



PRESS RELEASE

September 25, 2023

For Immediate Release

Official Statement of New York Citizens Audit Regarding Cease and Desist Letter from AG

New York Citizens Audit, a non-profit, non-partisan organization concerned with the integrity of New York voter rolls, learned for the first time -- from a press inquiry -- that New York's Attorney General Letitia James had sent it a "cease and desist" letter. How the press had received the letter before NYCA received it is up to speculation. The allegations in the letter, which have been unsubstantiated despite several requests from NYCA, claimed that NYCA volunteers had impersonated state officials in its canvassing activities. NYCA termed the allegations "strange" and made without any factual evidence.

NYCA Executive Director Marly Hornik commented: "The allegations are puzzling. NYCA has seen no evidence of the accusations, despite prior board of elections inquiries. The whole thing has developed from a purposeful board of elections attempt to create public hysteria about unidentified canvassers, then the board started naming NYCA as 'public law breaker no. 1,' then the press beat the drum with nothing but unsupported allegations, and next thing we know the NY Attorney General is involved and naming NYCA. It all sounds like a Soviet-era propaganda move to discredit and then attack NYCA, calculated to stop the news of serious anomalies in the NY voter rolls discovered during our review of official data."

NYCA is concerned that government avoidance of this issue is the real issue and smacks of voter suppression. "The failure to keep accurate rolls, if confirmed, is the real issue here. That is much more serious than unsupported allegations of impersonation of a county canvasser. It is very concerning that voter suppression stemming from inaccurate voter rolls is not recognized by the New York Attorney General as a serious problem. You would think that office would be concerned about that. I guess they prefer to demonize NYCA, which is regrettable. We hope that the Attorney General is taking these concerns seriously, as they may represent civil rights abridgments affecting all New Yorkers."

Despite many attempts, New York Citizens Audit has been unable to meet with the New York State board of elections over the last two years about our concerns regarding the legality of election conduct in 2020 and 2022. NYCA has repeatedly offered to provide extracts from SBOE data concerning what appears to be a massive number of irregularities in the conduct of elections during these periods. As of August 17, 2023, NYCA has now submitted and formally asked the New York State board of elections to investigate each of these millions of suspected illegal registrations, the apparent existence of an algorithm injecting synthetic voters into the voter rolls, the large discrepancy between the number of votes counted and the number of voters who voted, and the voters with apparently non-compliant registrations who were permitted to vote. Their response? Suddenly, they accuse New York Citizen's Audit of voter intimidation during our canvassing efforts.

“These rolls must be pristine, not full of inconsistencies that give rise to speculation of abuse. NYCA wanted an answer from the boards of elections, but up to now all they have done is hide in the woods. This leads to further suspicions and speculation. The voter rolls should be beyond question. It seems they want to shoot the messenger instead,” stated NYCA Director Steve Gillan.

NYCA Director Kim Hermance added, “The notion that NYCA is breaking the law is absurd. At the first allegation NYCA has offered to cooperate in investigating the situation. We received no response except this latest accusation directed to us. That does not reflect what we would view as a neutral, non-partisan approach to law enforcement activity. We have not received any information that would allow us to cooperate. We train our people to do legal canvassing, and, if ever verified, voter intimidation would be completely unacceptable and against our policy.”

NYCA asks these officials publicly to do their job and hold fair, open, honest and legally valid elections based on accurate voter rolls.

For further information contact NYCA steph@auditny.com