



Voter Affidavit Follow-up 2012 - 2017

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Handouts



- Challenged Voter Affidavits, Follow-up, 2012 – 2017
- Qualified Voter Affidavits, Follow-up, 2012 – 2017
- Domicile Affidavits/Sworn Statements of Domicile, Follow-up, 2012 – 2017
- Election Training Sessions, Individuals Trained 2007 - 2018

Purpose of Affidavit Follow-up Process



- Address questions in the minds of voters and election officials about the eligibility of voters who have signed affidavits;
- Verify the eligibility of as many voters as possible who had signed affidavits;
- Make it simpler for the Attorney General to conduct investigations of those we could not verify;
- Strengthen the democratic process and confidence in democracy.

Affidavits



- A challenged voter affidavit (CVA) is sworn by a registered voter who did not show photo identification, or get verified by an election official, in order to obtain a ballot;
- A qualified voter affidavit for identity (QVA) is sworn by an individual who did not show photo identification in order to register to vote;
- A sworn statement of domicile (SSOD) is sworn by an individual who did not provide evidence of domicile in order to register to vote.

Challenged Voter Affidavits & Qualified Voter Affidavits - 2012 Law



- The 2012 law required the Secretary of State (SOS) to send letters of identity verification to each voter who did not present photo identification, or (if the voter was in the process of obtaining a ballot) could not be verified by an election official.
- Such voters may sign a qualified voter affidavit in order to register to vote, or a challenged voter affidavit in order to vote.
- The Secretary of State's letters advise a registered voter at their address that a person who did not present valid photo identification registered to vote and/or voted using his or her name and address.

Challenged Voter Affidavits & Qualified Voter Affidavits - 2012 Law



- The letter instructs the voter to return an enclosed postage-paid letter/post card within a fixed time frame with a written confirmation that the person registered and/or voted,
 - or to contact the Attorney General immediately if he or she cannot confirm having registered or voted.
- SOS must refer voters with letters returned as undeliverable to the Attorney General.
- SOS must prepare and forward to the Attorney General for investigation a list of all persons who were mailed such letters and had not confirmed that they registered to vote or voted in that election.

Challenged Voter Affidavits (CVAs) 2015 and 2016 Law



- Under a 2015 law, election officials must take a photo of any voter who signs a challenged voter affidavit, unless they complete an affidavit of religious exemption.
 - Election officials must attach the photo or such religious affidavit, to the challenged voter affidavit.
- Under a 2016 law, the Secretary of State must revise the list of challenged voter affidavits based on input solicited from the supervisors of the checklist.

Domicile Affidavits – 2012 Law



- SOS must send a letter to each person who registered to vote, did not present evidence of domicile, and signed a sworn statement of domicile (domicile affidavit).
- These letters to voters who signed such affidavits state that it is a driver's obligation to obtain a New Hampshire driver's license within 60 days of becoming a New Hampshire resident.
- SOS must send any letters that are returned as undeliverable to the Attorney General for investigation.

A 2017 Law Requires, for all Affidavits



- SOS must conduct an inquiry regarding:
 - Any letters that are returned as undeliverable, and
 - Any voters who have not responded to the Secretary's follow-up letter.
- SOS must forward to the Attorney General for investigation a list of those people whose eligibility could not be confirmed.

Goal for Secretary of State



Prior to the next regularly scheduled state election, a goal is to:

- Verify the domicile and identity of as many as possible of the voters who signed affidavits in the last election cycle; and
- Refer unverified voters to the Attorney General

Individuals Trained at Each Session 2012 - Present

Training Formats	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
SVRS Intro	172	91	133	139	116	127	178	956
Clerks Recertification	3	9	4	5	10	9		40
Clerks Conference	176	180	236	222	218	210		1,242
Presidential Primary Training	262				1154			1,416
Election Law Training	1247		786		1060			3,093
Regional Clerks' Workshops	211	271	282	333	332	281	205	1,195
New Clerks	15	12	27	30	23	23	25	155
Clerks Only Turbo Training				226				226
Fast/Curious Training						401		401
SB3 Training						168	476	644
Total Attendees	2,086	563	1,468	955	2,913	1,219	791	10,088

Result: Compliance



- More understanding and buy-in from election officials and voters:
 - There was a smaller percentage of voters who signed affidavits in 2016 than 2012
- More uniformity among the towns and city wards in carrying out the law:
 - Based on town-by-town, ward-by-ward analysis
- Election official verification has avoided unnecessary follow-up:
 - There have been fewer Challenged Voter Affidavits signed in 2016 and 2014 than in 2012.

Challenged Voter Affidavits (CVAs)/ Ballots Cast



Election Period	Challenged Voter Affidavits Signed by Voters	Ballots Cast in Primary and General Election*	CVAs Signed by Voters/ Ballots Cast in Primary and General Election
Nov, 2012*	5,609	718,700	.008
July – Dec, 2014	3,654	660,441	.006
May–Dec, 2016	1,423	946,599	.002

* Due to law adopted in 2012, data applies only to 2012 General Election in that year.

Qualified Voter Affidavits (QVAs)/ Voter Registrations

Election Period	Qualified Voter Affidavits Signed by Voters	Voter Registrations on Primary and General Election Day	QVAs Signed by Voters/ Voter Registrations
July – Dec, 2012	2,629	105,415	.025
July – Dec, 2014	344	39,014	.009
May – Dec, 2016	764	86,952	.009

Sworn Statements of Domicile (SSODs)/ Voter Registrations



Election Period	Sworn Statements of Domicile Signed by Voters	Voter Registrations on Primary and General Election Day	Domicile Affidavits / Voter Registrations
July – Dec, 2012	13,939	105,415	.13
July – Dec, 2014	2,983	39,014	.08
May – Dec, 2016	6,033	86,952	.07

Efficiency of Follow-up



- Due to 2017 changes in the law, the SOS must conduct an inquiry of those who signed affidavits before sending the remainder to the Attorney General for investigation.
- The result is that the SOS has verified many who signed affidavits.

Attorney General Referrals/ Challenged Voter Affidavits (CVAs)

Election period	Challenged Voter Affidavit Referrals to Attorney General for Investigation	Challenged Voter Affidavits Signed & Letters Sent	CVA Referrals to Attorney General/ CVAs Signed
Nov, 2012*	1,698	5,609	.30
July – Dec, 2014	906	3,654	.25
May–Dec 2016**	129	1,423	.09
Jan– June 2017**	15	153	.10

* Due to law adopted in 2012, data applies only to 2012 General Election in that year.

** Law adopted in 2016 allows input from supervisors of the checklist.

Attorney General Referrals/Qualified Voter Affidavits for Identity (QVAs)

Election period	Qualified Voter Affidavits Signed & Letters Sent	Referrals to the Attorney General for Investigation	Referrals to the Attorney General/QVAs
Jan. – June, 2013	53	21	.40
Jan. – June, 2015	31	14	.45
Jan. – June, 2017	7	1	.14

Attorney General Referrals/Sworn Statements of Domicile (SSODs)

Election period	Sworn Statements of Domicile Signed by Voters	SSOD Referrals to the Attorney General for Investigation	Referrals to the Attorney General/SSODs
Jan – June, 2013	101	9	.09
July – Dec, 2013	211	19	.09
Jan – June, 2015	279	69	.25
July – Dec, 2015	552	37	.07
Jan – June, 2017	338	24	.07
July - Dec, 2017	174	3	.02

Challenged Voter Affidavits (CVAs) Attorney General Referrals/Ballots Cast



Election period	Challenged Voter Affidavit Referrals to the Attorney General for Investigation	Ballots Cast in State Primary and General Election	CVA Referrals to the Attorney General/Challenged Voter Affidavits
Nov, 2012*	1,698	718,700	.0024
July – Dec, 2014	906	660,441	.0014
May–Dec, 2016	129	946,599	.0001

* Due to law adopted in 2012, data applies only to 2012 General Election in that year.

Qualified Voter Affidavits (QVAs)

Attorney General Referrals/Voter Registrations



Election Period	Qualified Voter Affidavit Referrals to Attorney General for Investigation	Voter Registrations on Primary and General Election Day	QVA Referrals to Attorney General / Voter Registrations
July – Dec, 2012	1,270	105,415	.0120
July – Dec, 2014	140	39,014	.0036
May–Dec, 2016	440	86,952	.0051

Sworn Statements of Domicile (SSODs) Attorney General Referrals/Voter Registrations



Election Period	Sworn Statements of Domicile Referrals to the Attorney General for Investigation	Voter Registrations on Primary and General Election Day	Domicile Referrals to the Attorney General/Voter Registrations
July – Dec, 2012	1,193	105,415	.011
July – Dec, 2014	154	39,014	.004
May–Dec, 2016	458	86,952	.005

2016 Primary and General Election



Election Period	Total Affidavits Signed (CVAs, QVAs, and SSODs)	Affidavits Verified by the Secretary of State	Affidavits Not Verified & Referred to the Attorney General
May – Dec, 2016	8,220	7,193	1,027

Conclusions



- Voters, election officials, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General have worked together to address outstanding questions about voters who sign affidavits in order to vote;
- A large majority of those who sign affidavits are eligible to vote;
- Addressed questions in the minds of voters and election officials as to voter eligibility; and
- Made it simpler for the Attorney General to conduct investigations of those we could not verify.

Questions?

