

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT Of STATE

September 15, 2020

RON DESANTIS Governor

(via email –

Re: Response to Request for Advisory Opinion F-20-12

Dear

On July 27, 2020, we received from you the attached request for an advisory opinion pursuant to the form and procedure articulated by the court in Jones et al. v. DeSantis et al.; U.S. District Court. Northern District. Case No. 4:19cv300-RH/MJF.

Specifically, you requested:

A statement of the amount of any fine or restitution that must be paid to make you eligible to vote and an explanation of how the amount was calculated.

Although the district court's decision has been reversed by the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, the Division nevertheless responds to your request pursuant to its legal authority under section 106.23(2), Florida Statutes, and Florida Administrative Code Rule 1S-2.010, in that you are an individual seeking to be involved in political activity (voting) and the inquiry concerns that activity (eligibility to vote).

Rule 1S-2.010(f) requires the requestor to provide the precise factual circumstances giving rise to the request. Although in your written request you did not provide information regarding any felony convictions, and as a result, your request would not otherwise satisfy the requirements of the Rule, we were able to locate a Florida felony record for you using the date of birth you provided, and you additionally confirmed via telephone the date and county of conviction. Thus, Division of Elections staff located the following felony case with a conviction in County:

Division of Elections R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850.245.6200 • 850.245.6217 (Fax) • DOS.MyFlorida.com/elections



LAUREL M. LEE

Secretary of State

• CF-Amount ordered at sentencing: \$568.00 Amount paid: \$568.00

The Division of Elections finds that the amount of legal financial obligations related to your felony convictions in the above-referenced case that must be paid to make you eligible to vote is **§0.00**. *See* Article VI, Fla. Const. and section 98.0751, Fla. Stat. (articulating restoration of voting rights upon all terms of a felony sentence). Please see Judgment, Order of Probation, Order of Revocation of Probation, and Comprehensive Case Information System records regarding amounts ordered and paid.

As an attorney with the Office of General Counsel discussed with you on a recent phone call, restoration upon completion of all terms of a sentence is automatic and you need not wait for receipt of this written opinion in order to register and vote.

In any event, based upon the information we located, the Division finds that you are eligible to vote because you satisfied all the terms of your sentence for the above-noted felony case.

Thank you for submitting your request. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Florida Division of Elections