

## PROJECT VERITAS' ATTEMPTED STING OPERATION ON STATE VOICES

### Background

Agents for the ultra-partisan misinformation organization Project Veritas have been discovered attempting to infiltrate State Voices and partner groups in multiple states in the State Voices network. (See news reports in [Wisconsin](#) and [North Carolina](#). In addition, we know of contacts made in other states as well.)

Since at least June of this year, Project Veritas agents have deployed deceptive tactics, including using fake identities to pose as potential donors, volunteers and documentary filmmakers, in attempts to infiltrate and entrap real volunteers and community organizations conducting non-partisan civic engagement work in support of free and fair elections. These unethical activities were detected and have been brought to the attention of election and law enforcement officials.

In recent days, Project Veritas has posted several messages on social media promoting a forthcoming report, **scheduled to come out Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**, about alleged voter fraud and “ballot harvesting.” We expect this “report” to follow Project Veritas’s discredited pattern of misrepresenting events through doctored video footage and twisted statements to create a false narrative that accuses their targets of breaking the law. Though we don’t know for certain, we expect State Voices, partner groups and affiliates to be targeted by name.

### Core Message

With voting already underway in many states, James O’Keefe and Project Veritas have instigated an unethical and brazen attack on civic engagement organizations apparently for the sole purpose of undermining public confidence in our electoral system. It’s no coincidence that activists with this objective targeted organizations whose focus is on helping people of color and other underrepresented groups exercise their right to vote and to otherwise participate in our democracy. We want to be very clear: State Voices’ work is done with the highest integrity, and in compliance with applicable law. That’s why, when we caught Project Veritas activists in the act, we immediately ceased communication and contacted the authorities.

Though O’Keefe’s underlings focused their efforts on State Voices, make no mistake: the real target was democracy. O’Keefe and activists like him believe that they can win only if they prevent those who disagree with them from voting and otherwise participating in civic life. We won’t let them do that.

### Talking Points

- With voting already underway in many states, it’s no surprise that the same bad actors who want to undermine democracy and the integrity of the vote have instigated a surreptitious attack on groups like ours who exist to protect the vote and ensure full participation in our democracy.
- James O’Keefe and activists like him have a very clear goal: To undermine public confidence in our electoral system and sow mistrust in lawful work helping voters of color exercise their right to vote and participate in civic life..

- Our organizations represent a diverse coalition, united by their work to ensure safe access to voter registration and the elections for all those who are eligible and build multicultural coalitions to promote racial and economic justice. It's no coincidence that O'Keefe and his infiltrators targeted our organizations just at the time we are helping people of color exercise their right to vote.
- We want to be very clear: State Voices' work is done **with the highest integrity and in compliance with applicable law**. Part of that work includes collecting completed ballots in states that allow it and registering eligible voters. Integrity is key to our work as we push for a more equitable world.
- Though O'Keefe's underlings focused their efforts on State Voices, make no mistake: the real target is democracy. O'Keefe and activists like him believe that they can win only if they prevent those who may disagree with them from voting and participating in civic life. But we won't sit idly by as they attempt to undermine the integrity of the voting process and, along with it, our democracy.