



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of STATE

RON DESANTIS
Governor

LAUREL M. LEE
Secretary of State

October 1, 2020

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
(via email – [Redacted])

Re: Response to Request for Advisory Opinion F-20-14

Dear [Redacted]

On September 4, 2020, we received from you the attached re-submitted request for an expedited advisory opinion regarding your eligibility to vote after felony convictions.

You requested an opinion as to whether you are eligible to register and vote under Florida law in the upcoming November 3, 2020, General Election and beyond based upon the factual information provided in your request, and further, a statement of the amount of any fines or restitution that must be paid to make you eligible to vote and an explanation of how the amount was calculated.¹

The Division 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).

You indicated that you have been convicted of one or more felonies in the state of Florida, possibly in [Redacted] and [Redacted] counties. You indicated that case numbers might include, but are not limited to: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; and [Redacted]. You further indicated that you are unsure as to possible financial obligations that would render you ineligible to vote.

¹ You requested opinions on four additional subjects, however, none are the proper subject of an advisory opinion request as they do not relate to provisions or possible violations of Florida election law that you - the requestor - have taken or propose to take. See § 106.23(2), Fla. Stat.; Fla. Admin. Code R. 1S-2.010



Based on the information provided, Division of Elections staff located credible and reliable information pertaining to the following felony convictions² in ██████████ County for you:

- 1) █████-CF-█████
Amount ordered at sentencing: \$431.00
Amount paid: \$0.00

Please see attached Comprehensive Case Information System record regarding amounts ordered at sentencing as well as the relevant judgment and sentencing documents.³ It does not appear that any payments toward court costs and fees have been paid. Based upon such credible and reliable information, the Division of Elections finds that the amount of money related to your felony convictions in the above-referenced case that must be paid to make you eligible to vote is **\$431.00**. See Article VI, Fla. Const. and section 98.0751, Fla. Stat. (articulating restoration of voting rights upon all terms of a felony sentence).

You may wish to consult section 98.0751(2)(a)5.e., Florida Statutes, for alternative paths to monetarily satisfying the terms of the sentences such as seeking a waiver from the court or conversion of the amounts to community service and subsequent completion of such service.

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

Sincerely,

Florida Division of Elections

² The Division finds that charges in the other case numbers indicated in your request resulted in either consolidation into the above-referenced case number, abandonment of charges by the prosecution, or adjudication withheld, none of which constitute convictions.

³ The Division notes that the term of confinement as set forth in the original January 2002 sentencing documents was mitigated in July of 2002 from 15 years to 10 years. The mitigated confinement term was then vacated and the original term of confinement imposed in February of 2003. The sentence was then corrected in June of 2008, to the mitigated term of 10 years, *nunc pro tunc* to July of 2002. Notwithstanding the amendments to the term of confinement, the legal financial obligations imposed in the original sentencing documents of January 2002, remained untouched.