



January 2024

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for stepping forward to run for office. We realize that running a campaign is challenging and expensive. It is also a sacrifice for you and your family. The calling to become a public servant, in service to *We the People*, must be carefully weighed and measured, and few are willing to answer that call.

Our organization has become known in Illinois throughout the years as having expertise in election process and infrastructure. Through our Illinois Election Integrity Program and our statewide coalition, we have worked to bring transparency, honesty and fairness to Illinois elections. We hope this is an encouragement to you as you run for office. ICU/IEIP does serious, substantive work to help ensure honest elections.

*A small sampling of our work to date...*

- Together with **Judicial Watch**, we sued the IL State Board of Elections and won citizen watchdog access to IL voter rolls.
- Again, working with **Judicial Watch** and Illinois Family Action, we issued a 90-day statutory notice to the IL State Board of Elections: clean inactive voters off the voter rolls or we will sue. This could result in as many as 800,000 ineligible and inactive voters coming off Illinois voter rolls. The 90-day “clock” began ticking on November 15, 2023.
- **Voter List Maintenance Working Group**: our statewide network of volunteers are validating and verifying the voter rolls.
- **Vulnerable Voter Working Group**: helping to safeguard the voting rights of residents of senior care facilities and group homes.
- **Legislative Working Group**: our statewide network of volunteers helped to defeat three Ranked Choice Voting bills last year in Springfield. We continually monitor election legislation and issue Action Alerts.
- Trained over 3,500 IL activists on how to protect the vote via our “**Guardians of the Vote**” seminars.
- Established a statewide **Election Integrity Coalition**: [www.ieip.org](http://www.ieip.org)
- Worked with Cleta Mitchell and the founders of the Virginia Coalition/Virginia Model to establish the national **Election Integrity Network**: <https://whoscounting.us>
- Online training for Election Judges (supplemental to their training from their local Election Authority), Poll Watchers (this training is in the process of being updated for this election cycle) and other aspects of election integrity.
- Researched and vetted tools and apps which can help fulfill the election integrity goal of “Eyes on Every Ballot” (for example, see the “VotifyNow” flier in this packet).

What can you and your campaign team do to help election integrity efforts in Illinois? We have some great suggestions and tools, but they won’t make a difference if we don’t all use them.

*Here are some helpful things that you can do:*

- Appoint someone on your campaign team to be your Election Integrity expert
- Ask that person (or several) to join our IEIP Statewide Coalition Zoom meetings every Thursday @7:30PM (see enclosed brochure, “Your Country Needs You” and the enclosed Election Integrity Working Groups flier)

for details). These meetings keep everyone updated on the latest tips, strategies and techniques.

- At every campaign event RECRUIT Election Judges and Poll Watchers. Election Judges are especially important, because they have legal power in the voting process.
- Encourage those Election Judges and Poll Watchers to take advantage of our FREE on-line trainings.
- Remember that as a candidate, you can legally credential Poll Watchers to serve in the locations in which your name appears on the ballots (contact us for details)
- At every campaign event encourage attendees and supporters to download and use the FREE “VotifyNow” app (see enclosed flier). This app will allow us all together to fulfill the election integrity goal of “Eyes on Every Ballot”. It’s a way to crowd-source election integrity. Data gathered in the 2022 election in Arizona with the VotifyNow app is now being used in both the Kari Lake and Abraham Hamadeh election court cases in Arizona.
- Copy and share our “Top 10 Action Items for Honest Elections” flier (enclosed)
- Encourage voters to follow our “Claim Your Name, Secure Your Vote” strategy, which compliments the IL GOP “Bank Your Vote” program. This strategy is detailed on the “Top 10” flier.
- If you send any campaign mailings, DO NOT DISCARD any mail which is returned to you as “undeliverable”. Scan or take a photo of the mailing address and send it to us. We will submit it to our Voter List Maintenance Working Group to investigate whether or not that voter should be removed from the rolls.
- As you and your volunteers canvass your district and speak to voters, make note of any voters on your lists who have moved or are deceased, and submit that info to us for the VLM Working Group. A helpful tool to report the important details is our ICU Incident Report Form, available for download on our website (<https://www.ieip.org/icu-ieip-incident-report/>). This report helps to capture critical details right away, while fresh in your mind. It also saves someone from having to revisit the address for more information.
- The ICU Incident Report Form can also be helpful as you and your team submit incident reports using the VotifyNow app.

When comes to ensuring transparent, fair and honest elections, no one person or organization can do it all. But together we can do a lot. Don’t count on someone else to do it for you. As a candidate, you are heavily invested in the success of your campaign – you have “skin in the game”. Help to make sure that every ballot upon which YOUR name appears is counted fairly and accurately.

We are here to support your election integrity efforts. Let’s work together to ensure honest elections in Illinois. United we stand, divided we fall.

Sincerely,

The Illinois Election Integrity Program Coalition

Components of your Task Force might be:

- voter roll maintenance
- helping vulnerable voters by adopting nursing homes in your area and/or monitoring the military vote (see Federal UOCAVA law)
- recruiting & training election workers (election judges & poll watchers)
- being a liaison between the Election Authorities and your Election Judges (making sure your Judges are trained and assigned to work)
- holding voter registration drives
- learning about and monitoring vote-by-mail and how the postal service interacts with the Election Authority
- learning about and monitoring any outside, 3rd-party organizations that are working with the Election Authority
- communications: keeping your voters informed of your progress, restoring confidence in voting

There are many components to elections. Keep it simple as you begin. You don't have to tackle every issue all at once. As you bring people together to join your Task Force, find out what their areas of interest may be. Some people love working with data – those folks are your voter roll maintenance team. Some people have a heart for the elderly or disabled – they are your vulnerable voter team.

### Overcoming the “Crisis of Confidence”

Confidence in our elections has been eroded across the board. Too many of our voters believe that it's not worth casting their ballot because they believe it doesn't count. Your Local Task Force can play an important role in restoring confidence in your local elections. One person can't do it all, but together we can be a powerful force. With the national network, state coalitions, and local Task Forces which have formed across the country all working together, we can make a difference and restore confidence in our elections. Turnout is everything, and every single vote *really* does count!

### ICU and IEIP Accomplishments

We're quiet about what we do and what we accomplish – we don't want to “tip our hand” to people who don't support honest elections. Sadly, there are some who think “the end justifies the means” and they don't hesitate to cheat during elections. Here are just a few of the things we do to help ensure honest elections:

- Provide training to election integrity activists throughout the state (over 3,500 to date).
- Partnered with Judicial Watch to sue the IL State Board of Elections for access to the voter rolls, to ensure they are properly maintained.
- Mail Statutory Notice letters to Administrators of all nursing homes and group homes in Illinois prior to each election, detailing their legal obligations to safeguard the voting rights of their residents.
- Our Stop Ranked Choice Voting Coalition has beat back three RCV bills in the IL Legislature.
- We validate, recruit, train and deploy Election Judges and Poll Watchers throughout IL.
- Educate the voting public to ensure their vote counts.

#### How to get involved:

**The Election Integrity Network (EIN)**  
[www.whoscounting.us](http://www.whoscounting.us)

**Illinois Election Integrity Program (IEIP)**  
[www.ieip.org](http://www.ieip.org)  
[info@ieip.org](mailto:info@ieip.org)  
(630) 830-0653

**To become an Election Judge or Poll Watcher:**  
[cj@illinois.gov](mailto:cj@illinois.gov)



The Illinois Election Integrity Program is a project of Illinois Conservative Union. Illinois Conservative Union is organized as a not-for-profit 501(c)(4), non-partisan, Illinois Bona Fide State Civic Organization.

Contributions to Illinois Conservative Union are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

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# Your country needs you.



# Yes, YOU!

## You can make a difference in the upcoming elections. Here's how...

## The mission of the Illinois Election Integrity Program and the IEIP Coalition

Illinois Election Integrity Program is a non-partisan group of citizen volunteers helping to defend the integrity of the voting process which protects our freedoms and our way of life. IEIP seeks to protect our Republic – a government of, by, and for the people – by maintaining an active role in the election process which empowers citizens with our most fundamental right: the right to choose our representatives by fair and honest elections.

*We want to make it easy to vote while making it hard to cheat.*

### What is the Illinois Election Integrity Program?

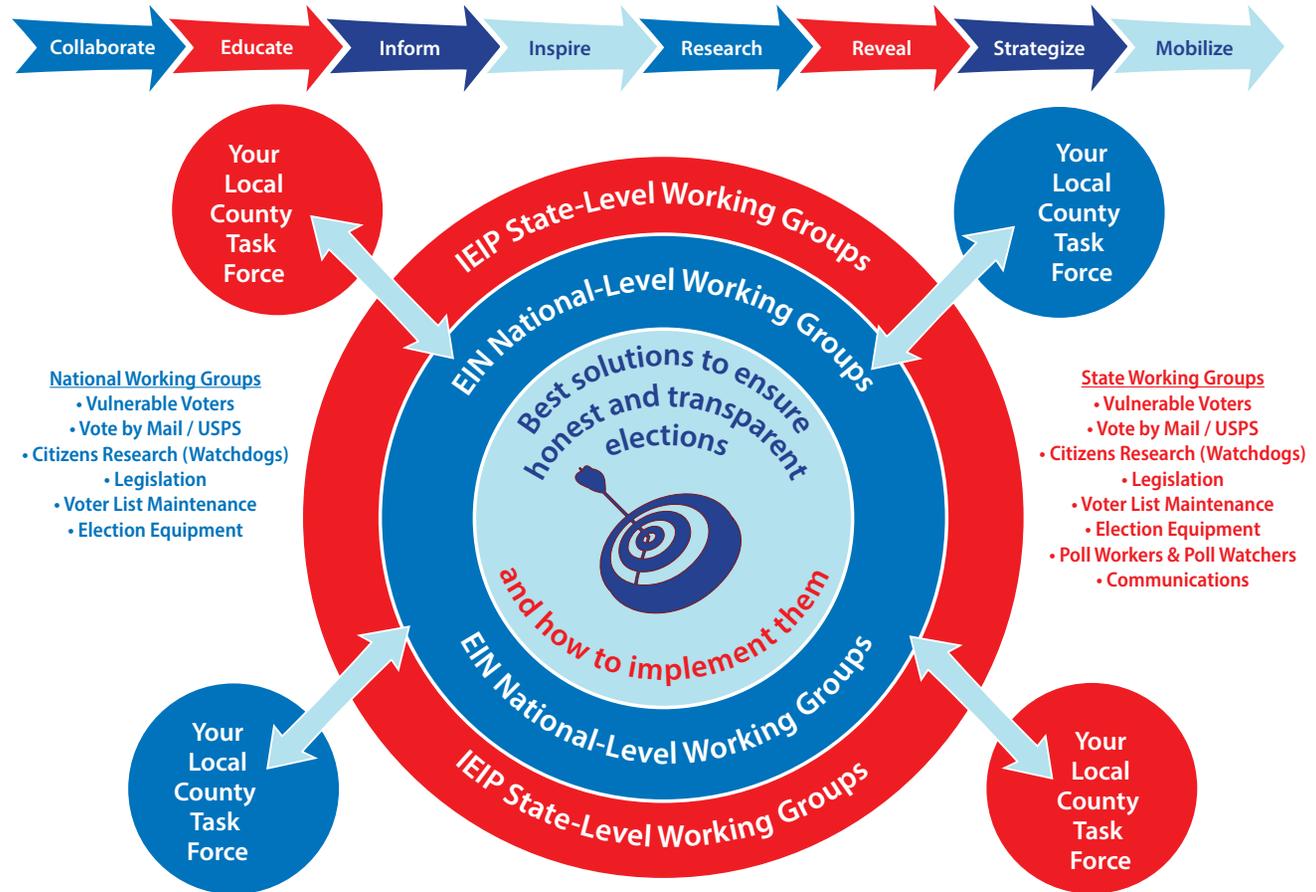
The Illinois Election Integrity Program (IEIP) was founded in 2012 as a project of Illinois Conservative Union (ICU). Illinois Conservative Union is a 501c4 non-profit, non-partisan, bona fide state civic organization. ICU has established a reputation for election expertise, professionalism and integrity throughout the state.

The IEIP Coalition is focused on election process and infrastructure. The Coalition does not endorse, promote or support candidates or campaigns. Coalition members work together to resolve common issues and act as “force multipliers” to help pass good election legislation and stop bad legislation. The IEIP Coalition is the Illinois statewide election integrity coalition recognized by the national Election Integrity Network.

### What is the national Election Integrity Network?

EIN was founded by Cleta Mitchell, and was expanded and continues to grow under the direction of the founders of the Virginia Coalition and the Virginia Model. Individuals and groups that are part of the Coalition operate by the tenets which make the Virginia Fair Elections Coalition successful. One of those tenets is to “leave egos and logos at the door”. Coalition partners can access

## Illinois Election Integrity Program (IEIP.org) Local, State and National Network



national and statewide working groups, training and resources.

Through the national EIN weekly working groups, honest election advocates from many states share best practices, strategize on how to implement best practices in each state, discuss and analyze tools and techniques to assist them in their work.

### What is a Local County Task Force?

When an election “goes off the rails”, it usually happens at the local level. As we learn of election issues across the nation, we hear “Fulton County”, “Maricopa County”, “Broward County”, etc. These problems often occur because the Local/County

Election Authority either doesn’t know election law, misinterprets the law, or blatantly disregards the law. Your Local County Task Force members serve as citizen “watchdogs” to ensure that Federal and state election laws are being followed. However, your Task Force should not take an adversarial approach when working with the local Election Authority. Our network and coalition encourages local Task Force members to assist and advise the Election Authorities in a knowledgeable and professional manner. Your Task Force should reflect the needs of your County. Local Task Force members are close to the issues and can discern which aspects of the election process they should focus upon.



# Illinois Conservative Union – Illinois Election Integrity Program (ieip.org)



**Everyone can help ensure election integrity.**

**Check out these election integrity working groups, and join us!**

## **Vulnerable Voters Working Group**

*Goal: Safeguard the voting rights of vulnerable citizens – seniors, disabled, active-duty military, ethnic minorities.*

- Protect the rights of those who are in circumstances in which they are dependent upon others.
- Military veterans – we need your help to protect the military vote!
- Become a helpful voting info resource for group facilities in your area.
- Build positive relationships with Administrators, Activity Directors and other employees of group facilities in your area.
- Participate in the bi-weekly national Vulnerable Voters Working Group Zoom on alternate Tuesdays, 3PM CT.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Citizen’s Research Working Group**

*Goal: Expose 3rd-party partisan organizations that hold influence over your local Election Jurisdiction.*

- Learn about dark money “non-profits” – 501c3’s & c4’s– that may have infiltrated your local Election Authority under the guise of “helping” with elections.
- Research the What, When, Why and How behind 3rd-party players.
- Submit FOIA’S (Freedom of Information Act requests) to discover contracts, agreements and communications with 3rd-party organizations working with your Election Jurisdiction.
- Participate in the weekly national Citizen’s Research Working Group Zoom on Tuesdays, 5PM CT.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Vote-By-Mail/USPS Working Group**

*Goal: Learn about and help monitor interaction between the Postal Service and the VBM system.*

- Assist with FOIA or issue FOIA requests.

- Research how VBM and USPS interact in your Election Jurisdiction.
- Participate in the bi-weekly national Vote-By-Mail/USPS Working Group Zoom on alternate Tuesdays, 3PM CT.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Legislative Working Group**

*Goal: Learn about and help craft effective election legislation for your state.*

- Develop working relationships with legislators.
- Work to understand existing election law.
- Help the Legislative Working Group monitor and issue Action Alerts in support of or in opposition to proposed election legislation.
- Participate in the weekly national Legislative Working Group Zoom on Wednesdays, 1PM CT.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Voter List Maintenance Working Group**

*Goal: Research voter lists to discover voters who have moved, are deceased, are registered twice, etc.*

- Take online software training to flag ineligible voters on the rolls.
- Help analyze anomalies.
- Participate in 2 weekly Voter List Maintenance Working Group Zooms: national group on Wednesdays, 3PM CT and Illinois VLM group once per week.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Election Audits Working Group**

*Goal: Research election audit procedures to discover the most effective audit methods.*

- Learn about genuine election audits.
- Receive training and coaching.
- Learn how to work with your Election Jurisdiction to increase accountability and transparency.

- Participate in the bi-weekly national Audit Working Group Zoom on alternate Thursdays, 3PM CT.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Election Technology Working Group**

*Goal: Research various election equipment and software to verify reliability and security.*

- Learn about various equipment used in the election process.
- Exchange knowledge with technical experts
- Receive training and coaching.
- Participate in the bi-weekly national Technology Working Group Zoom on alternate Thursdays, 3PM CT.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

## **Communications Working Group**

*Goal: Spread a positive message about citizen participation in the election process.*

- Help to counteract negative messages regarding election integrity.
- Receive training and coaching on writing OpEds, using social media and more.
- Participate in national Communications trainings as they are offered.
- Participate once per week in the IEIP State Coalition Zoom meeting to share knowledge.

***We provide training and ongoing support.***

*To sign up with our volunteer team,*

*scan the QR code below*

*or visit our Illinois Election Integrity Program website:*

[www.ieip.org](http://www.ieip.org)





## Top 10 *ACTION ITEMS* for Honest Elections

1. Become a Precinct Committeeman, obtain your legal precinct list and join the IEIP Voter Rolls Working Group to help clean the rolls on your local level.
2. Become a (well-trained!) election official (Election Judge, Board Member, or even a paid employee of the clerk's office).
3. Become a (well-trained!) election observer, credentialed by your favorite candidate or local political party – *“Eyes on Every Ballot”*.
4. A few weeks prior to election, check your registration status online – make sure you haven't “fallen off” the voter rolls.
5. Help friends and family check their registration status – resolve issues BEFORE voting begins!
6. Help conquer the Crisis of Confidence in voters – turnout is everything – tell them their vote matters and they must vote! Good laws are being passed in many states, election integrity coalitions and task forces are working –many positive actions!
7. Continue the fight against the takeover of our elections by the Federal government – leave elections to the states.
8. A few days before you vote, download your sample ballot from your county election website and select your candidates. You are allowed to take that sample ballot with you to vote. Planning ahead will save time in the voting booth. Encourage friends and family to do the same, and help them if needed. Your sample ballot will help you recognize if a poorly-trained Election Judge gives you the wrong ballot– this happens far too often.
9. *Consider using the “Claim your name, secure your vote” strategy:*  
**A.)** Request a Vote-by-Mail ballot early. Make sure you receive it, but don't vote it. **B.)** Go to vote **in person** on the first day of Early Voting and surrender your VBM ballot to the judge. **C.)** Watch to be sure the Election Judge writes “SPOILED” on your VBM ballot and secures it in a “Spoiled Ballot” envelope. **D.)** Then, vote in person right there, on a “live” paper ballot that you can feed through the tabulator yourself (even if you have to go out of your way to do so). (NOTE: Check with your Clerk's office first to find out which Early Voting facility allows you to vote and then immediately feed your own voted ballot into the tabulator. You don't want your Early Vote to be treated as though it is a Vote by Mail ballot–stuffed in an envelope, then sitting in a bin for weeks. That is the process at some Early Voting locations).  
**We do NOT recommend opting-in to the “Permanent Vote by Mail Ballot List” which is now being promoted in Illinois.**
10. Help to start an election integrity task force in your own county!

***SHARE THIS TOP 10 WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY***

***To sign up with our volunteer team scan the QR code below***

*or*

***visit our Illinois Election Integrity Program website:***

***www.ieip.org***





# *The Illinois Election Integrity Program (IEIP) recommends the VotifyNow app for “Eyes on Every Ballot”*

**Help to ensure transparent, fair and honest elections.**

VotifyNow is a FREE intuitive app that helps users strengthen the voting process.

## *Why we recommend VotifyNow:*

- Crowdsourcing of election incidents enables a broader response to reports from average voters
- Allows issues to be “triaged” – the most urgent can rise to the top & get faster action by candidates, officials & attorneys
- VotifyNow is FREE and requires very little to no training. It’s very intuitive.
- Reported issues can be monitored by several entities at several levels all at the same time (local party organizations, candidates, campaign offices, grassroots organizations, local State’s Attorney’s offices) – there is not one single “war room” through which all actions must flow, potentially causing bottlenecks
- Comprehensive reports are readily available
- Co-Admin privileges can be set up by various entities to watchdog specific districts, locations, etc.
- VotifyNow was successfully used in the 2022 election in AZ, specifically by the campaigns of Kari Lake, Abraham Hamadeh, and Mark Finchem
- VotifyNow data compiled in that election is now being used in court challenges filed by Lake and Hamadeh
- Facilitates the election integrity goal of “Eyes on Every Ballot”.
- Can be used by anyone involved in elections: poll workers, poll watchers, candidates, campaign volunteers, officials and best of all – the average voter.
- NOTE: In Illinois, use inside a polling location may be restricted due to Election Jurisdiction prohibiting use of cell phone or electronic devices within polling locations. Check local regulations!

## *VotifyNow App Features: Easy to use – Very Intuitive!*

Notify voters, party members and volunteers of any election/voter irregularities in their communities based on real time information being entered by users.

- Check for and report any mail-in ballot issues through an array of Election Integrity tools
- Detect and report any suspicious activity back through the app.
- Upload a brief description and image or video of what is observed onto the app (**always follow state and federal laws and guidelines**)
- Patterns of suspicious activity can be investigated further by designated Co- admin users.
- Timely info is sent out to all the users in that area so everybody can be alerted to issues.

*Download Now for Android and iPhone on Google Play or Apple App Store*

*Watch tutorial videos at: [VotifyNow.org](https://www.votifynow.org)*

Check out media coverage on the VotifyNow website:

The Washington Times • Just the News • Outside the Beltway • American Sunrise • FrankSpeech • The Epoch Times