

July 18, 2017

Sent via email to generalcounsel@sos.gov.tex

Office of the General Counsel P.O. Box 12887 Austin, TX 78711-2887

This letter is a request under the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.

Pursuant to the act's provisions, we request the following information, recorded in any medium, from the office of the Secretary of State of Texas:

- 1. All records your office provided to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity ("the Commission") in response to the portion of the June 28, 2017 letter your office received from Vice Chair Kris Kobach soliciting "your views and recommendations," including your response to the seven questions posed in the June 28 letter, and any supporting records;
- 2. All records containing, referring to, supporting, or related to "your views and recommendations to the Commission;"
- 3. All communications and documents related to your response to the June 28, 2017 letter; and
- 4. All communications between your office and the Commission or any of its members since January 1, 2017.

To be sure, unlike Mr. Kobach, we <u>do not</u> request any voter roll data. Voters have a reasonable expectation that their voting data will remain secure. Like the Commission, our office does not have the necessary safeguards in place to ensure that this fundamental expectation is upheld.

In the interest of open government, please be mindful of your duty to make a good-faith effort to relate these requests to any information that you hold. Open Records Dec. No. 561 at 8 (1990). I also ask that, in accordance with the law, you promptly produce the information I have requested. If you expect that fulfilling this request will take longer than ten days, please inform me when I can expect copies of these records.

Please waive the fees for this request, as it is made for public and non-commercial purposes. Tex. Gov't Code § 552.267. The American Civil Liberties Union of Texas is a nonprofit organization, and our mission is to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States. We request this information for the benefit of the general public.

Vice Chair Kobach's letter to the State invited state officials to contribute their "views and recommendations" about the integrity of federal elections. Under the Texas Public Information Act, each person is entitled to "complete information" about the acts of public officials in their official capacity and in relation to "official business of the governmental body." Tex. Gov't Code § 552.001. Certainly, the people of the State of Texas are entitled to complete information about any views and recommendations concerning the integrity of federal elections that our elected officials shared with the Commission.

If you deny any part or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption that you claim justifies your denial and notify me of the appellate procedures available under the law.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Edgar Saldivar Senior Staff Attorney ACLU of Texas