



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

KIM WYMAN
AUDITOR

July 19, 2005

Peter Gregory
Office of Chief Council
Citizenship and Immigration Service
20 Massachusetts Ave NW
Room 4025
Washington, DC 20529

Dear Mr. Gregory,

As you may be aware, the State of Washington recently completed a lengthy court battle over the outcome of our election for governor. With this election contest, the issue of persons voting illegally became a focal point. Incidents of felons, non-citizens, and family members of deceased persons voting occurred across the state.

As county auditor, I am writing to request your department's assistance in determining whether any non-citizens are registered to vote in Thurston County. I understand the mandate to the Immigration and Naturalization Service to provide information on citizenship status under 18 USC 1373(c) is now the responsibility of the Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS) and that your office is the point of contact for such requests.

The perception of the integrity of the voter registration records in Washington State has been adversely affected. Following the 2004 General Election, there were reports of a number of felons who had not had their voting rights restored and had voted in Thurston County. My office investigated these reports and is in the process of removing these voters from the voter registration list.

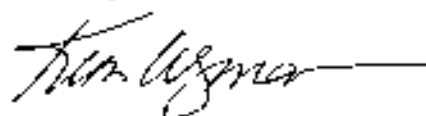
Subsequently, there have been allegations made to me of non-citizens registering and voting in Thurston County who registered when applying for driver's licenses or social services. My office is unable to investigate the citizenship status of registered voters without a formal voter registration challenge made by another registered voter.



The CIS database may be a source for our county to identify non-citizens who are registered to vote. I request your assistance in comparing the Thurston County database of approximately 140,000 registered voters containing each voter's name, address, and date of birth to the CIS database of Washington State to help identify non-citizens matching these parameters.

The more identifying information we obtain from your records, the more accurate we will be in confirming matches to our database. We maintain images of voters' signatures and would appreciate copies of signatures for comparison, if possible. Please inform me of your procedures to proceed with our request or to make a specific data request. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Wyman", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kim Wyman
Thurston County Auditor