April 14, 2020

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

Dear Ms. Harrington:

The purpose of this letter is to certify that the state of New Jersey will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement # NJ20101CARES, 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 is 3618577998 and the signed Certifications are enclosed.

We are requesting $10,296,913. We seek to use these funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 Federal election cycle. In light of the health dangers posed by the COVID-19, on April 8, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order 120, moving the New Jersey Primary Election from June 2, 2020, to July 7, 2020.

In person voting will necessitate keeping voting locations and equipment as germ free as possible and supplying sufficient amounts of PPE for poll/board workers. This will include, but is not limited to, disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer, masks, face shields, and gloves. It is also anticipated that vote by mail numbers will dramatically increase, even with in-person voting as an option. This will result in increased costs for the production of additional envelopes, printing of ballots, and outgoing and return postage. Jurisdictions will also need to purchase more tabulation equipment as well as hire additional staff to process the increased number of returned vote-by-mail ballots. The costs discussed in this paragraph will also apply to the November General Election as well.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Robert Giles at 602-292-4251 or Robert.Giles@sos.nj.gov.

Sincerely,

Tahesha Way
Secretary of State

Cc. Kinza Ghaznavi, Grants Manager