

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

ROSA SEGUE, JOHN DOE/JANE DOE

Plaintiffs

v.

STATE OF Louisiana; KATHLEEN BLANCO,
the GOVERNOR of the STATE OF Louisiana
in her official capacity; CHARLES FOTI, the
ATTORNEY GENERAL in his official capacity;
JAY DARDENNE the SECRETARY OF STATE
in his official capacity; ANGIE LAPLACE, the
COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS in her
official capacity.

Defendants

CIVIL ACTION

CASE NO. 07-5221

SEC. N, MAG. 1

I, Angie R. LaPlace, declare as follows:

1. I have personal knowledge of each matter stated herein as I am the Commissioner of Elections for the State of Louisiana, and, as such, took on the responsibility for the Section 5 submission of the 30 day pre-notice letter by the Secretary of State's office, the submitting authority.

2. On behalf of the Secretary of State's office, I made a Section 5 voting submission to the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights Division on their web site, on June 6, 2007, using their new email submission application which documented submission at "12:20:54 on 2007-06-08" and I requested an expedited review of the submission, notifying the Department of the June 15, 2007 target date for mailing of the 30 day pre-notice letter. I completed each section of the submission explaining the 30 day pre-notice letter and attaching the supporting documents, but had to copy the documents into the actual submission because the web site would not accept them as attachments. I attempted to explain the 30 day pre-notice letter as an extra step that the Secretary's office was doing prior to the Registrars implementing the precleared practice of sending what we call a 21 day notice pursuant to R.S. 18:193(G) to voters that they had "reason

EXHIBIT 2

to believe” were registered in another state. The Secretary’s office entered into oral agreements with several other states and/or counties to share voter registration data and the Secretary’s office initially compared the other states’/counties’ voter registration file with Louisiana’s statewide voter registration file, comparing registration date, last name, first name, date of birth. Additionally, the comparison required that the last registration date be in the other state. The documents submitted initially contained (1) the “Letter of Intent to Challenge” which is the 30 day notice letter, (2) “other states-list of registered voters” which is an excel sheet listing the sharing of registration databases with other states, (3) “displaced voters project 4-22-05” which is the staff notes from contacts with all other states during the absentee by mail voting project for the Orleans Parish Municipal Elections in 2006. Additionally, on June 11, 2007 I emailed the Department of Justice to separately attach these documents in support of the submission as a back up. On the same date I received a submission file number 2007-3062 from Perry McCorkel, Supervisory E.O. Asst., Dept. of Justice /CRD/Voting Section.

3. On June 11, 2007 I also communicated by email to John K. Tanner, Chief of the Voting Section that I had just completed an “e-submission”, explaining the 30 day pre-notice letter to approximately 50,000 Louisiana registrants that we had reason to believe were registered in at least one other state, and sometimes more than one other state. I explained that this 30 day pre-notice letter was in addition to the 21 day notice letter that we have been authorized by law and approved under Section 5 to send from many years.

4. On June 15, 2007 I supplemented the submission by email with additional documentation that was received on that date, “results crosstab.xls”, which is a breakdown by parish of the number of possible duplicates in other states that were compared by the Secretary’s office to the Louisiana registration data as of that date. The email communication further clarified the process and also attached a document labeled “ROV registration other states letter.doc”, which is a memo to advise the registrars of those possible out of state registrants in

their particular parish and to advise them on how to process the information.

5. On both June 28, 2007 and on July 11, 2007 I exchanged by email several conversations with Christian Ortego in the Civil Rights Division, which included discussions of the process and guidelines that the Secretary's office used in advising Registrars on the process. Mr. Ortego had worked directly under Mr. Tanner in 2006 and was our contact for Section 5 submissions during the time following hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He engaged in conversations with me, but also informed me that I needed to deal directly with Mr. Tanner's Assistant, Yvette Rivera, which I did.

6. On July 26, 2007 I participated in a telephone conference with Yvette Rivera, Christian Ortego and many other employees for the Civil Rights Division, at their request, to talk about the submission and the process. I was asked to withdraw my initial e-submission and to resubmit in writing for a better understanding of the process. I agreed to re-submit my submission by hard copy and did in fact do so on August 8, 2007. I included the same documents submitted in the e-submission on June 8, 2007 and in the supplemental e-submission on June 11, 2007, along with additional memoranda to the Registrars. I also sent two additional documents by email to Yvette Rivera on August 8, 2007, (1) "Exact matches on or after 9-1-2005-with Addresses.xls" and (2) "NOT Exact matches on or after 9-1-2005-with Addresses.xls". These two documents were not mailed on August 8, 2007 because of their size. Each document, when printed, fills an entire box for copy paper. These two documents included the exact matches based on last name, first name, middle name, date of birth, and last registration date in other state, and also included the NOT exact matches as developed by the Information Technology section of the Secretary's office.

7. On September 20, 2007 I again sent a written letter to John K. Tanner further clarifying the original submission and answering some issues raised in a comment letter by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

8. As of this date, the Secretary's submission of the 30 day pre-notice letter and all matters related thereto are pending before the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Voting Section.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed within the United States on September 27, 2007.



ANGIE R. LAPLACE