

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth State House, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

April 14, 2020

Mona Harrington, Acting Executive Director U.S. Election Assistance Commission 1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Via e-mail only: <u>CARESFunding@eac.gov</u>

Dear Ms. Harrington:

The purpose of this letter is to request \$8,325,918 in HAVA CARES funds as outlined in the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement Number MA20101CARES. We certify that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will use these funds for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA.

We further certify that we have reviewed and accept the terms of the award as specified in the Notice of Grant Award. Our UEI number (formerly DUNS) is 36-154-9660 and the signed Certifications are enclosed.

We will use the funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 Federal election cycle. To address the effects of the coronavirus on the upcoming election cycle, we expect expanded voting by mail to be available for the state primary and state election. As such, we will incur substantial expenses for implementing this process including printing of additional ballots and envelopes and more importantly for postage. In addition, as our municipalities will likely have higher volumes of ballots by mail, additional scanners and systems support for timely processing will be required. We anticipate significant costs for notices and advertisements to ensure that voters are aware of vote-by-mail options and any other changes to the voting process. Further, funds are necessary to purchase cleaning supplies and protective equipment for poll workers.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Michelle K. Tassinari, Director and Legal Counsel, Elections Division at 617-727-2828 or Michelle. Tassinari @sec.state.ma.us.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN

Secretary of the Commonwealth

cc: Kinza Ghaznavi, Grants Manager Enclosures