

September 14, 2026

VIA CERTIFIED AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Board of Elections and Registration
Cobb County, Georgia
995 Roswell Street NE
Marietta, GA 30060
elections@cobbcounty.org

RE: Policies Governing Receipt of Absentee by Mail Ballots in Cobb County

Dear Members of the Board:

This firm represents the Republican National Committee ("RNC"). I write regarding absentee-by-mail ("ABM") policies of the Cobb County Board of Elections and Registration (the "Board") governed by the Georgia Election Code.

The RNC is aware of at least two complaints filed with the State Election Board ("SEB") concerning Cobb County's ABM drop boxes. Georgia statute requires that "drop boxes shall be evenly geographically distributed by population in the county," O.C.G.A. § 21-2-382(c)(1), a requirement the Board should confirm its existing placements satisfy. At present, Cobb County's drop boxes do not appear to be evenly distributed and are instead concentrated in specific areas with overwhelmingly Democratic political affiliations amongst residents. The RNC asks the Board to promptly state what steps, if any, the Board is taking to remedy this violation.

Alternatively, albeit not specifically included in the SEB complaints, the RNC understands that one of Cobb County's advance voting locations is housed in a church rather than a government building. Georgia law requires that advance voting locations be housed in government buildings wherever practicable. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-266(a); *see also* O.C.G.A. § 21-2-382(a); SEB Rule 183-1-14-.08(2). Accordingly, the RNC asks the Board to show cause that a practicable government-building alternative was unavailable for advance voting.

Last, the RNC recently learned the Board may be considering a policy that would permit electors to return ABM ballots by depositing them into 'ballot bags' or similar receptacles at advance voting locations. Any such policy would be contrary to Georgia law. Georgia law permits only three methods for voting ABM ballots: (i) by mail to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk; (ii) by hand delivery to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk; or (iii) by ABM ballot drop boxes for delivery to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-385(a), 21-2-382(c). The Board has no power to create additional return methods of its own design. It "can pass rules to implement and enforce the Election Code, but it cannot go beyond, change, or contradict the statutory scheme." *Republican Nat'l Comm. v. Eternal Vigilance Action, Inc.*, 321 Ga. 771, 806 (2025).

The RNC appreciates the Board's consideration of these issues and looks forward to its timely response.

Best Regards,



Thomas L. Oliver III

TLO/mw