Dear Sheriff Goodwin:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

Under the U.S. Constitution, those held in jails are legally permitted vote unless they are otherwise ineligible due to age, citizenship status, or a prior felony conviction. U.S. Const. amend. XIV, §1. Preventing someone from exercising their voting rights is illegal and undermines the presumption of innocence that is integral to our criminal legal system. This is also important because national statistics show that people of color and low-income individuals are disproportionately represented in jail populations. See Jail Inmates in 2017, Bureau of Justice Statistics (Apr. 2019), available at https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ji17_sum.pdf.

Virginia law permits “[a]ny person who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor” to request an absentee ballot if their trial or release date is scheduled within three days preceding the election. Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). Virginia law also requires that, upon the request of any person who is confined awaiting trial in the same city or county where they are a resident, the individual “be taken to the polls to vote on election day if his trial date is postponed and he did not have an opportunity to vote absentee.” Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). This means that all registered voters detained in jail can request an absentee ballot and, under certain circumstances, must be taken by jail officials to a polling site on Election Day.

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Every eligible voter — including those who are currently incarcerated in our local jails — must be allowed to exercise their rights and have voice in the elections that shape our laws and society. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further. We can be reached at (804) 644-8022 or [acluva@acluva.org](mailto:acluva@acluva.org).

Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff J.E. "Chip" Harding
Albemarle County Sheriff’s Department
411 E. High Street Bldg B
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Dear Sheriff Harding:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne
Alexandria Sheriff’s Office
2003 Mill Road
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sheriff Lawhorne:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

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CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sherriff Kevin Hall
Allegheny County Sheriff’s Office
268 W. Main St
Covington, VA 24426

Dear Sherriff Hall:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Ricky Walker
Amelia County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 463
Amelia, VA 23002

Dear Sheriff Walker:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Ernest "EW" Viar Jr.
Amherst County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 410
Amherst, VA 24521

Dear Sheriff Viar Jr.:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Barry Letterman  
Appomattox County Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 366  
Appomattox, VA 24522

Dear Sheriff Letterman:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Beth Arthur
Arlington County Sheriff’s Office
1425 N. Courthouse Rd., Suite 9100
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Sheriff Arthur:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Clare Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Donald Smith
Augusta County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 860
Verona, VA 24482

Dear Sheriff Smith:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Robert Plecker
Bath County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 218
Warm Springs, VA 24484

Dear Sheriff Plecker:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Brown  
Bedford County Sheriff’s Office  
1345 Falling Creek Rd  
Bedford, VA 24523

Dear Sheriff Brown:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Virginia law permits “[a]ny person who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor” to request an absentee ballot if their trial or release date is scheduled within three days preceding the election. Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). Virginia law also requires that, upon the request of any person who is confined awaiting trial in the same city or county where they are a resident, the individual “be taken to the polls to vote on election day if his trial date is postponed and he did not have an opportunity to vote absentee.” Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). This means that all registered voters detained in jail can request an absentee ballot and, under certain circumstances, must be taken by jail officials to a polling site on Election Day.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Jason Ramsey
Bland County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 449
Bland, VA 24315

Dear Sheriff Ramsey:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Ronald Sprinkle
Botetourt County Sheriff's Office
205 N Roanoke St. PO BOX 18
Fincastle, VA 24090

Dear Sheriff Sprinkle:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Maples
Bristol Sheriff’s Office
417 Cumberland Street
Bristol, VA 24201

Dear Sheriff Maples:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Brian Roberts
Brunswick County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 705
Lawrenceville, VA 23868

Dear Sheriff Roberts:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff C. Ray Foster
Buchanan County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 90
Vansant, VA 24656

Dear Sheriff Foster:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff W.G. "Billy" Kidd Jr.
Buckingham County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 50
Buckingham, VA 23921

Dear Sheriff Kidd Jr.:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff W. Randolph Hamilton
Buena Vista Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 1031
Buena Vista, VA 24416

Dear Sheriff Hamilton:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Steve Hutcherson
Campbell County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 280
Rustburg, VA 24588

Dear Sheriff Hutcherson:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff A.A. "Tony" Lippa  
Caroline County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 39  
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Sheriff Lippa:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff John Gardner
Carroll County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 575
Hillsville, VA 24343

Dear Sheriff Gardner:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
  Virginia Department of Elections
  Virginia Sheriff’s Association
  Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Alan Jones, Sr.
Charles City County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 87
Charles City, VA 23030

Dear Sheriff Jones, Sr.:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

![Signature]

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

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CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Thomas Jones
Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
222 Law Lane
Charlotte Court House, VA 23923

Dear Sheriff Jones:

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Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff James Brown
Charlottesville Sheriff’s Office
614 East High Street
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Dear Sheriff Brown:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Jim O'Sullivan
Chesapeake Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 15125
Cheasapeake, VA 23328

Dear Sheriff O'Sullivan:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Karl Leonard  
Chesterfield County Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 940  
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Dear Sheriff Leonard:

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Anthony Roper
Clarke County Sheriff's Office
100 N Church St
Berryville, AV 22611

Dear Sheriff Roper:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Todd Wilson
Colonial Heights Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 3401
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

Dear Sheriff Wilson:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Trevor Craddock  
Craig County Sheriff's Office  
PO Box 266  
New Castle, VA 24127

Dear Sheriff Craddock:

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Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Scott Jenkins
Culpeper Sheriff’s Office
306 N Main St
Culpepper, VA 22701

Dear Sheriff Jenkins:

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Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Darrell Hodges
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office
PO Box 71
Cumberland, VA 23040

Dear Sheriff Hodges:

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Virginia law permits “[a]ny person who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor” to request an absentee ballot if their trial or release date is scheduled within three days preceding the election. Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). Virginia law also requires that, upon the request of any person who is confined awaiting trial in the same city or county where they are a resident, the individual “be taken to the polls to vote on election day if his trial date is postponed and he did not have an opportunity to vote absentee.” Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). This means that all registered voters detained in jail can request an absentee ballot and, under certain circumstances, must be taken by jail officials to a polling site on Election Day.

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Every eligible voter — including those who are currently incarcerated in our local jails — must be allowed to exercise their rights and have voice in the elections that shape our laws and society. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further. We can be reached at (804) 644-8022 or acluva@acluva.org.

Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Mondul
Danville Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 3405
Danville, VA 24541

Dear Sheriff Mondul:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
     Virginia Department of Elections
     Virginia Sheriff’s Association
     Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Scott Stanley
Dickenson County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 339
Clintwood, VA 24228

Dear Sheriff Stanley:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff D.T. "Duck" Adams
Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Office
PO Box 120
Dinwiddie, VA 23841

Dear Sheriff Adams:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff D. Keith Prince Jr.
Emporia Sheriff's Office
401 D South Main Street
Emporia, VA 23847

Dear Sheriff Prince Jr.:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff W.A "Arnie" Holmes
Essex County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 955
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Dear Sheriff Holmes:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Stacey Kincaid
Fairfax County Sheriff's Office
4110 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030

Dear Sheriff Kincaid:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff S. Stephen Bittle
Falls Church Sheriff’s Office
300 Park Ave, Suite 201 W
Falls Church, VA 22046

Dear Sheriff Bittle:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Robert Mosier
Fauquier County Sheriff’s Office
78 W Lee St
Warrenton, VA 20186

Dear Sheriff Mosier:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Brian Craig  
Floyd County Sheriff’s Office  
100 East Main St, Room 206  
Floyd, VA 24091

Dear Sheriff Craig:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Eric Hess
Fluvana County Sheriff’s Office
PO Box 113
Palmyra, VA 22963

Dear Sheriff Hess:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff W.Q. "Bill" Overton
Franklin Sheriff's Office
70 E Court St, Suite 101
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

Dear Sheriff Overton:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Lenny Millholland
Frederick County Sheriff's Office
1080 Coverstone Dr
Winchester, VA 22602

Dear Sheriff Millholland:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Paul Higgs
Fredericksburg Sheriff’s Office
PO Box 448
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Dear Sheriff Higgs:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff W. Morgan Millirons
Giles County Sheriff’s Office
1 Taylor Avenue Ste 3
Pearisburg, VA 24134

Dear Sheriff Millirons:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Darrell Warren Jr.
Gloucester County Sheriff's Office
7502 Justice Dr
Gloucester, VA 23061

Dear Sheriff Warren Jr.:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff James Agnew
Goochland County Sheriff’s Office
PO Box 29
Goochland, VA 23063

Dear Sheriff Agnew:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Richard Vaughan
Grayson County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 160
Independence, VA 24348

Dear Sheriff Vaughan:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Steven Smith
Greene County Sheriff's Office
10005 Spotswood Trail
Stanardsville, VA 22973

Dear Sheriff Smith:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff William Jarrat, Jr.
Greensville County Sheriff's Office
174 Uriah Branch Way
Emporia, VA 23847

Dear Sheriff Jarrat, Jr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Fred Clark
Halifax Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 370
Halifax, VA 24558

Dear Sheriff Clark:

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Sincerely,

![Signature]

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff B.J. Roberts
Hampton Sheriff’s Office
1928 West Pembroke Avenue
Hampton, VA 23661

Dear Sheriff Roberts:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Hines  
Hanover County Sheriff’s Office  
PO Box 40  
Hanover, VA 23069

Dear Sheriff Hines:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Wade
Henrico County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 90775
Henrico, VA 23228

Dear Sheriff Wade:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Lane Perry  
Henry County Sheriff’s Office  
3250 Kings Mountain Rd  
Martinsville, VA 24112

Dear Sheriff Perry:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Neil
Highland County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 485
Monterey, VA 24465

Dear Sheriff Neil:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Steve Kephart Jr.
Hopewell Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 1193
Hopewell, VA 23860

Dear Sheriff Kephart Jr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff James Clarke  
Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 75  
Isle of Wight, VA 23397

Dear Sheriff Clarke:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Robert Deeds
James City County Sheriff’s Office
5201 Monticello Ave # 5
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Dear Sheriff Deeds:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff John Charboneau  
King & Queen County Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 38  
King and Queen Courthouse, VA 23085

Dear Sheriff Charboneau:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Steve F. Dempsey
King George County Sheriff's Office
10445 Government Center Boulevard
King George, VA 22485

Dear Sheriff Dempsey:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

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CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff J.S. "Jeff" Walton
King William County Sheriff’s Office
351 Courthouse Lane, Suite 160
King William, VA 23086

Dear Sheriff Walton:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Patrick McCranie  
Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office  
8293 Mary Ball Rd  
Lancaster, VA 22503

Dear Sheriff McCranie:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Gary Parsons
Lee County Sheriff's Office (Virginia)
P.O. Box 177
Jonesville, VA 24263

Dear Sheriff Parsons:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Chapman
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 7200
Leesburg, VA 20177

Dear Sheriff Chapman:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Ashland Fortune
Louisa County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 504
Louisa, Virginia 23093

Dear Sheriff Fortune:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Arthur Townsend, Jr.
Lunenburg County Sheriff's Office
160 Courthouse Square
Lunenburg, VA 23952

Dear Sheriff Townsend, Jr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Donald Sloan  
Lynchburg Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 217  
Lynchburg, VA 24504

Dear Sheriff Sloan:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Erik Weaver
Madison County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 322
Madison, VA 22727

Dear Sheriff Weaver:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Steve Draper  
Martinsville Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 1326  
Martinsville, VA 24114

Dear Sheriff Draper:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff L. Mark Barrick  
Mathews County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 190  
Mathews, VA 23109

Dear Sheriff Barrick:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Every eligible voter — including those who are currently incarcerated in our local jails — must be allowed to exercise their rights and have voice in the elections that shape our laws and society. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further. We can be reached at (804) 644-8022 or acluva@acluva.org.

Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Robert Hawkins, Jr.
Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 390
Boydton, VA 23917

Dear Sheriff Hawkins, Jr.:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Bushey
Middlesex County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 207
Saluda, VA 23149

Dear Sheriff Bushey:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff C.H. Partin
Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office
1 E Main St
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Dear Sheriff Partin:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Hill
Nelson County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 36
Lovingston, VA 22949

Dear Sheriff Hill:

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Joe McLaughlin, Jr.
New Kent County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 186
New Kent, VA 23124

Dear Sheriff McLaughlin, Jr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
Dear Sheriff Morgan:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Joe Baron
Norfolk Sheriff's Office
811 City Hall Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Sheriff Baron:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Doughty Jr.
Northampton County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 68
Eastville, VA 23347

Dear Sheriff Doughty Jr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff James Lyons
Northumberland County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 310
Heathsville, VA 22473

Dear Sheriff Lyons:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Carlos Noaks
Norton Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 307
Norton, VA 24273

Dear Sheriff Noaks:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Larry Parrish  
Nottoway County Sheriff’s Office  
PO Box 6  
Nottoway, VA 23955

Dear Sheriff Parrish:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
   Virginia Department of Elections
   Virginia Sheriff’s Association
   Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Mark Amos
Orange County Police
P. O. Box 445
Orange, VA 22960

Dear Sheriff Amos:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Chadwick Cubbage
Page County Sheriff’s Office
108 S. Court Street
Luray, VA 22835

Dear Sheriff Cubbage:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Dan Smith  
Patrick County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 128  
Stuart, VA 24171

Dear Sheriff Smith:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Vanessa Crawford
Petersburg Sheriff's Office
8 Courthouse Ave
Petersburg, VA 23803

Dear Sheriff Crawford:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Taylor
Pittsylvania County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 407
Chatham, VA 24531

Dear Sheriff Taylor:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Moore
Portsmouth Sheriff's Office
701 Crawford St
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Dear Sheriff Moore:

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Sincerely,

![Signature]

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Brad Nunnally  
Powhatan County Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 133  
Powhatan, VA 23139  

Dear Sheriff Nunnally:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Wesley Reed
Prince Edward County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 25
Farmville, VA 23901

Dear Sheriff Reed:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff H.E. "Bucky" Allin, III
Prince George County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 366
Prince George, VA 23875

Dear Sheriff Allin, III:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Glendell Hill  
Prince William County Sheriff’s Office  
9311 Lee Avenue  
Manassas, VA 20110

Dear Sheriff Hill:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Michael Worrell
Pulaski Sheriff's Office
802 East Main Street
Pulaski, VA 24301

Dear Sheriff Worrell:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Mark Armentrout  
Radford Sheriff’s Office  
619 2nd St, Ste 8  
Radford, VA 24141

Dear Sheriff Armentrout:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Connie Compton
Rappahannock County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 487
Washington, VA 22747

Dear Sheriff Compton:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Stephan Smith  
Richmond County Sheriff’s Office  
P. O. Box 115  
Warsaw, VA 22572

Dear Sheriff Smith:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Antoinette Irving
Richmond Sheriff's Office
1701 Fairfield Way
Richmond, VA 23223

Dear Sheriff Irving:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Timothy Allen
Roanoke Sheriff's Office
340 Campbell Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

Dear Sheriff Allen:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff J. Eric Orange  
Roanoke County Sheriff’s Office  
P.O. Box 510  
Salem, VA 24153

Dear Sheriff Orange:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Christopher Blalock
Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office
258 Greenhouse Rd
Lexington, VA 24450

Dear Sheriff Blalock:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga  
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails  
Virginia Department of Elections  
Virginia Sheriff’s Association  
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Bryan Hutcheson
Rockingham County Sheriff’s Office
25 South Liberty Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Dear Sheriff Hutcheson:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Steven Dye
Russell County Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 338
Lebanon, VA 24266

Dear Sheriff Dye:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff April Staton
Salem Sheriff’s Office
2 East Calhoun Street
Salem, VA 24153

Dear Sheriff Staton:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Chris Holder
Scott County Sheriff's Office
336 Water Street
Gate City, VA 24251

Dear Sheriff Holder:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Timothy Carter
Shenandoah Sheriff's Office
109 West Court Street
Woodstock, VA 22664

Dear Sheriff Carter:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff B.C. "Chip" Shuler  
Smyth County Sheriff’s Office  
819 Matson Drive  
Marion, VA 24354

Dear Sheriff Shuler:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff J.B. Jack Stutts
Southampton County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 70
Courtland, VA 23837

Dear Sheriff Stutts:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Roger Harris
Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 124
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Dear Sheriff Harris:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff David Decatur  
Stafford County Sheriff’s Office  
PO Box 189  
Stafford, VA 22555

Dear Sheriff Decatur:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Matthew Robertson
Staunton Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 64
Staunton, VA 24402

Dear Sheriff Robertson:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff E.C. Harris  
Suffolk Sheriff's Office  
150 N Main Street  
Suffolk, VA 23434

Dear Sheriff Harris:

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Virginia law permits “[a]ny person who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor” to request an absentee ballot if their trial or release date is scheduled within three days preceding the election. Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). Virginia law also requires that, upon the request of any person who is confined awaiting trial in the same city or county where they are a resident, the individual “be taken to the polls to vote on election day if his trial date is postponed and he did not have an opportunity to vote absentee.” Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). This means that all registered voters detained in jail can request an absentee ballot and, under certain circumstances, must be taken by jail officials to a polling site on Election Day.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Carlos Turner
Surry County Sheriff’s Office
P. O. Box 233
Surry, VA 23883

Dear Sheriff Turner:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Ernest Giles Sr.
Sussex County Sheriff’s Office
Post Office Box 1326
Sussex, VA 23884

Dear Sheriff Giles Sr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
    Virginia Department of Elections
    Virginia Sheriff’s Association
    Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Brian Hieatt  
Tazewell Sheriff’s Office  
315 School St #3  
Tazewell, VA 24651

Dear Sheriff Hieatt:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Kenneth Stolle
Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office
2501 James Madison Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Dear Sheriff Stolle:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
Dear Sheriff Arnold:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Fred Newman
Washington County Sheriff’s Office
20281 Rustic LN
Abingdon, VA 24210

Dear Sheriff Newman:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Joe Harris, Jr.
Waynesboro Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 189
Waynesboro, VA 22980

Dear Sheriff Harris, Jr.:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff C.O. Balderson
Westmoreland County Sheriff’s Office
PO Box 305
Montross, VA 22520

Dear Sheriff Balderson:

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Robert Deeds
Williamsburg-James Sheriff’s Office
5201 Monticello Ave # 5
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Dear Sheriff Deeds:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff's Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Les Taylor
Winchester Sheriff’s Office
5 North Kent Street
Winchester, VA 22601

Dear Sheriff Taylor:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

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Sheriffs and superintendents have a duty to ensure those currently detained in jails are allowed to vote. Persons who are detained waiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence are two of the groups privileged to vote absentee under Virginia’s excused-based absentee voting law. Sheriffs and superintendents should honor the voting rights of jail residents by disseminating voting rights information, inviting registrars to facilitate registration of eligible voters in their facilities, asking eligible individuals whether they wish to apply for an absentee ballot, and taking other steps to protect the voting rights of all eligible Virginians in their custody.

Every eligible voter — including those who are currently incarcerated in our local jails — must be allowed to exercise their rights and have voice in the elections that shape our laws and society. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further. We can be reached at (804) 644-8022 or acluva@acluva.org.

Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Ronnie Oakes
Wise Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 916
Wise, VA 24293

Dear Sheriff Oakes:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

Under the U.S. Constitution, those held in jails are legally permitted vote unless they are otherwise ineligible due to age, citizenship status, or a prior felony conviction. U.S. Const. amend. XIV, §1. Preventing someone from exercising their voting rights is illegal and undermines the presumption of innocence that is integral to our criminal legal system. This is also important because national statistics show that people of color and low-income individuals are disproportionately represented in jail populations. See Jail Inmates in 2017, Bureau of Justice Statistics (Apr. 2019), available at https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ji17_sum.pdf.

Virginia law permits “[a]ny person who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor” to request an absentee ballot if their trial or release date is scheduled within three days preceding the election. Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). Virginia law also requires that, upon the request of any person who is confined awaiting trial in the same city or county where they are a resident, the individual “be taken to the polls to vote on election day if his trial date is postponed and he did not have an opportunity to vote absentee.” Va. Code § 24.2-700(5). This means that all registered voters detained in jail can request an absentee ballot and, under certain circumstances, must be taken by jail officials to a polling site on Election Day.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff W. Keith Dunagan
Wythe County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 819
Wytheville, VA 24382

Dear Sheriff Dunagan:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

Under the U.S. Constitution, those held in jails are legally permitted vote unless they are otherwise ineligible due to age, citizenship status, or a prior felony conviction. U.S. Const. amend. XIV, §1. Preventing someone from exercising their voting rights is illegal and undermines the presumption of innocence that is integral to our criminal legal system. This is also important because national statistics show that people of color and low-income individuals are disproportionately represented in jail populations. See Jail Inmates in 2017, Bureau of Justice Statistics (Apr. 2019), available at https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ji17_sum.pdf.

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Sincerely,

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga
Executive Director

CC: Virginia Association of Regional Jails
Virginia Department of Elections
Virginia Sheriff’s Association
Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
October 16, 2019

Sheriff Shelley Ward
York County-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office
P.O. Box 99
Yorktown, VA 23690

Dear Sheriff Ward:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) of Virginia is dedicated to protecting and expanding the freedom to vote for all Virginians 18 and over. Accordingly, we want to be sure sheriffs and superintendents of regional jails are aware of and fulfill their duty to protect the voting rights of all those who are currently detained in Virginia jails while awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence.

Under the U.S. Constitution, those held in jails are legally permitted vote unless they are otherwise ineligible due to age, citizenship status, or a prior felony conviction. U.S. Const. amend. XIV, §1. Preventing someone from exercising their voting rights is illegal and undermines the presumption of innocence that is integral to our criminal legal system. This is also important because national statistics show that people of color and low-income individuals are disproportionately represented in jail populations. See Jail Inmates in 2017, Bureau of Justice Statistics (Apr. 2019), available at https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ji17_sum.pdf.

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