

TUESDAY

CELEBRATE CITIZENSHIP

Sample Letter to the Editor or oped: Celebrate Citizenship by Protecting Elections

(To be used in your local news outlet as a Letter to the Editor, or expanded to become an opinion/editorial in those outlets. Please feel free to add your own personal touches as well as references to state election law if so desired.)

Dear Editor,

Tuesday, September 17th is [Constitution and Citizenship Day](#) - a commemoration of the final passage of the U.S. Constitution by the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. It also celebrates the citizenship of those born in the United States as well as those we welcome as naturalized citizens - and the rights and privileges granted to all citizens.

First among these rights and privileges, is of course - voting. And contained in the right of citizen voting is a clear moral and patriotic imperative for each and every one of us to protect it.

There is no question that the security of our voting system and the confidence in our election results is of major concern to all voters of all parties and ideologies. One aspect of this is increasing worry about noncitizens voting in our federal elections and the impact it could have on outcomes.

It is real. It [has happened](#) in the past. There is [proof](#). It will happen again in 2024 with the potential to occur on a much larger scale due to the [massive increases](#) in noncitizen populations in the U.S. over the last few years.

And what does that mean for celebrating the Constitution and U.S. citizens? That the celebration of freedom that comes from the Constitution and Citizenship Day could be diminished if noncitizens (whether through deliberately or unknowingly breaking federal laws banning noncitizens voting in federal elections) are allowed to vote in the elections that determine the future direction of our country.

Another founding document, the Declaration of Independence, states that our government derives its “*just powers from the consent of the governed.*” The way we citizens provide or withdraw that consent is through voting.

Federal law is clear that only U.S. citizens can vote in U.S. elections. Unfortunately, these laws currently do not require proof of that citizenship, REAL ID does not indicate citizenship, and signing a federal voter application card does not demand accompanying proof of citizenship.

Americans welcome and celebrate new citizens - especially those who come to the U.S. lawfully and go through the rigorous process of naturalization required to vote.

But Constitution and Citizenship Day celebrates rights available *only* to current U.S. citizens. Our rights must never be diminished by votes from foreign nationals who break the law by casting ballots in our elections.

MEDIA ADVISORY FOR RADIO

(Use this to contact your local radio station to schedule an interview through direct email to the producer or host, or through social media. If you are unable to schedule an interview, then utilize these talking points as a “call in” guest.)

Subject: Constitutional and Citizenship Day Celebrates *Citizen* Voters

NAME, TITLE of ORGANIZATION is available to speak about National Only Citizens Vote Week and Constitution and Citizenship Day:

Tuesday, September 17th is [Constitution and Citizenship Day](#) - a commemoration of the 1787 final passage of the U.S. Constitution in Philadelphia. It also celebrates the citizenship of those born in the United States as well as those we welcome as naturalized citizens.

First among our citizenship rights and privileges, is of course - voting. And contained in the right of citizen voting is a clear moral and patriotic imperative for each and every one of us to protect it.

Standing against those rights and privileges is the threat and growing concern of noncitizens voting in our citizen voting-only federal elections.

It is real. It [has happened](#) in the past. There is [proof](#). It will happen again in 2024 with the potential to occur on a much larger scale due to the [massive increases](#) in noncitizen populations in the U.S. over the last few years.

Federal law is clear that only U.S. citizens can vote in U.S. elections. Unfortunately, these laws currently do not require proof of that citizenship, REAL ID does not indicate citizenship, and signing a federal voter application card does not demand accompanying proof of citizenship.

Constitution and Citizenship Day celebrates rights available *only* to current U.S. citizens. Our rights must never be diminished by votes from foreign nationals who break the law by casting ballots in our elections.

PRESS RELEASE (TEMPLATE) FOR PRINT

(Please feel free to add or change quotes attributable to your organization's leader or spokesperson).

Press Release

Date

Place of origin (Washington, DC \ Detroit, MI etc.)

Constitutional and Citizenship Day Celebrates *Citizen Voters*

[National Only Citizens Vote Week](#) coincides with this celebration of citizenship

Tuesday, September 17th is [Constitution and Citizenship Day](#) - a commemoration of the 1787 final passage of the U.S. Constitution in Philadelphia. It also celebrates the citizenship of those born in the United States as well as those we welcome as naturalized citizens.

According to NAME, TITLE of ORGANIZATION, “first among our citizenship rights and privileges, is of course – voting. And contained in the right of citizen voting is a clear moral and patriotic imperative for each and every one of us to protect it. At ORGANIZATION, that is a top priority.”

“Noncitizen voting is real,” says NAME. “It [has happened](#) in the past. There is [proof](#). It will happen again in 2024 with the potential to occur on a much larger scale due to the [massive increases](#) in noncitizen populations in the U.S. over the last few years”

Federal law is clear that only U.S. citizens can vote in U.S. elections. But these laws currently do not require proof of that citizenship, REAL ID does not indicate citizenship, and signing a federal voter application card does not demand accompanying proof of citizenship.

NAME concludes, “Constitution and Citizenship Day celebrates rights available *only* to current U.S. citizens. Our rights must never be diminished by votes from foreign nationals who break the law by casting ballots in our elections. We are proud to participate in [National Only Citizens Vote Week](#) which gives us the ability and opportunity to educate the voting public on this critical election integrity issue.”

NAME is available for media interviews by contacting NAME at PHONE / EMAIL.

This press release may be reprinted in part or in whole provided proper attribution is given to NAME and ORGANIZATION.

X and other Social media posts

(Use Tuesday: “Celebrate Citizenship” and Constitution and Citizenship Day (9/17) memes and graphics provided in the tool box)

Please tag @EIWatchdogs, @OCVCoalition and @CletaMitchell and use #NationalOCVWeek in all of your X posts

Celebrate citizenship today – Constitution and Citizenship Day and the 237th anniversary of the final passage of our U.S. Constitution. As we celebrate the citizenship of those born in the U.S and our naturalized citizens, let’s also make sure that only citizens vote in U.S.

elections! #Constitution&CitizenshipDay2024 #OnlyCitizensVote
#CelebrateCitizenOnlyVoting #NationalOCVWeek

How old is the Constitution? It's 237 years old today! And it still works – as long as we protect it. Celebrate Constitution and Citizenship Day today by making sure your local election office, state legislators, Congressional delegation and the White House know you support citizen voting rights by adhering to federal law demanding that #OnlyCitizensVote #Constitution&CitizenshipDay2024 #CelebrateCitizenOnlyVoting #NationalOCVWeek

The Constitution: “All persons born or naturalized in the United States ... are citizens of the United States and the State wherein they reside.” Well, no kidding. Federal law also demands ONLY citizens vote in federal elections – but that is not being enforced. Today is Constitution and Citizenship Day – celebrate by talking about the importance of making sure ONLY citizens vote in our next elections. #OnlyCitizensVote #Constitution&CitizenshipDay2024 #CelebrateCitizenOnlyVoting #NationalOCVWeek

It's Constitution and Citizenship Day! Celebrate being a citizen and enjoying the rights and freedoms afforded to you by the Constitution! Make sure your lawful citizen-voted ballot is protected and not invalidated by noncitizens voting unlawfully in our federal elections. #OnlyCitizensVote #Constitution&CitizenshipDay2024 #CelebrateCitizenOnlyVoting #NationalOCVWeek

Visit the [Only Citizens Vote Coalition](#) website to learn more about the dangers of noncitizen voting and what you can do to prevent it. #Constitution&CitizenshipDay2024 #CelebrateCitizenOnlyVoting #NationalOCVWeek