



U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW - RFK
Washington, DC 20530

May 20, 2025

Sent by fax and U.S. Mail

The Honorable Adrian Fontes
Arizona Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington Street, Fl 7
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2808

Fax [REDACTED]

Dear Secretary, Fontes:

On March 25, 2025, President Trump signed Executive Order 14248: Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections (EO)¹ to ensure that elections are being held in compliance with the Federal laws that protect Americans' voting rights and guard against vote dilution by illegal voting, discrimination, fraud, and other forms of malfeasance and error.

Pursuant to this EO, the Attorney General has been instructed to prioritize enforcement of Federal election laws to ensure election integrity and to align the Department of Justice's litigation positions with the purpose and policy of the EO.

Title IV of HAVA authorizes the Attorney General of the United States to bring a civil action against any State or jurisdiction as necessary to enforce uniform and nondiscriminatory administration requirements under sections 301, 302, and 303.

We are writing to you as the Chief state elections official for the State of Arizona, concerning Arizona's noncompliance with the voter verification requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 ("HAVA") (52 U.S.C. §§ 20901 – 21145).

HAVA provides that when registering voters for an election for Federal Office the State should request a driver's license number from the applicant, if the voter has a valid license, the last four digits of the applicant's social security number are acceptable for applicants who do not have a driver's license but do have a social security number. 52 U.S.C §21083(a)(5)(A)(i).

Further, if the applicant does not have a current and valid driver's license or a social security number, the State shall assign to that applicant a unique identifying number for voter registration purposes. 52 U.S.C. 15483(a)(5)(A)(ii).

A review of Arizona's voter registration application allows applicants to use either their driver's license *or* the last four numbers of their Social Security number, regardless of whether they have a driver's license.²

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/preserving-and-protecting-the-integrity-of-american-elections/>

² [azsos.gov/sites/default/files/docs/az_voter_registration_form_standard_20240613.pdf](https://www.azsos.gov/sites/default/files/docs/az_voter_registration_form_standard_20240613.pdf)

We hope to engage in collaborative and productive communication as we work toward resolution of the violation described above. The State can reasonably correct these deficiencies by taking the following actions to remedy the violation identified by the Department:

1. Revise the Arizona Voter Registration Application fields and instructions to clearly inform applicants to provide their Arizona driver's license or nonoperating license number if one has been issued to them. The instructions and form fields should make it clear that the use of SSN4 should only be used if they have not been issued a driver's license or nonoperating license. The State should submit a copy of the proposed revised form to the Department within 30 days of the date of this letter.
2. Conduct a review of all registered voters in the statewide voter registration system who provided SSN4 on the voter registration application and cross reference those registrants to the records in the ADOT Motor Vehicle Division database to identify any non-citizens. Provide the Department with a report on the results of that review within 90 days of the date of this letter.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that the State of Arizona complies with the requirements of HAVA. Failure to address the State's compliance may result in the initiation of litigation by the Attorney General. Please send your written response to [REDACTED]@usdoj.gov. If you have any questions, you can reach me at 202-702-6110.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Maureen S. Riordan
Senior Counsel
Acting Chief, Voting Section
Civil Rights Division