

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**IL State Board of Elections Violates Law
*Faces Citizen Legal Action***

Carol Stream, IL – December 2, 2019 – The Illinois State Board of Elections (SBOE) has violated federal election law. In July, the SBOE unlawfully refused to provide voter data requested by the statewide Illinois Conservative Union (ICU).

Starting the timeline for compliance, on November 27, 2019 SBOE was served with a [Notice of Violation](#) from ICU legal counsel David J. Shestokas, on behalf of a group of Illinois registered voters and the ICU. It states, “the ICU and the individual voters will bring a lawsuit if this violation... is not corrected within 90 days.” If SBOE does not remediate quickly, the lawsuit will commence just weeks before the March 17, 2020, primary election.

If SBOE fails to comply, in addition to being ordered to supply the mandated voter data, Illinois (the taxpayers) also becomes liable for costs and attorney’s fees.

The request to SBOE is to determine Illinois compliance with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA, aka “The Motor Voter Law”). SBOE denied ICU saying it was not an Illinois approved organization to receive voter data. The rejection is contrary to multiple court decisions around the country ruling that citizen rights to voter data under the NVRA cannot be infringed by state law.

“When crafting the NVRA, the intent of Congress was to enable the public to monitor the accuracy of our nation’s voter rolls,” said ICU Chairman Carol Davis. “By wrongfully denying citizens access to the rolls, Illinois election authorities are flaunting their illegal disregard of this legislation. Illinois continues to be the source of sad jokes, such as ‘dead people voting.’ Why would SBOE not want accuracy of Illinois voter rolls? Our citizens have a right to integrity in our elections.”

Attorney Shestokas added, “ICU’s original request and this notice of violation, to Executive Director Steve Sandvoss and the Board of Elections, advised SBOE of the federal court orders ruling that the NVRA supersedes state law. This should take their lawyers ten minutes to confirm. The Board’s obligations are clear. Failing to comply will result in a waste of taxpayer resources and delay ICU’s work on behalf of Illinois voters.”

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ICU exists to build and maintain a coalition of conservative organizations and to engage and educate grassroots activists throughout the state of Illinois. Our goal is to have a positive impact on the financial and moral trajectory of the state. Illinois Conservative Union is organized as a not-for-profit 501(c)(4), nonpartisan, State of Illinois Bona Fide Civic Organization.