



Jon Husted Ohio Secretary of State

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June 5, 2014

Dear Voters of Lucas County:

After reviewing the report and recommendation of Matt Damschroder, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and duly appointed Hearing Officer, I am taking the following actions, which shall become effective immediately:

- Board Members Ron Rothenbuhler, Jon Stainbrook and Tony DeGidio, for the reasons set forth in the report and recommendation and pursuant to my authority under Ohio Revised Code 3501.16, are hereby removed from their positions on the Lucas County Board of Elections.
- Board Member John Irish, though he is not subject to removal, based on his actions on Election Night and pursuant to my authority under Ohio Revised Code 3501.16, is suspended until new Board Members are sworn in.
- While she is not blameless, for the sake of the immediate administrative and operational needs of the Board of Elections, I am allowing Gina Kaczala to remain as Interim Director until such time as new Board Members are sworn in. At that time, the new Board will undertake a process to fill the position of Director of the Lucas County Board of Elections.
- Because of the resignation of Deputy Director Dan DeAngelis, I am making Elections Services Manager, LaVera Scott, Interim Deputy Director until new Board Members are sworn in and hire a Deputy Director of their choosing.
- Staff from my office will conduct regular conference calls with Ms. Kaczala and Ms. Scott and other necessary staff members to ensure day-to-day operations continue.
- Staff from my office may be onsite on an as-needed basis until new Board Members are appointed.

It was always my hope that the Lucas County Board of Elections would work to resolve their issues locally. However, after several interventions by my office, and the unprecedented undertaking of the Transparency Committee culminating with this removal process, it is clear that change at the Lucas County Board of Elections is necessary.

These board vacancies trigger action by the Lucas County Democratic and Republican Executive Committees pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3501.07. I am hopeful recent media reports are accurate, and that both county parties will recommend to me potential appointees who can put aside the problems of the past and work together to give the voters of Lucas County the well-run Board of Elections they have long deserved.

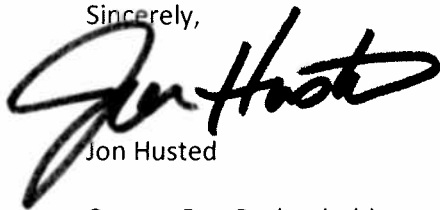
As I have stated repeatedly, the culture of dysfunction that has plagued the Lucas County Board of Elections must come to an end once and for all. Time and time again, my office has tried to provide

pathways to success but to no avail. With this action today, I hope that we can achieve the clean slate I believe is necessary to move forward.

To that end, be advised that I will not appoint any person with ties to the problems of the past. The record established over the years is replete with players, new and old that have contributed to the systemic issues that have led us where we are today. The citizens of Lucas County need a fresh start.

With the assistance of Judges Peter Handwork and Charles Wittenberg, along with my staff, the statutory requirements of the May 6th Elections are now concluded. It is my hope that the actions being taken today provide an opportunity for the Lucas County Board of Elections to move forward, and that all involved will work expeditiously in the best interest of not themselves, but the voters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Husted". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being more prominent and the last name "Husted" following in a similar script.

Jon Husted

Cc: Ron Rothenbuhler
Jon Stainbrook
Anthony DeGidio
John Irish
Gina Kaczala
LaVera Scott
Lucas County Prosecutor's Office