



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RON DESANTIS
Governor

CORD BYRD
Secretary of State

May 12, 2023

[REDACTED]
c/o [REDACTED]

Via Email: [REDACTED]

Re: Response to Request for Advisory Opinion – F-23-6

Dear Ms. [REDACTED],

We received on April 26, 2023, your request for an advisory opinion. You indicate that you have one or more felony convictions and that your request is on whether you are eligible to vote, including whether you have any outstanding legal financial obligations under section 98.0751, Florida Statutes, which would otherwise make you ineligible to vote and if so, a statement of the amount that must be paid to make you eligible to vote, and an explanation of how the amount was calculated.

The Division hereby responds to your request pursuant to its legal authority under section 106.23(2), Florida Statutes, and Florida Administrative Code Rule 1S-2.010, to provide an advisory opinion to you as an individual seeking to be involved in a political activity (voting) and the particular activity in your inquiry (eligibility to vote).

Per Rule 1S-2.010(4)(f), the requestor must provide the precise factual circumstances giving rise to the request. In your request, you identify yourself as [REDACTED] and give your date of birth as [REDACTED]. However, a review of our records also indicates that you have, at one point in time, gone by the name [REDACTED]. Additionally, you referenced a single county in which you believe you have been convicted of a felony offense, but you did not provide any additional information such as the number of offenses, the case numbers for those offenses, the years that those offenses took place, whether you believe you have paid all of your outstanding legal financial obligations, whether you have completed any prison or community control portions of your sentences, or any information as to whether you have satisfied any restitution orders. The Division's ability to determine an individual's eligibility to vote is hampered when it does not receive such information, including all legal names pertaining to felony convictions.

Division of Elections
R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399
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Nonetheless, the Division was able to find the following felony cases associated with your file:

1. ██████ -CF- ██████
2. ██████ -CF- ██████
3. ██████ -CF- ██████
4. ██████ -CF- ██████
5. ██████ -CF- ██████
6. ██████ -CF- ██████
7. ██████ -CF- ██████

As it relates to cases ██████ -CF- ██████, ██████ -CF- ██████, ██████ -CF- ██████, and ██████ -CF- ██████, our records indicate that you had at least one felony conviction in each case. However, although you did not disclose that you had applied for and received a Clemency Certificate, our records indicate that your civil rights were restored by the Office of Executive Clemency on December 29, 2006. Accordingly, none of your felony convictions pre-dating your clemency certificate disqualify you from voting, regardless of whether you have any outstanding legal financial obligations in those cases.

As it relates to cases ██████ -CF- ██████, ██████ -CF- ██████, and ██████ -CF- ██████, our records indicate that you were adjudicated guilty of at least one felony in each case. However, our records also indicate that those felony convictions were not for any permanently disqualifying offenses, you are not currently in prison, jail, or some form of community control, and you have paid all legal financial obligations imposed by the courts with respect to those convictions.

The Division of Elections finds that you are eligible to vote because you have completed all the terms of your sentence. § 98.0751(1), (2)(a), Fla. Stat.

Please note that the finding in this opinion is based upon the cases located from the identifying information you provided. You have not indicated any other convictions in any statewide or national jurisdictions and the Division does not opine as to whether any other convictions exist nor whether any such other convictions would interfere with eligibility. If you have any other felony convictions other than the one noted above, please advise and we will gladly research further to ascertain whether any other amounts ordered and unpaid likewise preclude you from voting at this time.

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

Sincerely,

Florida Division of Elections