



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

Sonni Waknin

E: Sonni@uclavrp.org

P: 732-610-1283

UCLA VOTING RIGHTS PROJECT SUBMITS REPLY TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT TO DEFEND THE RIGHT TO VOTE REGARDLESS OF AGE IN TEXAS

The Supreme Court will either take up the case or deny the writ of certiorari.

The UCLA Voting Rights Project—along with a legal team including Pamela Karlan, Professor at Stanford Law, and Armand Derfner, Partner at Derfner & Altman—filed its reply brief to the State of Texas with the U.S. Supreme Court. The reply brief builds upon previous filings before the Court to review the Fifth Circuit’s decision in *Texas Democratic Party v. Abbott*, which challenged Texas’ mail ballot eligibility rules barring those under the age of 65 from obtaining a no-excuse mail ballot. If the Supreme Court agrees to hear the case, this will be one of the only cases that the Court has ruled on in modern history that alleges a violation of the 26th Amendment.

Director of Litigation Chad W. Dunn issued the following statement: “While the 2020 Election has passed, the right to vote is constant. The COVID-19 pandemic has raised the urgency of ensuring every citizen has access to the ballot box by implementing safe alternatives to in-person voting. Texas discriminates against voters under age 65, forcing them to vote in person while those over age 65 can vote, without excuse, by mail. These conditions plainly violate the Twenty-sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which prohibits the abridgement of the right to vote based on age regardless of pandemic circumstances during an election.”

Voting Rights Project

The UCLA Voting Rights Project (VRP) is the marquee advocacy project of the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Initiative (LPPI) at the University of California, Los Angeles and is focused on voting rights litigation, research, policy, and training. The UCLA VRP addresses monumental and overlooked gaps in the field of voting rights, such as: how to train young lawyers and researchers; how to support the development of new legal and methodological theories for voting rights cases; and how to advance policy work to ensure that there is a new generation of leaders who are pursuing efforts to guarantee that all citizens have equal and fair access to our democracy. The project was founded by Chad W. Dunn, J.D. and Matt Barreto, Ph.D. The UCLA Voting Rights Project is located within the Luskin School of Public Affairs.

To learn more about the UCLA Voting Rights Project, please visit uclavrp.org