



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Civil Rights Division**

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*Voting Section – 4CON*  
*950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW*  
*Washington, DC 20530*

June 24, 2026

**VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Janice M. Winfrey  
City Clerk & Chairperson of the Election Commission  
2978 West Grand Blvd., Second Floor  
Detroit, MI 48202  
cityclerkhelpdesk@detroitmi.gov

**RE: Election Information and Monitoring for 2026 Federal Primary Election**

Dear Ms. Winfrey:

We write to request information regarding the City of Detroit, Michigan's administration of federal elections. We are requesting this information to evaluate your compliance with Sections 301 and 302 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, 52 U.S.C. §§ 21081, 21082 ("HAVA").

We observed the November 5, 2024 election in Detroit, and our monitors related concerns regarding HAVA compliance. Department of Justice attorney monitors visited sixty-five (65) polling sites used for the general election in Detroit. The concerns identified by our monitors included the lack of provisional ballots in at least one polling location, confusion about when provisional ballots should be provided to voters, and Voter Accessible Terminals that were not operational in multiple polling locations. The confusion about the administration of HAVA's requirements may have contributed to long lines and lengthy waiting periods at some voting locations.

Please provide us with the following information by July 23, 2026:

1. **Poll Official Training.** Please provide the current poll official training manual and other training materials on HAVA's requirements that will be used for the August 4, 2026 primary election ("2026 primary election").

2. Resources and Staffing. An explanation of what steps will be taken to provide adequate resources—including provisional ballots—and trained staff for every polling location for the 2026 primary election for the administration of HAVA’s requirements.
3. Voter Accessible Terminals. Please explain what steps Detroit will take to ensure that every polling location has an operational accessible voting machine for the 2026 primary election.

As part of our assessment of your HAVA compliance, we plan to send election monitors to Detroit for the 2026 primary election. We will contact you a week prior to the election monitoring to discuss the particulars of the monitoring effort.

If you have any questions or concerns about the election monitoring or the information request, please contact Timothy Mellett, Deputy Chief, Voting Section at (202) 598-0469 or [timothy.f.mellett@usdoj.gov](mailto:timothy.f.mellett@usdoj.gov). We appreciate your cooperation in providing this information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Timothy Mellett*

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Timothy Mellett  
Deputy Chief, Voting Section  
U.S. Department of Justice  
[Timothy.f.mellett@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.f.mellett@usdoj.gov)

