



Republican National Lawyers Association

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RNLA Statement on the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity

Washington, D.C. — Today, President Trump announced the creation of a commission chaired by Vice President Pence to investigate the challenges to election integrity in America. The Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA) has long been the leader in fighting for open, fair, and honest elections and applauds President Trump for taking this step to ensure that every eligible voter's vote counts.

RNLA President Elliot Berke said: "Vote fraud has been difficult to quantify largely due to a lack of data, but the Vice President's commission will be able to gather and provide important information on the problem of voter fraud that will help states as they work to make their elections open, fair, and honest. It is reassuring to see President Trump taking this problem seriously and seeking to do something to help election officials do their important job."

RNLA Co-Chair John Ryder stated: "We are pleased to see that the Commission is being led by Vice President Pence and Secretary Kris Kobach of Kansas. Secretary Kobach has long been a leader on election integrity issues such as voter list maintenance, an issue which has bipartisan support and which was recommended by President Obama's Presidential Commission on Election Administration."

RNLA Vice President for Communications Ron Hicks stated: "For all elections to be fair, open and honest, procedures must be in place and uniformly followed to ensure all eligible voters can vote if they want to exercise that right and their votes will not be diluted by votes from ineligible voters. We welcome the Commission's work on addressing voter fraud and look forward to assisting the Commission on finding solutions that will restore the public's trust in our electoral system."

RNLA Executive Director Michael Thielen said: "This is an important issue and the public is entitled to a full, fair exposition of the problems and solutions. We hope the Democrats will listen this time and not ignore or attack for partisan political purposes this bipartisan commission as they have done with President Obama's Presidential Commission on Election Administration's recommendations on accurate voter lists and the Carter-Baker Commission, which supported voter ID."

Unfortunately, Americans have low faith in our electoral process, as demonstrated by a recent Gallup poll that showed a record low 30% of Americans expressed confidence in the "honesty of elections." Those who deny the existence of vote fraud should join us in welcoming and assisting the commission's investigation into election integrity. If the problem of vote fraud is really as rare as they say, the commission's findings will prove their point. If problems are uncovered, the commission can work to provide solutions and remedies so that all Americans can feel more confident in our electoral system.

The RNLA looks forward to reviewing the findings and recommendations of the commission and working together with election officials to ensure that the problems that harm the integrity of our elections are eliminated or reduced to protect the lawful votes of all eligible voters.

RNLA leaders and election law experts are available to talk to the media. For more information, please visit <http://www.rnla.org/VFCommissionPress.asp>.

The RNLA is the national organization of Republican attorneys. The mission of the RNLA is to advance professionalism; promote open, fair and honest elections; career opportunity; and Republican ideals. For more information, please visit <http://www.rnla.org>.

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