
EVERY VOTER. EVERY VOTE.

ALL HANDS ON DECK: FIND YOUR
ROLE. PROTECT THE VOTE.

Dr. Chris Welde • 22 August 2026
SATX/NWSOFA INDIVISIBLE

READY, SET, GO 2026 • TEXAS
IMPACT

Protecting every eligible voter's freedom to vote through
preparation, participation, and community action.



Why Election Protection is Receiving Increased Attention

Federal actions, court rulings and Texas changes are reshaping the voter-protection environment.



VOTER PROTECTION

Rapidly changing rules + federal/state conflicts + litigation

→ Greater need for voter education, trained poll workers, monitoring and rapid response.

2026 Election Changes: What Is in Effect — and What Remains a Threat?

Status as of August 21, 2026 • Texas voter-protection focus

IN EFFECT FOR NOVEMBER

Texas SB 1 mail-voting rules

Existing 2021 ID-matching requirements remain enforceable after 2026 court rulings — this is not a new August law.

What voters may face

ABBM or returned ballot can be flagged for an ID-number mismatch; voters may need to cure the defect.

Protection priority

Educate mail voters early. Track rejected ABBMs, ballot defects, voter notification and cure.

BLOCKED / STALLED — BUT LIVE

SAVE America Act — NOT LAW

Passed House; stalled in Senate without the 60 votes needed. Could be revived or attached to another bill.

Federal mail-ballot policy

Currently blocked by courts. Administration is seeking Supreme Court relief and preparing for possible implementation.

Why still watch?

A court ruling or congressional action could change the landscape quickly before November.

ACTIVE / EMERGING

Federal election monitoring

DOJ plans a substantially expanded federal monitoring presence for the November midterms.

Federal–state conflict

Harris & El Paso Counties challenge election-related conditions attached to FEMA security grants.

Voter-roll scrutiny

DOJ/DHS efforts involving citizenship verification and state voter data continue.

VOTER PROTECTION: Prepare for rules already in force — while tracking stalled, blocked and emerging threats.

Democracy Is Won Before Election Day

- Educate voters
- Recruit volunteers (poll watchers and poll monitors)
- Recruit Election Judges & Election Clerks (Poll Workers)
- Prepare legal response teams
- Build partnerships
- Plan for misinformation



Communities defend democracy.

Sharing Indivisible's "What's the Plan" w/Corey Dukes, Protect Democracy

LEARN THE PLAYBOOK

- **Deceive** → Spread misinformation
- **Disrupt** → Create barriers
 - intimidation
 - administrative obstacles
 - confusing procedures
- **Deny** → Challenge legitimate outcomes

Source: Indivisible, "How to Get Into Election Protection" — Ezra Levin & Leah Greenberg with Corey Dukes, Protect Democracy



Scan: How to Get Into Election Protection



Corey Dukes: 5 Things To Do

1. Learn the Playbook

Recognize Deceive • Disrupt • Deny

2. Make a Plan to Vote

Vote early and help others make a voting plan.

3. Volunteer

Become an Election Judge, Election Clerk, Poll Watcher, Poll Monitor, or Voter Protection volunteer.

4. Hold Leaders Accountable

Support leaders who protect free and fair elections.

5. Organize Your Community

Build partnerships and prepare together.



Preparation is our greatest strength.

Corey Dukes: 2 Things NOT to Do

1. Don't Do Their Work for Them

His point: "Don't parrot their talking points or spread misinformation."

Don't: repeat misinformation • spread conspiracy theories • amplify voter intimidation • share rumors before verifying facts • help discourage voting

2. Don't Lead from Fear or Despair

Community leaders should not project hopelessness.

Do this instead:

- ✓ Lead with confidence
- ✓ Build community
- ✓ Bring joy
- ✓ Celebrate democracy
- ✓ Encourage participation



"We need to be bringing community, love, joy to this process."

"The opposite of what some want is a party at the polls."

Make it a tailgate party!

Lead with facts, confidence, and joy.

Our Response

PREPARE

Educate • Recruit • Train

PROTECT

Support Voters • Share Trusted Information

PARTICIPATE

Vote • Volunteer • Help Others Vote



Lead With Hope, Not Fear

- Verify facts and share trusted information
- Explain how elections work
- Help people make a voting plan
- Bring community, joy, and confidence to the polls



Fear discourages participation. Hope and community encourage it.

A Word About Messaging



- Election Security → **Protect Our Vote**
- Voter Suppression → **Keeping eligible people from voting**
- It's your civic duty → **Voting is an act of hope, power, and resistance**

Lead with values, hope, and action.

Source: Anat Shenker-Osorio, "Hands Off Our Vote" — Messaging guidance for protecting our vote in the 2026 midterm elections

Know the Election & Volunteer Roles

- Election Judge (Poll Worker) — Paid
- Election Clerk (Poll Worker) — Paid
- Poll Watcher (inside polls) — Volunteer
- Poll Monitor (outside polls) — Volunteer
- Voter Protection Volunteer — Volunteer



Build Partnerships Before Election Day

Community Partners

- SA Freedom Coalition
- Election Integrity/Voter Protection Team & Rapid Response
- Bexar County Elections
- Bexar County Sheriff's Office/Local law enforcement
- Faith & civic organizations



Our Action Plan

Our five-step plan

- Recruit
- Train
- Educate
- Coordinate
- Protect

Coordination with

- SA Freedom Coalition partners
- Sheriff's Office & local law enforcement
- Election Integrity & Voter Protection Teams/Rapid Response
- Bexar Elections
- Texas State Democratic Party



Get Involved

Choose your role

- Election Judge / Clerk
- Poll Monitor
- Poll Watcher
- Voter Protection Team
- Voter Education
- Help others vote

SCAN TO SIGN UP



Election Judge / Clerk



Poll Monitor



Poll Watcher (Dem)



Poll Watcher (GOP)

PREPARE • PROTECT • PARTICIPATE

What Will Your Role Be?

PREPARE

Educate • Recruit • Train • Build Partnerships

PROTECT

Support Voters • Coordinate Voter Protection • Ensure Voter Safety •
Share Trusted Information

PARTICIPATE

Vote • Volunteer • Help Others Vote • Build Confidence

Democracy is not a state. It is an act.

Questions & Discussion

Let's prepare, protect, and participate together.

Questions, ideas, and next steps.



Check your voter registration

Scan with your phone • Vote411.org