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June 21, 2012

Secretary of State John Husted
180 East Broad Street, 16th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Secretary Husted:

My office recently contacted your office to request information on the number of registered voters, organized by county, who have been removed, or "purged," from the State of Ohio voter rolls since 2008. In response to this request, my staff was told no such records are kept by the Ohio Secretary of State.

Pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act and various sections of the Ohio Revised Code, all Ohio boards of elections are required to perform general voter records maintenance as prescribed by the Secretary of State.

In a directive dated April 18, 2011, you provided instructions to boards of elections on how to conduct the general voter records maintenance program as required by law. Such instructions were commensurate with your statutory oversight responsibilities and helped to ensure Ohio's general voter record maintenance program is done according to the law and without undue burden on voters.

The purpose of this letter is to formally request information on the number of registered voters, organized by counties, who have been purged by the State of Ohio and its boards of elections since 2008. I also ask that you make this information available to the public using an easily accessible tool, such as the Secretary of State website, no later than October 9, 2012, Ohio's 2012 general election voter registration deadline. Publication of this information is critical to ensure full and unencumbered access to the ballot this November for all Ohioans.

Thank you for your attention to the above requests. I look forward to your reply. Please contact my office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

