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Illinois Election Records Under Scrutiny in Federal Court as Voters Seek Answers Before Certification

Federal lawsuit alleges unresolved voter-record discrepancies, incomplete records production, and failure to provide meaningful access to information leaves important questions unanswered and results unverifiable.

CONTACT: *Media@Unite4Freedom.com*
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SPRINGFIELD, IL — How can voters have confidence in election administration when significant changes appear in official voter records, yet the underlying documentation needed to explain those changes remains unavailable and results are unverifiable?

Seven individual plaintiffs, including five Illinois voters and two out-of-state records requesters, have filed a federal lawsuit against two Illinois election officials in their official capacities. They seek court-ordered access to covered election-administration records, independent examination of disputed voter-registration and voting-history data, and judicial intervention addressing alleged failures to provide records required by federal law.

The complaint, filed November 17, 2026, in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois, alleges that the Illinois State Board of Elections has not fully produced records requested under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), despite prior notices, acknowledged requests, and a promise of supplemental materials.

The plaintiffs contend that the missing operational records are necessary to determine how discrepancies in official voter files were generated, reviewed, resolved, and incorporated into the state's voter-registration system.

"This lawsuit is about the ability to examine the records, ask legitimate questions, and obtain answers supported by documentation," says lead plaintiff and Unite4Freedom Chairman Harry Haury. "Election records should be sufficiently complete, transparent, and auditable to allow discrepancies to be investigated and resolved."

Millions of voter-record changes identified for examination

The complaint cites comparisons of successive official Illinois voter files that identified:

- **254,027 documented changes** to **2024** participation records between **January 24, 2025, and May 13, 2026**.
  - **109,976** changes from voting to NOT voting.
  - **15,119** changes from NOT voting to voting.
  - **111,268 deletions** and **17,664 additions** of voters and their participation histories.

The filing also identifies hundreds of thousands of changes in participation histories for the 2020 and 2022 elections.

The plaintiffs do not assert that every flagged record demonstrates an unlawful vote, an ineligible voter, fraud, or an incorrect election outcome. Rather, they claim these numbers raise questions that cannot be responsibly answered without access to the underlying records: Who initiated the changes? What documentation supported them? Were required procedures followed? Were the changes properly recorded, preserved and reconciled?

Transparency and verifiability are the foundation of public trust.

"The public should not have to blindly trust the word of election administrators whose work they call into question. Election officials have a responsibility to maintain accurate records. When citizens identify discrepancies in those records, they have a legal right to ask for documentation behind them," says Harry Haury, lead plaintiff and chairman of Unite4Freedom. "These are public records and the law requires election officials to make them available. The answer should be transparency—not bureaucratic stonewalling."

Individual plaintiffs describe unresolved records issues

The complaint identifies distinct experiences that the plaintiffs say demonstrate the need for access to underlying election records.

- An Illinois voter's official history records participation in three elections in which she says she did not vote.
- A Chicago election judge says her March 2020 primary voting history identifies a Democratic ballot, although she says she cast a Republican ballot.
- A DuPage County candidate preserved approximately 354 pieces of returned campaign mail, raising questions about whether address-related conditions were appropriately reviewed and resolved.
- A former candidate for the 2026 Republican U.S. Senate nomination seeks records for the inspection and correction activities described in his declaration.
- An Illinois House candidate seeks records to examine registration and participation processes relevant to her 2026 race; her declaration also identifies election-mail and related record-production issues.
- An out-of-state records requester and analyst seeks source records and system histories to investigate and reconcile reported conditions in Illinois voter files.
- Unite4Freedom's chair and president, who is an individual plaintiff, says state requests made by him and other requesters remain incomplete.

Plaintiffs seek independent review and judicial oversight

The plaintiffs ask the court to preserve the underlying election records, compel meaningful access to those records, authorize independent examination and expedited discovery, require sworn accountability from election officials, and consider narrowly tailored certification-related relief if necessary to permit the investigation to be completed.

The lawsuit asks the federal court to address the failure to provide records and to require appropriate compliance with federal voter-registration law.

"Show us the records. Explain the changes. Let the evidence speak. If everything was done properly, transparency should be the state's strongest defense," says Haury.

The continuing pursuit of truth in our elections

The Illinois complaint is the second federal lawsuit filed this year by Unite4Freedom or its volunteers following a filing in Pennsylvania. With NVRA Notices of Violations and Demand for Correction Action sent to 30 states prior to the 2026 election that were largely ignored, the group intends to pursue additional legal action in several more states in the coming months. Unite4Freedom intends to take these suits all the way to the Supreme Court, if necessary.

When significant discrepancies are identified in official election records, the appropriate response is not simply to assure the public that the system worked. The underlying records should be preserved, examined, and used to establish what occurred.

Americans deserve their government's best efforts to restore trust in our elections by supporting transparency and accuracy in the process that awards power to make the laws under which we must live.

Unite4Freedom will continue its non-partisan efforts to restore lawful, accurate, and transparent elections by using official records, administrative remedies, and lawful judicial processes to seek answers and, where warranted, corrective action. Visit unite4freedom.com/litigation for our latest updates.

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