July 31, 2026

Charley Coss
RNC Michigan State Deputy Director of
Election Integrity
9208 Vanderbilt Avenue
Portage, MI 49024
ccoss@gop.com
269-203-5960

Dear Charlie Coss

The Michigan Department of State (Department) is providing its response to your request for records under the provisions of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231, et. seq.

You requested:

> **Any and all Democracy MVP Election Worker Interest Forms submitted after January 1, 2026.**

Your request has been granted in part and denied in part.

The Department grants part of your request for the Interest Forms, which are provided in part.

Pursuant to section 13(1)(a) of the FOIA (MCL 15.243(1)(a)), this request is denied in part based on the fact the form contains the private individual's home address, phone number, email address, date of birth, and medical or disability status, all of which is "information of a personal nature if public disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's privacy."

An individual who submits an Interest Form joins a pool of potential election workers. Shielding their identity is essential to protecting the person's privacy and preventing an unwarranted invasion of privacy and/or threats to election workers' physical safety/security.

Furthermore, revealing the identity of the applicant does not contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the Department's operations or activities. Public disclosure of an applicant's sensitive personal information would discourage others from volunteering as election workers, thereby diminishing an important public resource. When volunteers provided their personal information, they did so with the understanding that it *may* be shared with jurisdictions looking for potential poll workers.

For these reasons, the personal identification information for each individual is redacted.

With regard to the denial of your request, under FOIA (MCL 15.240) you may do one of the following:

1. Appeal this decision in writing to Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson at:

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson
Attn: Khyla D. Craine
Legal Services Administration
Michigan Department of State
P.O. Box 30204
Lansing, Michigan 48918
MDOS-FOIA@michigan.gov

The writing must specifically state the word "appeal" and must identify the reason or reasons you believe the denial should be reversed. The Department must respond to your appeal within 10 business days of its receipt. Under unusual circumstances, the time for a response may be extended by 10 business days.

2. File an action in the appropriate court within 180 days after the date of the final determination to deny the request. If you prevail in such an action, the court is to award reasonable attorney fees, costs and disbursement, and possible damages.

The Department's FOIA Procedures and Guidelines can be accessed at www.michigan.gov/sos, under the "FOIA" tab at the bottom of the page.

FOIA Coordinator
Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson
Michigan Department of State
MDOS-FOIA@michigan.gov