

February 28, 2023

MEDIA ADVISORY: STATEMENT FROM SECRETARY OF STATE KYLE ARDOIN ON ORLEANS PARISH VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin issued the following statement today concerning the questions surrounding voter list maintenance in Orleans Parish:

“First and foremost, I reiterate that the responsibility of updating and maintaining an accurate voter registration list falls to the Registrar of Voters in each parish. While my role is limited, my office has complied with each and every process provided and allowed for in law related to voter list maintenance.

However, I have long argued that the law does not go far enough. It is vital that we have more tools to ensure an accurate voter registration list; namely, a supplemental canvass to address individuals who are deceased, ineligible to vote in Louisiana, or have moved out-of-state. Despite the fact that many of these voters will not be removed through our current, legally prescribed canvass or monthly list maintenance procedures, Governor Edwards has continued to deny my office and our parish Registrars of Voters this necessary tool by vetoing legislation that would provide for such in 2021 and 2022.

As the law currently stands, my office has followed what we are legally allowed and required to do. I am confident in my office’s ability to conduct our part of the list maintenance process, but I continue to support stronger procedures, such as a supplemental voter canvass, and will support legislation to authorize one when it is presented to the legislature in the upcoming session.”

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