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Citizenship Sunday

Voter Registration Instructions

- Take 10 minutes and review all material in this packet.
- Note the enclosed **Voter Registration Form**. More forms are available from Ohio Christian Alliance, or go to your County Board of Elections and pick up Voter Registration Postcards (Pick up approximately 50% of your church size.)
- Eligible Voters
 - 18 years old
 - US Citizen
 - Ohio resident
 - Has not been barred from voting due to a felony conviction
 - Has not been declared mentally incompetent by a court

Action Plan

- ***Conduct a Citizenship Sunday Service. Statewide Citizenship Sunday dates:***
July 19, August 9, and September 6, 2020
- ***Voter Registration Deadline: October 5th.***
- ***Clergy*** – Please incorporate the Voter Registration Drive as a part of the service. Have a show of hands of those who need to register to vote.
- ***Have a registration table in the lobby manned by volunteers. Due to COVID-19 precautions, we ask that the volunteers wear masks and clean surfaces and pens with disinfectant wipes.***
- An appointed liaison from the clergy should collect all Voter Registration Forms and ***hand deliver them to the County Board of Elections on Monday*** morning after Citizenship Sunday.
- Church liaison or clergy complete enclosed ***reporting form*** and fax or mail to the Ohio Christian Alliance office ***Monday*** morning after Citizenship Sunday.

****Please see additional page on vote-by-mail for your seniors and shut-ins.***

What a Church and Pastor Can and Cannot Do Legally

What A Church MAY DO Legally

- Engage in Voter Registration that refrains from stressing a particular political party.
- Distribute Material that is educational to voters, but which refrains from favoring any particular candidate or party, such as the **Ohio Christian Alliance Voter Guide**.
- Conduct candidate or issues forums where each duly qualified candidate is invited and provided an equal opportunity to speak.
- Allow candidates or elected officials to speak at church services. Churches that allow only one candidate or a single political party's candidate to speak can be seen as favoring that candidate or party. No candidate should be prohibited from addressing a church if others running for the same office have been allowed to speak.
- A church can influence legislation through lobbying. A church may spend no more than an insubstantial amount of its annual budget (5 percent is a safe amount) on direct lobbying activities.
- Contribute funds to citizen organizations such as Ohio Christian Alliance. The 5 percent rule applies here as well and is inclusive of all lobbying. Lobbying activities and contributions combined should not exceed 5 percent of the church's annual budget.
- Pastors may endorse candidates in their capacity as private citizens and may even allow their title to be used in that endorsement. The fact that a pastor is an employee of a church no way removes his right to free speech as a citizen of the United States.
- Pastors may participate fully in political committees that are independent of the church.

What A Church MAY NOT DO Legally

- A pastor may not endorse candidates on behalf of the church. A pastor should not directly or indirectly endorse a candidate from the pulpit or otherwise in a church meeting.
- Contribute funds or services (such as mailing lists or office equipment) directly to candidates or political committees.
- Allow the distribution of material that favors any one candidate or political party.
- Pay fees for political events from church funds.
- Set up a political committee that would contribute funds directly to political candidates.
- No candidate should be allowed to solicit funds.

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Ohio Christian Alliance

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www.ohioca.org



Advocating for Life, Faith, and Freedom in the Public Square

Ohio Christian Alliance Voter Guides

One of the missions of the Ohio Christian Alliance is to produce and distribute an educational **Voter Guide** materials to help Christians and the general public know where the candidates stand on key moral issues such as abortion, traditional marriage, religious liberties, judicial tyranny, taxes on families, educational choice, and gambling. We achieve this by surveying candidates as to their positions on these vital issues, and we publish the results in an educational **Voter Guide**. **OCA has produced and distributed 9.5 million voter guides in the past 18 years. The Ohio Christian Alliance Voter Guide is the publication of choice for thousands of Ohio's churches to be distributed to their congregants.**

Please let us know how we can serve you with this vital educational service by contacting us and letting us know how many **Bulletin Issues Inserts** you would like to have for your church and your community. Simply fill out the enclosed form included in this informational packet and mail or fax it to the offices of the Ohio Christian Alliance. Designate a church volunteer (liaison) who will help to distribute this important educational Voter Guide/ Issue Inserts in your church and community.

** The Ohio Christian Alliance educational voter guide is non-partisan and is reviewed by the nation's top Federal Election Commission attorneys, and it is permissible to distribute in 501 (c) 3 organizations, i.e. churches.



Advocating for life, faith, and freedom in the public square.

OUR MISSION

The *Ohio Christian Alliance* is designed to mobilize and train Christians for effective political action. It is our stated purpose to help reverse the moral decline and to affirm our Godly heritage as Americans.

Our fivefold mission is to:

- 1) Train Christian leaders for effective social and political action
- 2) Inform Christians about timely issues and pending legislation
- 3) Speak out for truth and morality in the public arena
- 4) Defend the rights of Christians against an every-growing anti-Christian bias.
- 5) Educate voters through voter guides, score cards, and candidate forums.

“We have no government armed with power capable of contending with emotions unbridled by morality and religion. Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly and inadequate to the government of any other.” -John Adams

We provide:

- ✓ Relevant and reliable information on political issues, including key legislative analysis affecting the family and people of faith
- ✓ Public education through **Candidate Forums, Pastor Policy Briefings, Educational Voter Guides, Legislative Scorecards, and an Informative Website.** www.ohioca.org
- ✓ Activist training to promote the growth of county chapters
- ✓ Judeo-Christian values, Biblical principles, and public policy

Religion, morality and knowledge, being essentially necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind... *Ohio Constitution of 1802*

“In a nation such as this where the people choose their leaders, if the congress be ignorant, reckless and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, reckless, and corruption.” – President James Garfield

Contact the Ohio Christian Alliance to obtain your 2020 Voter Guide Bulletin Inserts. They are free of charge.

Have you considered having a Citizenship Sunday at your church?
Citizenship Sunday Dates: July 19, August 9, September 6

Citizenship Sunday

Liaison Reporting Form

Please complete this form and fax or mail it to the Ohio Christian Alliance State Office on Monday Following Citizenship Sunday

Fax: (330) 247-9902

Number of OCA Voter Guide Bulletin Inserts Requested _____

(The Ohio Christian Alliance Voter Guide is a free publication) Contributions are welcomed.

Number of Voter Registration Cards Completed and Delivered _____

Church Information

(Please Print)

Church Name _____ Pastor's Name _____

Church Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Church Phone () _____ Church Fax () _____

Church Email Address _____

Liaison Information

(Please Print)

Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Miss _____ Dr. _____ Other _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle _____

Liaison's Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ Fax () _____

Email Address _____

Voter Registration and Information Update Form

Please read instructions carefully. Please type or print clearly with blue or black ink.
 For further information, you may consult the Secretary of State's website at: www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov or call (877) 767-6446.

Eligibility

You are qualified to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

1. You are a citizen of the United States.
2. You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election.
3. You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote.
4. You are not incarcerated (in jail or in prison) for a felony conviction.
5. You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court.
6. You have not been permanently disenfranchised for violations of election laws.

Use this form to register to vote or to update your current Ohio registration if you have changed your address or name.

NOTICE: This form must be received or postmarked by the 30th day before an election at which you intend to vote. You will be notified by your county board of elections of the location where you vote. If you do not receive a notice following timely submission of this form, please contact your county board of elections.

Numbers 1 and 2 below are required by law. You must answer both of the questions for your registration to be processed.

Registering in Person

If you have a current valid Ohio driver's license, you must provide that number on line 10. If you do not have an Ohio driver's license, you must provide the last four digits of your Social Security number on line 10. If you have neither, please write "None."

Please see information on back of this form to learn how to obtain an absentee ballot.

Registering by Mail

If you register by mail and do not provide either an Ohio driver's license number or the last four digits of your Social Security number, you must enclose with your application a copy of one of the following forms of identification:

Current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and current address.

Residency Requirements

Your voting residence is the location that you consider to be a permanent, not a temporary, residence. Your voting residence is the place in which your habitation is fixed and to which, whenever you are absent, you intend to return. If you do not have a fixed place of habitation, but you are a consistent or regular inhabitant of a shelter or other location to which you intend to return, you may use that shelter or other location as your residence for purposes of registering to vote. If you have questions about your specific residency circumstances, you may contact your local board of elections for further information.

Your Signature

In the area below the arrow in Box 14, please write your cursive, hand-written signature or make your legal mark, taking care that it does not touch the surrounding lines so when it is digitally imaged by your county board of elections it can effectively be used to identify your signature.

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE

I am: Registering as an Ohio voter Updating my address Updating my name

1. Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes No
 2. Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before the next general election? Yes No
 If you answered NO to either of the questions, do not complete this form.

3. Last Name		First Name		Middle Name or Initial	Jr., II, etc.
4. House Number and Street (Enter new address if changed)			Apt. or Lot #	5. City or Post Office	6. ZIP Code
7. Additional Mailing Address (if necessary)				8. County (where you live)	
9. Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY) (required)	10. Ohio Driver's License number OR Last Four Digits of Social Security number (one form of ID required to be listed or provided)			11. Phone Number (voluntary)	
12. PREVIOUS ADDRESS IF UPDATING CURRENT REGISTRATION - Previous House Number and Street					
Previous City or Post Office		Previous County		Previous State	Ohio
13. CHANGE OF NAME ONLY Former Legal Name			Former Signature		

FOR BOARD USE ONLY
 SEC4010 (rev. 4/15)

City, Village, Twp. _____

Ward _____

Precinct _____

School Dist. _____

Cong. Dist. _____

Senate Dist. _____

House Dist. _____

14. I declare under penalty of election falsification I am a citizen of the United States, will have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding the next election, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election.

Your Signature ↓ **Date** (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

**TO ENSURE YOUR INFORMATION IS RECEIVED,
PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Print this form.
2. Make sure all required fields are complete.
3. Sign and date your form.
4. Fold and insert your form into an envelope.
5. Mail your form to your county board of elections.

For your county board's address please visit www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov/boards.htm

If you have additional questions, please call the office of the Ohio Secretary of State at (877) SOS-OHIO (877-767-6446).

HOW TO OBTAIN AN OHIO ABSENTEE BALLOT

You are entitled to vote by absentee ballot in Ohio without providing a reason. Absentee ballot applications may be obtained from your county board of elections or from the Secretary of State at: www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov or by calling (877) 767-6446.

OHIO VOTER IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Identification may include current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by providing the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number and by casting a provisional ballot pursuant to R.C. 3505.181. For more information on voter identification requirements, please consult the Secretary of State's website at: www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov or call (877) 767-6446.

**WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A
FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.**

APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE (See Instructions at Bottom of Page)

Send Ballot to:

(if different from home address)

Voter's Name _____ Name _____

Home Address _____ care of/PO Box _____

City, Village, Office _____ Address _____

County _____ **Zip Code** _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

You must provide your birthdate: _____ / _____ / _____ **and one of the following:**
(month) (day) (year)

- Your Ohio driver's license number _____, or
- The last four digits of your social security number _____, or
- Copy of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document (other than a voter registration notification mailed by a board of elections) that shows your name and current address.

I wish to vote in the following election to be held on _____.
(month-date-year of election)

Check ONLY one (A separate application must be completed for each election):

1. Primary Election:

- Democratic
- Republican
- Nonpartisan or issues only

2. General Election

3. Special Election

I wish to have a ballot mailed to me at the address listed above. I understand that if a ballot is mailed to me and I change my mind and appear at my polling place to vote on Election Day, I will be required to vote a provisional ballot that can not be counted until at least 10 days after the election.

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, I am a qualified voter and the statements above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that if I do not provide the requested information, my application cannot be processed.

X _____
Signature of Voter **Date Signed**

Voluntary: To assist the board of elections in contacting you in a timely manner if your application is incomplete:

Your daytime telephone number (____) _____ Your e-mail address _____

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INSTRUCTIONS

Chapter 3509. of the Revised Code of Ohio

1. Use of this form is optional. To be valid, your application must include your name, voting residence address, date of birth, and signature; the election for which the ballot is requested and, if a partisan primary election, your political party affiliation; statement you are a qualified elector in the county; and one of the following: your Ohio drivers license number, the last four digits of your social security number, or a copy of your current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document (other than a voter registration notification mailed by a board of elections) that shows your name and address.
2. An application by mail must be received by your county board of elections by noon on the third day before the election. An application by you in person must be received by the close of regular board office hours the day before the election. Applications for persons who are hospitalized or for persons whose minor child is hospitalized due to an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency will be accepted until 3 p.m. on Election Day.
3. When you receive your ballot: If you return your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked* no later than the **day before** Election Day and received by your county board of elections no later than 10 days after the election. If you return your ballot in person or if a near relative delivers it to the board for you, it must be delivered to your county board of elections no later than the close of polls on Election Day. If you are a voter outside of the United States on Election Day, the ballot envelope must be signed or postmarked before the close of polls and received by the board no later than 10 days after Election Day or 20 days after a presidential primary election.

*Postmarked does not include a date marked by a postage evidence system such as a postage meter.