election,  scholarly,  journalistic  political purposes, or  governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State.

Each request to view, purchase, or use voter registration information must be submitted on this application to the Elections Department prior to obtaining any information. **Applicants must show photo ID.** If you do not appear in person, you must attach a copy of your photo ID to this application.

Public agencies obtaining information for governmental purposes do not need to complete this form. Contact the Elections Department for more information.

*Please print in ink or type*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last

Driver's License/ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number & Street City State Zip

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number & Street City State Zip

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number & Street City State Zip

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

*If this application is on behalf of any person or persons other than the applicant, this section must also be completed:*

Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization, company, committee, association, or group requesting information

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number & Street City State Zip

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Figure B1. Application for Voter Information, page 1 of 2

**Type of data requested:**

Would you like voting history data included:      Yes  No

Would you like precinct to district data included:      Yes  No

For what location(s) do you want registration information?

Santa Cruz County

City/District: \_\_\_\_\_

Permissible uses of information obtained from a source agency shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following (check all that apply):

Using registration information for purposes of communicating with voters in connection with any election.

Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings which campaign for or against any candidate or ballot measure in any election.

Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings by or in behalf of any political party; provided however, that the content of such communications shall be devoted to news and opinions of candidates, elections, political party developments and related matters.

Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings, incidental to the circulation or support of, or opposition to any recall, initiative, or referendum petition.

Sending of newsletters or bulletins by any elected public official, political party or candidate for public office.

Conducting any survey of voters in connection with any election campaign.

Conducting any survey of opinions of voters by any government agency, political party, elected official or political candidate for election or governmental purposes.

Conducting an audit of voter registration lists for the purpose of detecting voter registration fraud.

Soliciting contributions or services as part of any election campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office or any political party or in support of or opposition to any ballot measure.

Any official use by any local, state, or federal governmental agency.

**Prohibitions:**

- Using the data for an unapproved purpose;
- Sharing or transferring the data to any other party without submission of a new application and the express written approval of the Santa Cruz County Clerk;
- Using the data to harass any voter or voter's household;
- Using the data for any commercial, advertising, or marketing purposes;
- Leaving the voter data unsecured and publicly available online or offline.

**Declaration of applicant:**

*"The voter registration information requested by this application will be used only for the purpose described above. The information, or a portion or copy thereof, will not be sold, leased, loaned, or given to any person, organization or agency. I certify, under penalty of perjury, that all information on this form is true and correct under the laws of the State of California."*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date completed by elections official: \_\_\_\_\_ Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Figure B1, continued. Application for Voter Information, page 2 of 2

## **Appendix C**

### **County of Santa Cruz Election Department's Permissible and Prohibited Uses of Voter Registration Data<sup>[74]</sup>**

Permissible uses include:


- Using registration information for purposes of communicating with voters in connection with any election.
- Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings which campaign for or against any candidate or ballot measure in any election.
- Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings by or on behalf of any political party; provided however, that the content of such communications shall be devoted to news and opinions of candidates, elections, political party developments and related matters.
- Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings, incidental to the circulation or support of, or opposition to any recall, initiative, or referendum petition.
- Sending of newsletters or bulletins by any elected public official, political party or candidate for public office.
- Conducting any survey of voters in connection with any election campaign.
- Conducting any survey of opinions of voters by any government agency, political party, elected official or political candidate for election, or governmental purposes.
- Conducting an audit of voter registration lists for the purpose of detecting voter registration fraud.
- Soliciting contributions or services as part of any election campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office or any political party or in support of or opposition to any ballot measure.
- Any official use by any local, state, or federal governmental agency.

Prohibited uses include:

- Using the data for an unapproved purpose;
- Sharing or transferring the data to any other party without submission of a new application and the express written approval of the Santa Cruz County Clerk;
- Using the data to harass any voter or voter's household;
- Using the data for any commercial, advertising, or marketing purposes;
- Leaving the voter data unsecured and publicly available online or offline.

# Appendix D

## Application for California Voter Registration File Request with California Secretary of State's cover email<sup>[76]</sup>



**California Voter Registration File Request**  
1 message

VoteCalHelp@sos.ca.gov <votecalhelp@sos.ca.gov> Mon, Jun 1, 2020 at 4:19 PM  
To:  
Cc:

This email is in response to your recent inquiry regarding obtaining California voter registration information.

**Voter registration information is NOT public data and state laws govern how and by whom voter registration information may be used.**

**WARNING: The authorized recipients of the voter registration information are responsible for the security of all voter registration information provided through this request.**

Please carefully read the following instructions to request the voter registration file or a specific voter's registration information.

1. Applicant **MUST** complete and return the attached application to the Secretary of State at 1500 11th Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Emailed and faxed applications are **NOT** accepted.
2. Applicant **MUST** provide as much detailed information as possible for the specified use of the voter registration records.
  - **Election:** information identifying the California candidate(s) or California ballot measure(s)
  - **Candidate:** information identifying federal, state, or local office
  - **Committee for/against any initiative or referendum measure:** information identifying the California initiative or referendum for which legal publication is made
  - **Political:** documentation establishing affiliation with the political organization
  - **Scholarly:** letter from a representative of the institution (professor, administrator, etc.) on the institution's letterhead stating that the applicant is authorized to receive the data
  - **Journalistic:** a clear photocopy of press pass
3. The application **MUST** include an ORIGINAL signature.
4. The application **MUST** include a clear copy of the applicant's current driver license or state identification card.
5. The fee **MUST** be included with the application. The fee to purchase registration data from the Secretary of State is \$1.00 per thousand records, up to a maximum of \$30.00.

**Specific voter record request:** Applicant **MUST** provide sufficient details of why a specific voter's information is needed and how it will be used in conformance with California Code of Regulations sections 19001-19009. Applicant **MUST** also attach as much detail as possible about the voter whose record they are trying to obtain (first name, last name, date of birth, expected county of residence, address, etc.) in the designated area of the application. The Secretary of State will reach out to the applicant if there are not sufficient details to locate a single voter record. Applicant can request up to 10 specific voter records per application.

**Processing time:** Requests will be processed in the order received. Once received, requests can take 7-14 business days to review and process. The Secretary of State will determine whether the application is complete and whether state law permits the proposed use of the voter registration information.

**Data format:** If the application is approved, county/statewide/district requests are distributed on an encrypted DVD in three plain text tab-delimited files: a voter data file, a voting history file, and a district file. Please note that some districts may not be included in the file if counties are in the process of redistricting at the time the data was extracted. Specific voter record requests will be provided by email in an encrypted WinZip attachment.

**End use:** Once the requested information is received, the Secretary of State is not responsible for end-user technical support for processing data (text) files that are purchased and does not provide training or assistance on converting the data for usage. Once the voter registration information has been sent to the applicant, no refunds will be issued.

**Authorized/Prohibited use:** State law strictly governs how voter record data may be used. Use of the data is only authorized for the purpose approved on the application. A detailed description of the specific intended use(s) of the data is required in order for the Secretary of State to determine if such use is permissible. Any application that refers to "any other lawful use" will be rejected.

**Prohibitions:**

- Using the data for an unapproved purpose;
- Sharing or transferring the data to any other party without the submission of a new application and the express written approval of the Secretary of State;
- Using the data to harass any voter or voter's household;
- Using the data for any commercial, advertising, or marketing purposes; or
- Leaving the voter data unsecured and publicly available online or offline.

A violation of and of the above constitutes a misdemeanor, subject to significant fines. (Elections Code section 18109)

If the application is denied, the Secretary of State will send a letter to the applicant explaining why the request was denied and return all application materials.

**Questions can be directed to:** VoteCal Help Desk (916) 654-1141 [votecalhelp@sos.ca.gov](mailto:votecalhelp@sos.ca.gov)

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 California Voter Registration File Request PDF updated 6-12-19.pdf  
169K

Figure D1. Email received with attached Voter Registration File Request Form

# INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES: CALIFORNIA VOTER REGISTRATION FILE REQUEST

(CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §§ 2188, 2194, 18109; GOVERNMENT CODE § 6254.4; CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS §§ 19001-19009)



## SECRETARY OF STATE

Elections Division  
1500 11th Street, 5th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 657-2166 / www.sos.ca.gov

**Voter registration information is NOT public data and state laws govern how and by whom voter registration information may be used.**

**WARNING: The authorized recipients of the voter registration information are responsible for the security of all voter registration information provided through this request.**

Please carefully read the following instructions to request the voter registration file or a specific voter's registration information.

1. Applicant **MUST** complete and return the attached application to the Secretary of State at 1500 11th Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Emailed and faxed applications are **NOT** accepted.

2. Applicant **MUST** provide as much detailed information as possible for the specified use of the voter registration records.

- **Election:** information identifying the California candidate(s) or California ballot measure(s)
- **Candidate:** information identifying federal, state, or local office
- **Committee for/against any initiative or referendum measure:** information identifying the California initiative or referendum for which legal publication is made
- **Political:** documentation establishing affiliation with the political organization
- **Scholarly:** letter from a representative of the institution (professor, administrator, etc.) on the institution's letterhead stating that the applicant is authorized to receive the data
- **Journalistic:** a clear photocopy of press pass

3. The application **MUST** include an **ORIGINAL** signature.

4. The application **MUST** include a clear copy of the applicant's current driver license or state identification card.

5. The fee **MUST** be included with the application. The fee to purchase registration data from the Secretary of State is \$1.00 per thousand records, up to a maximum of \$30.00.

**Specific voter record request:** Applicant **MUST** provide sufficient details of why a specific voter's information is needed and how it will be used in conformance with California Code of Regulations sections 19001-19009. Applicant **MUST** also attach as much detail as possible about the voter whose record they are trying to obtain (first name, last name, date of birth, expected county of residence, address, etc.) in the designated area of the application. The Secretary of State will reach out to the applicant if there are not sufficient details to locate a single voter record. Applicant can request up to 10 specific voter records per application.

**Processing time:** Requests will be processed in the order received. Once received, requests can take 7-14 business days to review and process. The Secretary of State will determine whether the application is complete and whether state law permits the proposed use of the voter registration information.

**Data format:** If the application is approved, county/ statewide/district requests are distributed on an encrypted DVD in three plain text tab-delimited files: a voter data file, a voting history file, and a district file. Please note that some districts may not be included in the file if counties are in the process of redistricting at the time the data was extracted. Specific voter record requests will be provided by email in an encrypted WinZip attachment.

**End use:** Once the requested information is received, the Secretary of State is not responsible for end-user technical support for processing data (text) files that are purchased and does not provide training or assistance on converting the data for usage. Once the voter registration information has been sent to the applicant, no refunds will be issued.

**Authorized/Prohibited use:** State law strictly governs how voter record data may be used. Use of the data is only authorized for the purpose approved on the application. A detailed description of the specific intended use(s) of the data is required in order for the Secretary of State to determine if such use is permissible. Any application that refers to "any other lawful use" will be rejected.

### Prohibitions:

- Using the data for an unapproved purpose;
- Sharing or transferring the data to any other party without the submission of a new application and the express written approval of the Secretary of State;
- Using the data to harass any voter or voter's household;
- Using the data for any commercial, advertising, or marketing purposes; or
- Leaving the voter data unsecured and publicly available online or offline.

A violation of any of the above constitutes a misdemeanor, subject to significant fines. (Elections Code section 18109)

If the application is denied, the Secretary of State will send a letter to the applicant explaining why the request was denied and return all application materials.

### Questions can be directed to:

VoteCal Help Desk  
(888) 868-3225  
votecalhelp@sos.ca.gov

Rev 06/17/2010

Figure D2. Voter Registration File Request: Information and Guidelines

# APPLICATION: CALIFORNIA VOTER REGISTRATION FILE REQUEST



**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
 Elections Division  
 1500 11th Street, 5th Floor  
 Sacramento, CA 95814  
 (916) 657-2166 / www.sos.ca.gov

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Full name of applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
If applicable, the full name of the beneficiary, i.e., business, organization, or committee

Applicant's phone \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's email \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's business address (street name and number) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's mailing address (if different than above) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Beneficiary's (business, organization, or committee) business address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUESTING QUALIFICATIONS

### What type(s) of business, organization, or committee do you represent?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Political Campaign/Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Academic              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Media                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Vendor        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Governmental          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Investigation                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |

Provide (1) a detailed description of the specific intended use(s) of this information/data (any application that refers to "any other lawful use" will be rejected) and (2) describe how the information will be maintained securely and confidentially. If more space is needed, continue on another sheet of paper

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### For what purpose(s) are you requesting this information?

California candidate(s) (list each) _____	Proposed California ballot measure(s) (list each) _____
_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Political Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Recall
<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarly Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Governmental
<input type="checkbox"/> Initiative/Referendum	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Figure D3. Voter Registration File Request: Application



ORDER FORM	SPECIFIC VOTER RECORDS
<p>All applications must be received with an original signature, a clear copy of applicant's current valid driver license or state identification card, any accompanying documentation, and payment before the application will be reviewed. Applications must be hand-delivered or mailed to the Secretary of State at <u>1500 11th Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814</u>. Applications will not be accepted by fax or email.</p> <p><b>Data Format</b> The data is sent on an encrypted DVD in three plain text tab-delimited files. In many cases, the file is too large to save on a DVD; therefore, our office uses WinZip to compress the files onto one disk. Since voter registration data can be large and exceed record limitations of many applications, it is strongly suggested that you use a large database system to open and compile this information. In most cases, you will not be able to open this information with MS Excel or MS Access. Requests for specific voter records are sent by email in an encrypted WinZip attachment. The Secretary of State is not responsible for end-user technical support for processing data (text) files and does not provide training or assistance on converting the data for usage. Once data has been extracted and sent to the applicant, no refunds will be issued.</p> <p><b>Type of Data Requested</b></p> <p>Would you like available Voting History data included?    Yes <input type="checkbox"/>    No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Would you like Precinct to District data included?        Yes <input type="checkbox"/>    No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>For what location(s) do you want registration information?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> County (or counties): _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Specific voter records. Up to 10 per application. Please fill out record details in the next section (full name, date of birth, and county of residence, address, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Please allow 7-14 business days to process the data once an application has been submitted and approved.</p>	<p>If requesting specific voter records, please specify the following information for the voter(s) below. The Secretary of State will <b>ONLY</b> use the exact information provided: full name, date of birth, county of residence, and residence address.</p> <p>1 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>2 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>3 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>4 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>5 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>6 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>7 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>8 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>9 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>10 _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><b>SHIPPING INFORMATION</b></p> <p>Ship to (full name) _____ Phone _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Ship via:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> US Mail (no fee)    <input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up at SOS Office (no fee)    <input type="checkbox"/> Other* _____</p> <p>*Include proper forms/labels and additional fee.</p>	
<p>Rev 06/12/2019</p>	<p>Page 2 of 5</p>

Figure D4. Voter Registration File Request: Order Form

**AGREEMENT**

**All information furnished on this application is subject to verification.**

  
Initial here

Applicant and beneficiary, if applicable, hereby agree that the information set forth in the voter registration records will be used for the approved purposes, consistent with state law, as defined by Elections Code section 2194, California Code of Regulations section 19003, and Government Code section 6254.4.

  
Initial here

Applicant and beneficiary, if applicable, further agree not to sell, lease, loan, or deliver possession of the registration information, or a copy thereof, or any portion thereof, in any form or format, to any person, organization, or agency without first submitting a new application and receiving written authorization from the Secretary of State to release such registration information.

  
Initial here

Applicant and beneficiary, if applicable, agree to maintain information in a secure and confidential manner and notify the Secretary of State immediately of any violation or breach.

  
Initial here

Applicant and beneficiary, if applicable, understand that it is a misdemeanor for a person in possession of voter registration information to use or permit the use of all or any part of the information for any purpose other than as permitted by law. (Elections Code section 18109)

  
Initial here

Applicant and beneficiary, if applicable, agree to pay to the State of California, as compensation for any unauthorized use of each individual's registration information, an amount equal to the sum of fifty cents (\$.50) multiplied by the number of times each registration record is used by the applicant and/or the beneficiary, if applicable, in an unauthorized manner. (California Code of Regulations sections 19001-19009)

**I certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that all of the information provided on this application is true and correct.**

Executed at:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of applicant or beneficiary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name of applicant or beneficiary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Driver license number (include state if not CA)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residence address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title or position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile phone

Figure D5. Voter Registration File Request: Agreement

## VOTER FILE CODES AND REGULATIONS

### California Elections Code 2188. Application for voter registration information.

(a) Any application for voter registration information available pursuant to law and maintained by the Secretary of State or by the elections official of any county shall be made pursuant to this section.

(b) The application shall set forth all of the following:

- (1) The printed or typed name of the applicant in full.
- (2) The complete residence address and complete business address of the applicant, giving street and number. If no street or number exists, a postal mailing address as well as an adequate designation sufficient to readily ascertain the location.
- (3) The telephone number of the applicant, if one exists.
- (4) The number of the applicant's driver's license, state identification card, or other identification approved by the Secretary of State if the applicant does not have a driver's license or state identification card.
- (5) The specific information requested.
- (6) A statement of the intended use of the information requested.

(c) If the application is on behalf of a person other than the applicant, the applicant shall, in addition to the information required by subdivision (b), set forth all of the following:

- (1) The name of the person, organization, company, committee, association, or group requesting the voter registration information, including their complete mailing address and telephone number.
- (2) The name of the person authorizing or requesting the applicant to obtain the voter registration information.

(d) The elections official shall request the applicant to display his or her identification for purposes of verifying that identifying numbers of the identification document match those written by the applicant on the application form.

(e) The applicant shall certify to the truth and correctness of the content of the application, under penalty of perjury, with the signature of his or her name at length, including given name, middle name or initial, or initial and middle name. The applicant shall state the date and place of execution of the declaration.

(f) Completed applications for voter registration information shall be retained by the elections official for five years from the date of application.

(g) This section shall not apply to requests for information by elections officials for election purposes or by other public agencies for governmental purposes.

(h) The Secretary of State may prescribe additional information to be included in the application for voter registration information.

(i) A county may not provide information for any political subdivision that is not wholly or partially contained within that county.

### California Elections Code 2194. Access to voter registration information. Limited Confidentiality. (Not Full Text)

(a) Except as provided in Section 2194.1, the affidavit of voter registration information identified in Section 6254.4 of the Government Code:

(1) Shall be confidential and shall not appear on any computer terminal, list, affidavit, duplicate affidavit, or other medium routinely available to the public at the county elections official's office.

(2) Shall not be used for any personal, private, or commercial purpose, including, but not limited to:

- (A) The harassment of any voter or voter's household.
- (B) The advertising, solicitation, sale, or marketing of products or services to any voter or voter's household.
- (C) Reproduction in print, broadcast visual or audio, or display on the Internet or any computer terminal unless pursuant to paragraph (3).

(3) Shall be provided with respect to any voter, subject to the provisions of Sections 2166, 2166.5, 2166.7, and 2188, to any candidate for federal, state, or local office, to any committee for or against any initiative or referendum measure for which legal publication is made, and to any person for election, scholarly, journalistic, or political purposes, or for governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State.

### Elections Code 18109. Misuse of information; Misdemeanor.

(a) It is a misdemeanor for a person in possession of information identified in Section 2138.5, or obtained pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 2183) of Chapter 2 of Division 2 of this code or Section 6254.4 of the Government Code, knowingly to use or permit the use of all or any part of that information for any purpose other than as permitted by law.

(b) It is a misdemeanor for a person knowingly to acquire possession or use of voter registration information from the Secretary of State or a county elections official without first complying with Section 2188.

### Government Code 6254.4. Voter Registration Information; Confidentiality.

a) The home address, telephone number, email address, precinct number, or other number specified by the Secretary of State for voter registration purposes, and prior registration information shown on the affidavit of registration, is confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person, except pursuant to Section 2194 of the Elections Code.

(b) For purposes of this section, "home address" means street address only, and does not include an individual's city or post office address.

(c) The California driver's license number, the California identification card number, the social security number, and any other unique identifier used by the State of California for purposes of voter identification shown on an affidavit of registration, or added to the voter registration records to comply with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 15301 et seq.), are confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person.

(d) The signature of the voter that is shown on the affidavit of registration is confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person.

### California Code of Regulations Title 2, Division 7, Chapter 1, Article 1. Access To Voter Registration Information

#### 19001. Definitions.

As used in this Article, the following words have the following meanings:

(a) "Person" includes any person, firm, association, organization, partnership, business trust, corporation or company.

(b) "Registration information" means all information maintained in the general index to the affidavits of registration whether set forth on electronic data processing tapes or tabulating cards pursuant to Elections Code Section 607 or in indices of registered voters pursuant to Elections Code Section 607 and includes all information partially or solely derived from the aforementioned information, whether displayed, transmitted or stored in any format or on any media whatsoever.

(c) "A registration record" means the information or any portion thereof, set forth in an affidavit of registration executed by any person pursuant to Division 1, Chapter 2 of the Elections Code.

(d) "Source Agency" means Secretary of State or local agency or person deputized by the state or local agency which maintains registration information.

#### 19002. Use of Registration Information; Limitations.

Registration information obtained by any person from a source agency shall be used solely for election and governmental purposes.

#### 19003. Permissible Uses.

Permissible uses of information obtained from a source agency shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

a) Using registration information for purposes of communicating with voters in connection with any election.

b) Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings which campaign for or against any candidate or ballot measure in any election.

c) Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings by or in behalf of any political party; provided however, that the content of such communications shall be devoted to news and opinions of candidates, elections, political party developments and related matters.

d) Sending communications, including but not limited to, mailings, incidental to the circulation or support of, or opposition to any recall, initiative, or referendum petition.

e) Sending of newsletters or bulletins by any elected public official, political party or candidate for public office.

f) Conducting any survey of voters in connection with any election campaign.

g) Conducting any survey of opinions of voters by any government agency, political party, elected official or political candidate for election or governmental purposes.

h) Conducting an audit of voter registration lists for the purpose of detecting voter registration fraud.

i) Soliciting contributions or services as part of any election campaign

Figure D6. Voter Registration File Request: Voter File Codes and Regulations

## VOTER FILE CODES AND REGULATIONS

on behalf of any candidate for public office or any political party or in support of or opposition to any ballot measure.

j) Any official use by any local, state, or federal governmental agency.

### **19004. Impermissible Uses.**

The following uses of registration information obtained from a source agency shall be deemed other than for election and governmental purposes:

- a) Any communication or other use solely or partially for any commercial purpose.
- b) Solicitation of contributions or services for any purpose other than on behalf of a candidate or political party or in support of or opposition to a ballot measure.
- c) Conducting any survey of opinions of voters other than those permitted by Sections 19003(f) and (g).

### **19005. Prior Written Authorization.**

No person who obtains registration information from a source agency shall make any such information available under any terms, in any format, or for any purpose, to any person without receiving prior written authorization from the source agency. The source agency shall issue such authorization only after the person to receive such information has executed the written agreement set forth in Section 19008.

### **19006. Charges; Deposits.**

The source agency may designate the price which is to be charged for the use of such registration information. The source agency may also require the payment of a deposit or the execution of a bond to cover the costs of supplying such registration information.

### **19007. Penalties.**

Every person, who directly or indirectly obtains registration information from a source agency, shall be liable to the State of California, as a penalty for any use of said registration information which is not authorized by Section 607 of the Elections Code and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, for an amount equal to the sum of 50 ¢ multiplied by the number of registration records which such person used in an unauthorized manner. Unauthorized use by any applicant of any portion of the information obtained pursuant to this Chapter shall raise a presumption that all such information obtained by such applicant was so misused. Illustration: X Data Corp. obtains registration information from a source agency and uses this information to address a commercial mailing to 10,000 voters. Under the provision of this section, X Data Corp. is obligated to pay the State of California the sum of \$5000, which constitutes the sum of 50 ¢ multiplied by 10,000, the number of registration records which were used in an unauthorized manner.

### **19008. Application. (Text Omitted)**

### **19009. Submissions to Secretary of State.**

The Secretary of State may require that the applicant submit to the Secretary of State a copy of all mailings conducted by the applicant pursuant to this Chapter.

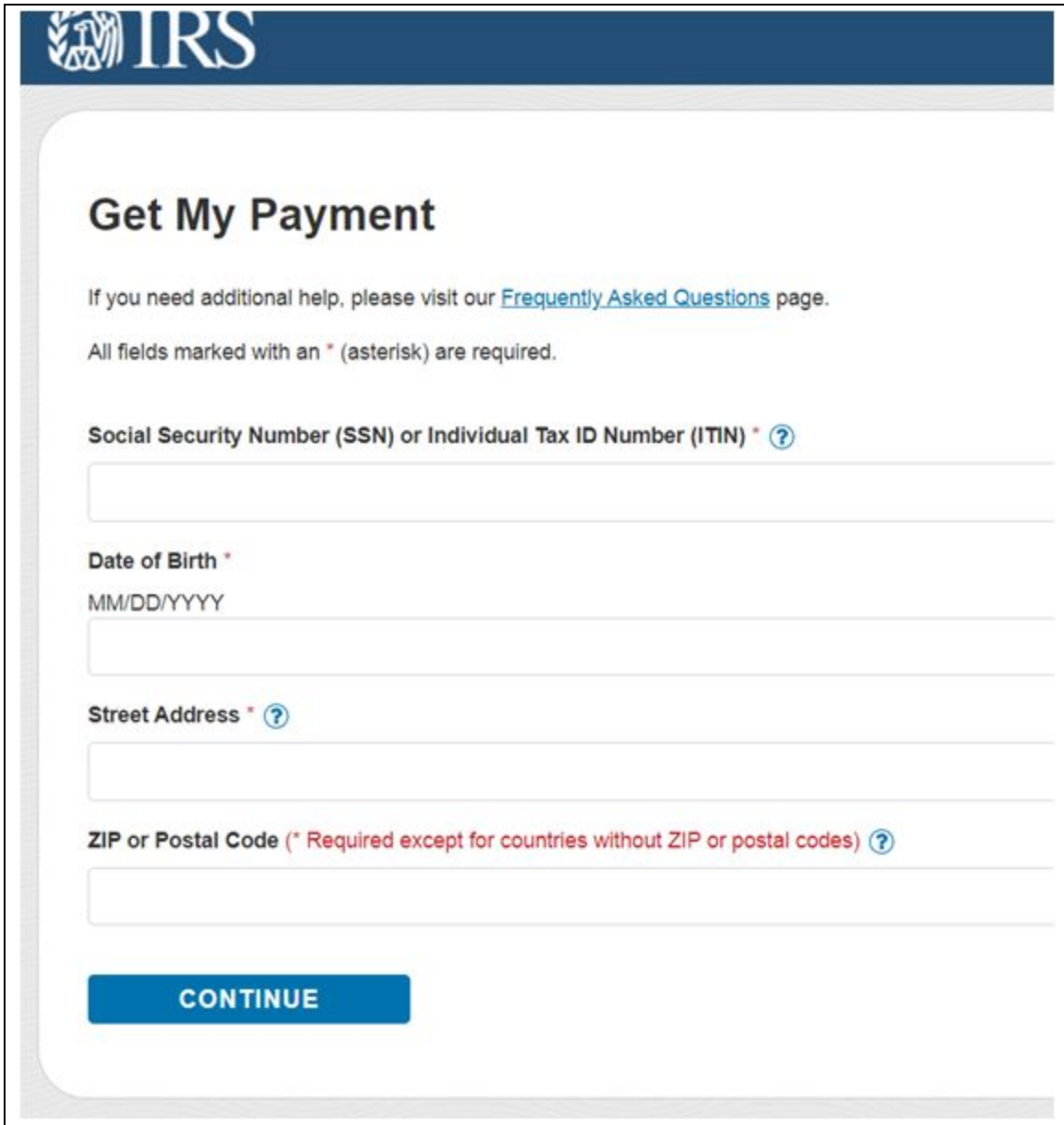
Figure D6, continued. Voter Registration File Request: Voter File Codes and Regulations


## Appendix E

### State's Usage of DOB in Registration Data<sup>[77]</sup>

State	DOB Confidential		State	DOB Confidential		
Alabama	Yes		Montana	Unknown		
Alaska	Yes		Nebraska	No		
Arizona	Yes		Nevada	No		
Arkansas	Unknown		New Hampshire	Yes		
California	No		New Jersey	Unknown		
Colorado	Yes		New Mexico	Yes		
Connecticut	Unknown		New York	Unknown		
Delaware	Yes		North Carolina	Yes		
District of Columbia	Yes		North Dakota	Yes		
Florida	Yes		Ohio	Unknown		
Georgia	Yes		Oklahoma	Unknown		
Hawaii	Unknown		Oregon	Unknown		
Idaho	Unknown		Pennsylvania	No		
Illinois	Unknown		Rhode Island	Yes		
Indiana	Yes		South Carolina	Unknown		
Iowa	Unknown		South Dakota	Yes		
Kansas	Unknown		Tennessee	No		
Kentucky	Unknown		Texas	Yes		
Louisiana	Yes		Utah	Yes		
Maine	Unknown		Vermont	Yes		
Maryland	No		Virginia	Yes		
Massachusetts	Unknown		Washington	Yes		
Michigan	Yes		West Virginia	Unknown		
Minnesota	Yes		Wisconsin	Yes		
Mississippi	Yes		Wyoming	Yes		
Missouri	Unknown					
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>19</b>

**Appendix F**  
**Sample Use of Date of Birth for Authentication**<sup>[78]</sup>




 **IRS**

## Get My Payment

If you need additional help, please visit our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

All fields marked with an \* (asterisk) are required.

**Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Tax ID Number (ITIN) \*** 


  

---

**Date of Birth \***  
MM/DD/YYYY


  

---

**Street Address \*** 

---

**ZIP or Postal Code (\* Required except for countries without ZIP or postal codes)** 

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**CONTINUE**