

Building trust in our electoral process requires time and consistent communication. Voters need to hear from trusted messengers—like you—to feel confident in participating in our system of self-governance.

Key points to emphasize include:

As Americans, we have a voice that many around the world do not.

Pride, Duty & Freedom. Freedom is a core American value. We have a collective responsibility to maintain our system of self-governance and protect the freedoms we cherish. Americans can count on election workers to administer free and fair elections because they are motivated by a commitment to serve their communities and the electoral process. They work incredibly long hours because they value the election process and everyone's right to vote. We have a duty to be informed and participate actively to safeguard this legacy for future generations.

Oversight. Voters should know that our election systems are managed by everyday Americans who are their friends, family members, neighbors, and co-workers. Election officials and poll workers are trained and work hard to ensure that every eligible vote is counted accurately and in accordance with applicable law. They put aside partisan preferences and come together to serve their communities by carrying out safe and secure elections.

Transparency. To build confidence, it's essential for voters to understand the election process. Encourage people to see how elections work for themselves by helping as poll workers or poll observers in their communities. Voters can also learn about transparency measures state and local election officials use, such as public inspections of voting machines, voter eligibility and identity checks, and security checklists.

Integrity. The verification processes in place function continuously before, during, and after votes are cast. While specific procedures in states vary, all states take steps to ensure the integrity of the voting process, inform voters about the many measures in place that prevent fraud—including monitoring voting machines, verifying voter IDs and signatures, and audits—all of which contribute to achieving accurate vote counts.

Pure **education and fact-based language** on the system helps instill trust, such as:

- There are **many people** from **both parties** involved
- There are **checks and balances**
- There are **safeguards** involved
- You can get involved personally to **see for yourself**
- Ballots are **counted electronically**

Remember that election officials are the most trusted sources of information about how elections work. Go to www.howelectionswork.org to be directed to state election officials across the country.

Find a comprehensive review of **Civic Holidays** to promote here.

TOP LINES

- As citizens, we have a voice that many people around the world do not.
- As Americans, let's reject division and fear. Let's protect our checks and balances. Let's choose truth over clickbait. Proof over accusations. People over politics. Country over party.

ABOUT U.S. ELECTIONS PROCESSES

- Ballots are counted using machines rigorously tested for accuracy and security before and after each election.
- **Elections across the country are run by professionals.** Voters can be confident that trained officials will ensure safe and secure elections that follow the law.
- Based on the ideals of our strong democratic institutions, election results are verified for accuracy before they are sent to officials for certification.
- Teams of people from both parties work together at every step of the voting, counting, and reporting process, from checking voter eligibility, to confirming the accuracy of results from each voting location, to securely transporting ballots and other materials, to serving as independent observers.
- Teams of election officials go through a meticulous list of steps to verify the count. For example, they may conduct audits to make sure that the right results are made official. In very close elections, they may conduct recounts following the laws in each state. After checking for accuracy and resolving any errors, the results are officially declared and certified.
- It's better to be accurate than fast. A little patience gives us the peace of mind that results will be legitimate.
- After the election, people might challenge the results. But our system requires proof and following the law.

NON-CITIZEN VOTING

The ability for citizens to vote freely in our elections is perhaps the most fundamental freedom we cherish as Americans. We should not interfere with citizens' freedom to vote when we know:

- We already have sufficient security checks and balances to ensure only citizens are voting;

- Legislative efforts to aimed stopping noncitizen voting will inadvertently restrict voting access for U.S. citizens; and
- There is no evidence that noncitizen voting is a widespread issue.
- The federal government and many states have strict laws, which have been in place for over 25 years, that make it illegal for non-citizens to vote. Your local or state election officials cross check federal and state databases every time someone submits a voter registration application to ensure that only U.S. citizens are registered and can vote.
- Voter rolls safeguards: Elections are run locally by members of our community. They work hard to make sure that only eligible voters can cast a ballot and that only eligible votes are counted. States and counties regularly clean their voter rolls to remove people who have moved away, died, or are otherwise ineligible to vote.
- When some states have attempted to erase noncitizens from their voter rolls, we have seen the mass removal of eligible U.S. citizens instead.
- The Americans who could be booted from voter rolls include recently married citizens, recently naturalized service members, Americans who have relocated, and more. These citizens' freedom to lawfully cast their ballot is too important to be imperiled.
 - Roughly [80% of women](#) change their last name when they get married. The result is that their birth certificate no longer contains their legal name – meaning married women would need to bring yet another document, like a marriage certificate, to prove their name change and register to vote.
 - Nearly [900,000 people](#) became naturalized American citizens in 2023 alone. Many naturalized citizens are [military servicemembers and veterans](#). Efforts to lean on haphazard data sources to identify noncitizens on our voter rolls risk improperly removing these eligible U.S. citizens – tens of thousands of whom have served our country in uniform.
- Noncitizens are ineligible to vote in federal elections. Under a 1996 law passed by Congress, noncitizens who vote face a fine, up to a year in prison, and deportation.
- The CATO Institute says [the percentage of noncitizens voting is closer to ZERO](#) than ONE percent. State-led investigations by Republican and Democratic officials have found almost no instances of noncitizen voting. Similarly, investigations by news

organizations, law enforcement departments, and universities have found that noncitizen voting is extraordinarily [rare](#).

- A database maintained by the conservative [Heritage Foundation](#) indicates that only 85 cases exist involving allegations of noncitizens voting from 2002 to 2023.
- States have multiple systems in place to deter noncitizen voting. Those who violate the law face prison time and deportation.

BIDEN ENDING CANDIDACY

- **The politics may be surprising, but ending a candidacy before the nomination is well within the rules.** The Democrats will choose their nominee at their convention in August as planned, just as the GOP picked theirs at a convention last week.
- **Remember:** Threatening lawsuits and questioning the legality of a candidate dropping out are about undermining voter trust, not winning in court.

GETTING BALLOTS READY/PRINTED

- General election ballots are generally not printed before early fall and changes can typically be made to the ballots before that time.
- Elections across the country are run by trained professionals who work hard to ensure that our elections are safe and secure.
- Despite the recent changes in the Democratic nominee, the local officials around the country who run elections in their communities are ready and prepared to ensure that ballots are printed accurately and tested on machines beforehand. They are working hard to ensure that all eligible voters will be able to cast their ballot in November.
- Although each jurisdiction has its own set of rules and laws, voters can be confident that trained election officials will follow the appropriate local, state, and federal laws.

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

- **Political violence is unacceptable.** It threatens our way of life and undermines the strength of our country.
- The vast majority of the American people oppose violence against people with different political beliefs. [\[Recent Poll Examined Support for Political Violence in U.S., NYT,](#)

Surveys May Overstate How Acceptable Political Violence is to Americans, States United Democracy Center]

- **This is not an isolated incident — our democracy *is* under threat.** It is unacceptable when election workers are threatened, when Speaker Pelosi's husband was nearly killed in their own home, or when someone tried to assassinate the former president.
- Responsible leaders must swiftly condemn anyone inciting violence. An overwhelming majority of Americans believe elected officials should avoid heated or aggressive language because it could encourage some people to take violent action.
- **Americans settle our disagreements at the ballot box.** No one has the right to use violence to get their way in politics.

As it relates to election security:

- Experienced election officials and staff across the country will ensure that our elections remain safe, secure, and fair.
- Just as violent rhetoric, threats, and actual violence have no place in political campaigns, it is equally unacceptable to direct it at the dedicated professionals who make our elections happen.
- Under federal law, all voters are protected from intimidation, coercion, and interference.