



**Jon Husted**  
Ohio Secretary of State

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**DIRECTIVE 2013-11**

May 23, 2013

To: All County Boards of Elections  
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: Examining Voter Registration Addresses

**SUMMARY**

Each county board of elections must review the eligibility of any elector whose voter registration address is an address at which the individual rents a postal box to obtain mail, such as an address for a branch of the United States Postal Service (USPS) or a commercial entity such as Mail Boxes Etc<sup>®</sup> or the UPS Store<sup>®</sup>. The place where an individual receives mail but does not reside is not considered the individual's "residence" under state law for voter registration purposes.<sup>1</sup> Each Board must program its county voter registration system to flag the usage of any such address by an elector in the future or regularly examine its county voter file to determine the eligibility of any individual registering to vote using such an address, prospectively.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Each county board of elections must compile a list of the addresses for all USPS and commercial mailbox entities in its county at which patrons may rent postal boxes. The Board must compare the resulting list to the county's voter registration system to determine if any voters are registered at these addresses. The board of elections then must determine the residence qualifications of these voters<sup>2</sup> using the guidelines established by Ohio law.

Additionally, each county board of elections must program its county voter registration systems to flag the future usage of any such address or regularly review/examine its county voter file to determine the eligibility of any individual registering to vote using such an address, prospectively.

Please note that nothing in this Directive affects a voter who has a post office box on file with the board of elections for the efficient receipt of notifications from the board of elections, either as a preference for receiving mail or due to postal service operations. In these instances, the post office box is provided by the voter in addition to the voter's residential address and is recorded in the "mailing address" fields of the voter registration card and system.

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3503.02

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3501.11(Q)

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact the Secretary of State's elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Husted". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first letter "J" is large and loops around the "o". The "H" is tall and the "u" is connected to the "d".

Jon Husted