



January 2026

Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter



DAN RAYFIELD, OREGON'S ATTORNEY GENERAL
LWVLC SPEAKER IN FEBRUARY See page 6

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Unit Information & January's Discussion Topic (pg. 2)
- January Unit Discussion Topic (pg. 3)
- March on MLK Jr. Day & 2026 Tabling (pg. 4)
- Cover Story & Membership How-to (pg. 5)
- Protest ICE and Naturalization Ceremonies (pg.6)
- Want to Do Something? - Take This Survey (pg. 7)
- What LWVUS Accomplished in 2025 (pg.7)
- USA v. The State of Oregon in Eugene (pg. 9)
- Calendar and More (back page)

LWV of Lane County Board and Off Board Roster 2025-26

President

TERRY PARKER
president@lwwlc.org

Co - Vice Presidents

**BEATRICE MCKENZIE &
LINDA FERDOWSIAN**
vicepresident@lwwlc.org

Secretary

JEANNE TAYLOR
secretary@lwwlc.org

Treasurer

PATTY SANDOZ
treasurer@lwwlc.org

Action

OPEN
action@lwwlc.org

Argus Editor & Historian

CHARLCIE KAYLOR
argus@lwwlc.org

Communications Director

JULIE KNESS
communication@lwwlc.org

Development Director

**LAURA ENGLAND
FLANIGAN**
development@lwwlc.org

Office Manager

LINDA FERDOWSIAN
office@lwwlc.org

Membership

RUTH SEEGER
membership@lwwlc.org

Nominations

PAULA GRISAFI

Program Co-chairs

**SHARON AMASHA &
LORI BARKER**
program@lwwlc.org
loribarker@lwwlc.org

Technology Director

RHONDA LIVESAY
technologydir@lwwlc.org

Units Director

MARJORIE MAXWELL
marjmaxwell@gmail.com

Voter Service

NANCY MILLS
voterservice@lwwlc.org

Webmaster

OPEN
webmaster@lwwlc.org

Director at Large

MORGAN VIERHELLER
morganv@lwwlc.org

JANUARY UNITS DISCUSSION TOPIC - PROGRAM PLANNING BY MARJ MAXWELL, UNITS DIRECTOR

- November Unit attendance - 58 members, 6 guests
- January's unit topic - **Unit Choice**
- Units meet, October - April in the 2nd week of the month for up to two hours.
- All are welcome to attend any meeting. It helps with planning if you notify the leader in advance.

January 8, Thursday, 11am, (hybrid: in person and Zoom)

Middlefield Oaks, 1500 Village Dr., Cottage Grove

Discussion Leader: Anna Strickland 509-733-6034, Ledal@middlefieldoaks.com

Zoom operator: Linda Ferdowsian Request Zoom link: office@lwwlc.org

*Policy Topic: Government Services - Elementary and Secondary Facilities,
Library Services, Mental Health Services for Adults in Lane County*

January 8, Thursday, 2pm: (in person)

Harlow Neighborhood, Barbara French's home, 394 Cherry Dr. 97401

Discussion Leader: Barbara French, 541-510-7919, babsfr44@gmail.com

Policy Topic: Government Services- Parklands, Natural Resources

January 9, Friday, 10am (in person)

First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., Eugene

Discussion Leader, Diana Grandberry, 541-342-8402, 76music79@comcast.net

Policy Topic: Economic Policy

January 9, Friday, 1pm (in person)

Cascade Manor, 65 W 30th Ave, Eugene, in the Solarium

Discussion Leader: Merle Bottge, 541-434-4191

Alternate Leader: Carol Hildebrand, 541-434-4254, carodane1943@gmail.com

*Policy Topic: Government Services - Elementary and Secondary Facilities,
Library Services. Mental Health Services for adults in Lane County*

January 12, Monday 2pm (in person)

South Eugene: Anne Best's home, 3433 Olive Street, Eugene,

541-521-9136, annieb49@gmail.com

Discussion Leader: Nancy Mills, 210-685-8253, nmills@trinity.edu

Policy Topic: Community Development

January 13, Tuesday, 10am (in person)

Coburg Road/The Springs at Greer Gardens, 1282 Goodpasture Island Rd., Eugene

Discussion Leader: Linda Ferdowsian, 541-579-1866, Lferdowsian@yahoo.com

Policy Topic: Governmental Structure

January 14, Wednesday, 5:30pm, (evening Zoom only)

Discussion Leader: Terry Parker, 541-344- 5924, president@lwwlc.org

Zoom Operator: Rhonda Livesay 541-228-4373, technologydir@lwwlc.org

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86277149626>

Policy Topic: Government Services- Parklands, Natural Resources

Unit Briefing - Program Planning

January 6, 2pm, League office

175 W. B Street, Ste E-2, Springfield

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89136881128>

Contact Marj Maxwell - marjmaxwell@gmail.com

if you plan to attend or have questions.

JANUARY'S UNIT DISCUSSION TOPIC - POSITION REVIEWS

BY SHARON AMASHA AND LORI BARKER, PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

In January, League members will undertake a comprehensive review of our local positions. This review aims to determine whether we should retain our existing positions, update information while keeping the core positions intact, restudy a position in light of new circumstances, or drop those that are no longer relevant. We may also consider creating new positions. Since advocacy can only be pursued based on the positions we hold, a rigorous process is followed before any new position is created or updated.

The position reviews will take place during our discussion unit meetings. To effectively manage the extensive number of positions, we divide the Lane County categories among various units, including government structure and process, economic policy, community development, governmental services, natural resources, and social policy. Each year, we rotate these categories, ensuring that all units have the opportunity to review all positions over time. The positions will be provided at the January unit meetings, an abbreviated version is located at the back of the League directory.

January is the time to submit proposals for informational studies for the 2026-2027 year. These studies lay the foundation for our unit discussions, providing

the deep, factual basis necessary for informed conversation and action. Proposals will be accepted throughout the month of January. Informational proposals will be reviewed by the Board, recommendations will be made, and topics will be approved at the annual meeting in May. Members will have the opportunity to volunteer for the research teams.

Please submit your proposals during the unit meeting or send them to program@lwwlc.org. Put proposal title in the subject line.

Please present the proposal(s) using the following sample format:

Focus: The impact of the Federalist Society and Heritage Foundation on our nation

Scope: To understand who they are, the principles they uphold, their goals, and the roles they have played in our political, judicial, and cultural systems.

We encourage you to join us at the discussion unit meetings for these important tasks. If you do not attend discussion unit meetings, you may forward your proposal to program@lwwlc.org.

LANE LEAGUE ON WATCH ADVOCACY 2025

Thursday, January 15 - 5:30 to 7pm
South Sister Room
The Springs at Greer Gardens
1282 Goodpasture Island Road, Eugene

VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 8 at 1:30pm Zoom
For Zoom link: nmills@trinity.edu

2025 FRUIT AND NUT SALE REPORT

BY LAURA ENGLAND FLANIGAN, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Thank you to our members for a successful Fruit and Nut Sale.

Your generosity sent **152 cases** of grapefruit, oranges, apples and hazelnuts to Food for Lane County, which is sorely needed at this time in our community.

Special thanks to Sharon Amasha and Patty Sandoz, who kept excellent records; this is no mean feat keeping track of all this produce.

Thank you to Susan Ban, Pam Berrian, Mike Flanigan, Marcia Maffei, Dick Mombell, Beatrice McKenzie, Russ Read, Patty Sandoz, and Camille Stewart, who all worked the day of the Fruit & Nut Pickup.

Your time is invaluable and precious. We appreciate you!

TOBIAS READ, OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE

<https://sos.oregon.gov/>

*Oregon does not have a lieutenant governor. If the office of governor becomes vacant, the office passes to the secretary of state. **Oregon Blue Book***

Tobias Read is Oregon's 30th secretary of state. Born in Montana and raised in Idaho, he moved to Salem, Oregon, to attend Willamette University before earning his Master of Business Administration degree at the University of Washington. He brings a wide range of public-sector and private-sector experience to the office. He worked at the U.S. Treasury and Nike, Inc. prior to his election as state representative in 2007 and state treasurer in 2017.

As an elected official, Tobias has turned strong ideas and policies into real results that benefit Oregonians. He helped lead the charge to fund full-day kindergarten across Oregon, created and later implemented the Oregon Retirement Savings Program—now known as OregonSaves—which serves more than 130,000 Oregonians, and protected the Elliott State Forest by mak-

ing it one of the largest research forests and carbon reserves in North America.

As Secretary of State, Tobias' first priority is to hold the State of Oregon accountable for delivering on its promises, managing tax dollars wisely, and running secure, fair elections.

Tobias lives in Beaverton with his wife Heidi and their two children.



HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT THE LEAGUE SPEAKER SERIES

Be the first to reserve your seats for January's speaker series – we expect lots of demand to see Oregon's chief election official, **Secretary of State Tobias Read**.

The \$5 required reservation fee is due by January 14.

We're kicking off this election year with a burst of optimism and energy! Join the League of Women Voters of Lane County Tuesday, January 27 at 11:30 am when we'll hear from Secretary Read about the importance of preserving public trust in voting by keeping the process secure, fair, and accurate. He'll talk about the success of voting by mail and how he's assessing anti-voter policies floated at the federal level.

Click here to make your [RESERVATION](#) or call the League office at 541.343.7917 to reserve your spot. (Note that we've reserved a bigger space at The Shedd Institute, 285 East Broadway, Eugene.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS BY RHONDA LIVESAY, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Memberships are starting to renew again at the beginning of the year. If you joined in January 2025, you will begin getting notices from your local League and from national. I know, it's a real pain to get all these emails.

However, you don't want to miss renewing your membership.

If you miss renewing on your renewal date, you will have a grace period and will stay on the League rolls for 60 days. After the 60 days have expired you are removed from the membership.

To renew, the LWVUS asks you to go to <https://portal.lwv.org/>

In the portal, you can update your information if it has changed and renew. Of course, you have to use a credit card. This is the easiest way to handle your membership (cc fees applied).

Now, what we would like to stress:

- You may still send a check (no fees) made out to LWVUS to our office for your membership
- If you also choose to make a donation at the same time, please do so from our website, lwvlc.org, or mail a check made out to LWVLC directly to the League office.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS BY RUTH SEEGER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Motto of the Month:

If there is no struggle, there is no progress.

Frederick Douglass - American abolitionist

Please welcome our newest members:

Annie Fulkerson, Frank Lee, and Erica Lyon.

We are glad you are with us!

See how to renew your membership on page four.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday January 13, 2-3:30pm
at the League office. All are welcome.
For the Zoom link, contact membership@lwvlc.org

MAKE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO DO SOMETHING IMPORTANT! BY LENICE SHAW, MEMBER

Want to hit the ground running with the League in 2026 to help the League support voting in Lane County? Here are opportunities on the horizon that you can consider volunteering at:

EVENTS

Lane County Farmers Market in Eugene

We are Bethel Celebration

Eugene Juneteenth Celebration

Eugene/ Springfield PRIDE

South Valley Farmers' Market in Cottage Grove

The Springfield Block Party

Lane County Stand Down for Veterans

Lane County Home Improvement Show

DATES OR APPROXIMATE

TBD – A Saturday in mid-to-late April

TBD – Expect end of May

Expect 6/19/26

6/27/26

TBD – A Saturday in July or August

9/11/26, 4-10PM

TBD – Mid September

TBD – Mid October

We will share more specific information as it becomes available. This is fun and rewarding work helping people register, update their registration, and educating voters!

Seeking Volunteers and Supporters for NAACP's MLK March & Celebration Monday, January 19, 2026 - NAACP Secretary Susan Schroeder at susan@naacplanecounty.org

Can you volunteer time at the March or the Celebration?

Volunteers are needed to greet people at Autzen Stadium before the March, walk with the marchers (welcoming and providing support if needed) help with set-up at the Shedd (where the March culminates for the Celebration), and greet people and hand out programs at the Shedd.

If you'd like to volunteer, use this LINK:

[NAACP Volunteer Form](#).

Be sure to wear your League pins.

Our League may join in the march.
Watch for the announcement.
Terry Parker, President



OPPORTUNITIES TO PROTEST ICE ACTIVITIES

BY NANCY MILLS, VOTER SERVICE CHAIR

ICE continues to ramp up action in communities across the country. The League of Women Voters has positions that speak to many concerns related to ICE activities.

Due Process

- As a nonpartisan, pro-democracy organization, the League is deeply alarmed by the ongoing ICE detentions, which too often fly in the face of due process and other fundamental rights.
- These actions undermine the democratic values of fairness, equal treatment under the law, and government transparency and accountability.
- The League supports due process for all persons, including the right to a fair hearing, right to counsel, right of appeal, and right to humane treatment.

The importance of immigrants in our country

- Immigrants are part of the fabric of our communities — they make our country strong.
- Immigrants are your neighbors, co-workers, and fellow community members.
- All immigrants in our country deserve due process and fair treatment.
- "The League does not support deporting undocumented immigrants who have no history of major and/or violent criminal activity."

Strong national partners representing and defending immigrants include ACLU and LULAC. LULAC Oregon represents immigrant rights on a national and state-wide platform.

There are local organizations involved in these protests and several opportunities to join in solidarity with those being targeted by ICE. Vulnerable community members know about and appreciate these forms of support.

Every Tuesday noon - 1pm, Singing for Our Lives vigil is held on the corner of 7th and Pearl. A group of people, including guitarists, gather to sing songs of sorrow, hope, and resistance, and to share readings appropriate to these times. It is a peaceful gathering, without interference from ICE, and with support from passing motorists. The vigil always ends with "We Shall Overcome."

December in both Eugene and Springfield was the first in a series of monthly visibility actions as the community thinks deeply about **A Day Without an Immigrant**.

- Eugene, sign waving on the Ferry Street Bridge at noon
 - Springfield, at 5:30 pm with a vigil at City Hall
- These protests will take place every month leading up to May 1, which is International Workers' Day.

The next protest will take place on January 19.



LWVLC AT NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

BY MARY KEATING, COORDINATOR

The next Naturalization Ceremony will be Thursday, January 22, at 10:30am at the **Wayne L. Morse U.S. Courthouse**, 405 East Eighth Avenue, Eugene.

A valid, government-issued ID is required to enter the courthouse.

Parking is limited in the area. Metered parking is available on East Eighth and Ferry Streets, and several small paid parking lots are nearby.

Sign up is not necessary.

OREGON'S ATTORNEY GENERAL, DAN RAYFIELD, WILL SPEAK AT OUR NEXT LEAGUE SPEAKER SERIES

BY JULIE KNESS, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

February's Speaker Series guest will be our state's chief legal officer, who will talk about his role in defending election results, protecting voter privacy, preventing voter intimidation, and ensuring fair election processes.

We're expecting a big crowd Tuesday, February 24 at 11:30 am, so we've planned to meet at The Shedd Institute, 285 East Broadway, Eugene. Members will receive an "early access" email to reserve seats at the end of January.

WANT TO DO SOMETHING?

By NANCY MILLS, VOTER SERVICE CHAIR

If you are feeling the need to be involved in the upcoming elections, and I am sure that you do if you are a member of the League of Women Voters, Voter Service has opportunities for you. Voter Service has two aims: voter registration and voter education.

Both are equally important, and you might find an opportunity in either or both.

Voter registration is familiar: our goal for 2026 is to offer voter registration to groups who are underrepresented in voting rolls as well as to the general public. You might wonder why voter registration is important in a state with automatic voter registration. As part of our voter registration activity, we also help voters understand how to check their registration. If your address has changed, your ballot will be delivered to the old

address and can't be forwarded. A second important reason for checking your registration is to see if you are registered for a political party. You are not required to register, but in the primary election, you won't be able to vote in any partisan election; in 2026 this means races from US Senate down to state legislative offices. The number of voters who have not registered with a party is the second largest group of voters in Oregon. If a voter wants to have some voice in the people running for office, registering for a party is important and must be done before the

voting deadline of April 28, 2026 for the primary election. After the primary you can change your party, or leave it if you want.

Voter education is equally important because we need voters who are informed. There are a variety of activities that are in this area. Ballot measures are frequently hard to understand; League members write ballot measure explanations. We hold candidate forums so that voters can hear candidates respond to identical questions. Voter education is also important in creating the desire to vote. When you don't understand what is on the ballot, you frequently are less inclined to vote. And, in terms of making it easier for people to feel comfortable voting, we need folks to collect information for the digital voters guide, Vote411.

So you can see that there are a variety of opportunities. I have created a voter interests survey with descriptions of each type of activity and an opportunity for you to rank your top interests. That survey has an explanation of each activity and the time commitments. This has been sent to members expressing interest in voter services, but these opportunities are certainly available to every League member. You can find the survey at Voter Service Survey. Or email voterservice@lwvlc.org for the link.

WHAT LWVUS ACCOMPLISHED IN 2025

SUBMITTED BY SHARON AMASHA, PROGRAM CO-CHAIR

1. Launching Unite & Rise 8.5 in the Face of a Constitutional Crisis

In the wake of multiple actions from the Trump Administration defying Supreme Court orders, disregarding congressional authority, and ignoring democratic checks and balances, the League declared that our country is "in a constitutional crisis."

In response, LWV launched its Unite & Rise 8.5 initiative to engage and mobilize 8.5 million voters to protect and preserve democracy.

Unite & Rise supporters have taken action on many fronts, from the courts to the streets to the ballot box. Supporters showed up at rallies, raised their voices on critical issues like the occupation of Washington, DC, and the SAVE Act, and showed up at town halls and other civic events to speak directly to local politicians. You can join the movement and stay up to date on action opportunities by signing our Unite & Rise commitment form.

With "unite" in its name, this initiative created an opportunity to join forces with other people-powered organizations and leaders. LWV launched the Unite & Rise web series to share conversations between CEO Celina Stewart, Esq., and diverse leaders in the democracy space, including political scientist Erica Chenoweth, Young Voters founder Jahnvi Rao, and nonprofit leaders Sheila Katz and Reverend Shavon Arline-Bradley. In November, LWV the formation of an advisory committee made up of cross-sector leaders and Grassroots Power Partners from women-led organizations to further the initiative.

2. Empowering Voters and Election Heroes in the 2025 Election

Despite occurring in an election "off year," the 2025 races presented a critical opportunity to amplify voters' voices. While bad actors proposed bills that would suppress voters nationwide, LWV and its election-information resource VOTE411.org worked to ensure that as many people as possible had the information

CONTINUED FROM LWV ACTION ON PAGE 7

and access necessary to cast their ballots.

This involved many first-of-their-kind outreach tactics, including our first national tour with the feminist singer and activist Cyndi Lauper. Leagues nationwide registered voters and promoted VOTE411 as a resource in the “charity villages” Cyndi set up across her US tour stops.

Leagues also engaged in their hallmark work, including registering voters, hosting candidate debates, and performing state and local election outreach, among other activities.

Through VOTE411 alone, LWV provided 2.09 million voters with election information. This covered 34.7k general election candidates in 15.8k general election races.

Voters weren’t the only people LWV supported. In 2025, the League became the managing partner of the civic holiday Election Hero Day, which recognizes the work of election staff and volunteers to keep our democracy running. As the US faces a poll worker shortage, LWV is proud to be a loud advocate for our election heroes.

3. Suing the Trump Administration

In March 2025, President Trump signed an Executive Order claiming to protect the integrity of American elections by making several changes, including requiring documentary proof of citizenship (“DPOC”) to register to vote using the federal voter registration form. This change would not only be unnecessary, as non-citizen voting is extremely rare – but it would also be more likely to suppress voters than protect elections. It would also be illegal, as the President lacks the authority to unilaterally alter election procedures (powers that rest with Congress and the states).

LWV joined partners in writing a letter outlining the illegality of the Order and requesting that the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) not implement it. Then, in April, LWV and its partners filed a federal lawsuit, asserting that the Order violated federal law and seeking a preliminary injunction to block the Order from taking effect. *The court granted the League’s motion and blocked the EO on April 25, 2025.*

Then, in October, the court granted LWV’s motion to permanently block the executive order, forbidding the EAC from requiring documentary proof of citizenship for the federal voter registration form.

This decision was an enormous win for voters. As our CEO, Celina Stewart, Esq., said, “Today, the court sent a strong message to the Trump administration: our elections must be accessible to all citizens, not just the privileged few.” The League continues to fight unlawful DPOC laws in federal courts nationwide.

LWVEF v. Trump is one of many legal cases the League worked on in 2025. Another significant victory included the first-of-its-kind win in our case that focused on the use of AI to intimidate voters. LWV is also challenging

the Trump Administration in other ways, such as suing the US Citizenship and Immigration Services, US Department of Homeland Security, and other offices over abruptly enacting a new rule barring nonpartisan civic engagement groups from providing voter registration and promoting civic engagement at administrative naturalization ceremonies.

4. Standing Against the SAVE Act

Throughout 2025, LWV has remained steadfast in its opposition to the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act, which would require documentation of citizenship to register to vote. This is unnecessary, since voters in every state are already required to affirm or verify their citizenship before voting.

Policies like the SAVE Act are less about protecting elections than about silencing certain groups of voters, including new citizens, Black Americans, and women. Their proponents often capitalize on xenophobic, anti-immigrant mis- and disinformation, inspiring people with fear rather than facts.

LWV created a simple action alert empowering users to contact their representatives and ask them to oppose the SAVE Act. As of July 2025, more than 52k users had contacted their representatives through LWV tools on the SAVE Act.

The SAVE Act is currently awaiting a vote in the Senate. *Tell your Senators to stand against it today!* You can find additional action alerts around congressional interference in DC, the Equal Rights Amendment, expanding voting rights, and more on our Take Action page! Thank you to the hundreds of thousands of people who participate in these action alerts and petitions annually.

5. Rallying Around a Light for Our Democracy

Rallying in partnership with fellow activists is a grand tradition that LWV has participated in since its formative days during the women’s suffrage movement. Unsurprisingly, in a year as divisive as 2025, LWV engaged in rallies to bring the people together and inspire hope and collaboration.

In March, during the President’s address to Congress, Leagues nationwide hosted Light for Our Democracy gatherings to unite people in reflection, action, and solidarity. In the spirit of togetherness, LWV partnered with a diverse array of partners across the democracy rights movement, many of whom spoke at our livestreamed gathering in Washington, DC.

Light for Our Democracy set the precedent for a year of partnership in protest. From the Fight for Fair Maps rally to No King’s Day and beyond, *LWV stood alongside movement allies and everyday people to speak out for a fair and representative nation.*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OREGON AND ACLU OF OREGON FILE AMICUS BRIEF TO DEFEND OREGON VOTERS' PRIVACY AGAINST JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S PURSUIT OF SENSITIVE VOTER DATA

Press Release / Last Updated: November 25, 2025
The brief cites Oregon's strong privacy laws as protection for voters' data from the federal government

EUGENE, OR - Yesterday, the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) and ACLU of Oregon filed a "friend of the court" brief in *United States v. Oregon*, in support of Oregon voters' privacy and Oregon state privacy law. The brief opposes the United States Department of Justice's unlawful demand for disclosure of Oregon voters' private information, such as driver's license numbers and the last four digits of Social Security numbers. The League is represented by Campaign Legal Center and the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law. The ACLU of Oregon is represented by the ACLU.

"The League of Women Voters of Oregon is determined to protect the private data of Oregonians from the overreach of the federal government," said **Mark Kendall, president of the League of Women Voters of Oregon**. "We are proud to support our state's strong state privacy laws against the federal government's fishing expedition. The League will continue to protect our members and Oregon voters from this intrusion that erodes trust in the very institutions that we expect to uphold our highest democratic principles and values."

"The Department's actions are yet another attempt to misuse federal law to illegally collect confidential data for illegitimate uses," said **Caren Short, director of legal and research, League of Women Voters of the United States**. "Voters deserve to have confidence that their private information will not be taken for wrongful purposes, and the League is proud to stand up on behalf of Oregonians to ensure they feel protected as voters and citizens."

"Voting is a fundamental and constitutional right. And Oregon law protects the privacy of sensitive voter information. Across the United States, Oregon is proudly leading in the areas of democracy, voting access, and people power," said **Eri Andriola, litigation manager, ACLU of Oregon**. "It is critical that we fight to ensure that our data and our right to vote are protected."

"The DOJ's demand for sensitive voter data not only threatens Oregon voter's privacy, it is a blatant attempt to stifle democratic participation in Oregon and nationwide," said **Theresa J. Lee, senior staff attorney, ACLU Voting Rights Project**. "As DOJ has already admitted publicly, this is not about Oregon's voter rolls, but about their attempt to gather sensitive voter data never before held by the federal government."

"What the US Department of Justice is doing in Oregon and in other states across the country is a blatant overreach by the federal government that seeks to violate voters' privacy and undermine their freedom to vote. Our Constitution is clear: The states and Congress — not the executive acting alone — have the authority to administer and regulate our elections, including over-

sight of voter data," said **Brent Ferguson, director of strategic litigation, Campaign Legal Center**.

"Oregonians should have confidence that their personal, private information is protected. Alongside our partners, Campaign Legal Center will continue to stand up against the Trump administration's unlawful data seizures."

"The Justice Department's lawsuit against Oregon is part of a dangerous attempt to amass sensitive voter information from across the country. This collection of sensitive data, like driver's license numbers and partial Social Security numbers, is the latest move in the administration's broader effort to undermine American elections," said **Eileen O'Connor, senior counsel, Brennan Center for Justice**. "A federal voter database of this scale could be exploited to fabricate false claims of fraud or remove eligible voters from the rolls. States have long defended voter privacy and election security, and the Justice Department's work to amass sensitive data on voters across the country threatens both."

United States v. Oregon is one of nine lawsuits the Justice Department has filed around the country demanding the disclosure of private voter data. Since May, the Department has asked dozens of states for copies of their complete, unredacted statewide voter file, including sensitive information such as driver's license numbers and the last four digits of voters' Social Security numbers. Oregon received a request on July 16, 2025. Because state law prohibits the disclosure of some of the data the Department requested — namely, a voter's birth month, birth day, Social Security number, and driver's license number — the Oregon Secretary of State offered to provide the publicly available voter file, provided the Department followed state laws in requesting it and agreed to comply with federal privacy laws. On September 16, 2025, the Department filed a lawsuit against the State of Oregon and the Oregon Secretary of State.

Read the brief [here](#).

Visit the League's Legal Center case page here:
[USA v. Oregon](#)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff,
v.
THE STATE OF OREGON; and TOBIAS READ, in his official capacity as the Oregon Secretary of State, Defendants.

Assigned To: Judge Mustafa Kasubhai

Oral argument on the states motion to dismiss the case is set for January 14, 2026 at 9:30 am in Eugene, Oregon, in Courtroom 1 at 211 East 7th Avenue

Reading this on paper? Go to LWVLC website, find January 2026 Argus go to page 8 and click on the blue underlined links.



175 West B Street, E2, Springfield, OR 97477
541-343-7917

For the latest information visit our website <http://lwvlc.org/>

***Thanks to our
2024-25 Directory
Advertisers***

*Lane Forest Products
Antique Peddlers
Baker Bay Bead Company
Hazelnut Hill
Sundance Natural Foods/
Wine Cellars
Unique Properties
Aayres Appliance Repair
Art's Watch and Jewelry
Bel Ami
Cornucopia Restaurants
Dot Dotson's
Eugene's Flower Home
Folkways
Shelton McMurphy Johnson
House Museum*

CALENDAR

JANUARY

6 - 2pm, Unit Briefing (pg. 2)
8 - 1:30pm, Voter Service Committee meeting (pg. 3)
9 -14 - Unit Meetings Week (pg. 2)
13 - 2 to 3:30pm, Membership Committee meeting (pg. 5)
14 - 9:30am, USA v. State of Oregon (pg. 9)
15 - 5:30 to 7pm, Advocacy Watch (pg.3)
19 - MLK JR. March, (pg. 5)
20 - 1pm, Board meeting at League office
22 - 10:30am, Naturalization Ceremony (pg. 6)
23 - Midnight, *Argus* deadline
27 - 11:30am, Speaker Series at the Shedd (pg. 4)

**LWVLC Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
(except holidays)
11 am - 1:30 pm**

DONATE NOW

<http://lwvlc.org/get-involved/donate/>

MISSED A LEAGUE SPEAKER SERIES?

<https://lwvlc.org/audio-visual-recordings-archives/>