

DIRECTIVE 2026-26

July 24, 2026

To: All County Boards of Elections
Board Members, Directors, and Deputy Directors

Re: Voter Registration Data Integrity – Removal of Invalid Commercial Residential
Voter Registration Addresses

SUMMARY

A voter's residential address is a key piece of identifying information used to help ensure the accuracy and integrity of Ohio's elections and determine voters' eligibility to vote in local elections. Under Ohio law, a person cannot use a United States Postal Service (USPS) office, a contracted post office facility address, a commercial mail store, or a Post Office (P.O.) Box as their residential address for voter registration purposes.¹ However, a voter may use a P.O. Box as a mailing address.²

Building on the voter registration address data integrity work initiated under [Directive 2026-21](#), boards of elections must continue reviewing voter registration records that contain potentially invalid residential addresses. To assist boards with this review, the Secretary of State's office has enhanced the Voter Registration Audit Dashboard (Dashboard). In addition to identifying voter registration records with residential addresses that match USPS office locations, the Dashboard now also flags addresses that match contracted post office facilities and commercial mail stores.

This directive instructs boards of elections on how to review and investigate these flagged voter registration records.

INSTRUCTIONS

A person cannot list a USPS office, a P.O. box, a contracted post office facility, or a commercial mail store (e.g., UPS, FedEx) as their residential address for voter registration purposes. However, a voter may use a P.O. Box as a mailing address. The Registration Audit Dashboard identifies voter registration records with residential addresses that

¹ [R.C. 3503.02\(A\)](#), [Chapter 4 of the Election Official Manual](#).

² *Id.*

exactly match the address of a USPS office, contracted post office facility, or commercial mail store. Each month, boards of elections must review all records flagged in the Dashboard to determine whether the listed residential address is valid.

As part of this review, the board must determine whether the voter's mailing address was mistakenly entered into the residential address field. If the board has a different valid residential address on file, it must correct the voter registration record. The board must also investigate each flagged voter to determine whether the building also contains residential property (for example, if the commercial mail store is in a mixed-use development). If the board finds that the flagged address includes residential property in addition to the USPS office, a contracted post office facility, or a commercial mail store, the board must investigate whether the voter is a resident at that address. If the board confirms the voter is correctly registered at the flagged address, the board must use the "Report Issue" function on the Dashboard and describe how it reached that determination.

However, if the board verifies that the voter is improperly registered at a USPS office, contracted post office facility, or commercial mail store, the board must send [Form 10-RES](#) to the voter's mailing address on file, if one is available. If no mailing address is available, the board must send the form to the voter's registration address. The board must record the date the notice was mailed in the voter's registration record.

The voter has 30 days from the date the notice is mailed to update their voter registration with a valid residential address. If the voter does not respond within 30 days, the board must cancel the voter's registration. If a registration is canceled in error, it will be restored and treated as though it were never canceled.

If a board identifies a suspicious registration, it must report it to the Public Integrity Division of the Secretary of State's office at EIU@OhioSoS.gov.

If you have any questions regarding this directive, please contact the Secretary of State's office at 614-728-8789 or via email at Intake@OhioSoS.gov.

Yours in service,



Frank LaRose

Ohio Secretary of State