

Texas "voter ID" timeline: key events and related documents

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As the July 9 trial date approaches for the Texas voter identification lawsuit, you may be interested in some of the key events and documents listed below.

January 20, 2011: Rick Perry **submits** voter identification as an emergency matter to the 82nd Texas Legislature.

May 18, 2011: The 82nd Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2011), passes **S.B. 14**, "Relating to requirements to vote, including presenting proof of identification..."

July 25, 2011: Texas **submits** S.B. 14 (82nd R.S.) for preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the **Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973c**.

For a description of Section 5 preclearance, please see:
<http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/vot/redistricting.php>

September 23, 2011: **Letter** from U.S. Department of Justice to Texas Secretary of State regarding submission of S.B. 14 - requesting additional information on Texas voter education program, training, and Spanish surname data.

October 4, 2011: Texas **response** to September 23, 2011 request for additional information.

November 16, 2011: **Letter** from U.S. Department of Justice to Texas Secretary of State regarding submission of S.B. 14 - requesting number of registered voters in Texas, by race and Spanish surname within county of residence, who currently possess a Texas driver's license or other form of photo identification...

January 12, 2012: Texas **response** to November 16, 2011 request for additional information.

January 23, 2012: (Press release) **Texas files suit seeking swift enforcement of its voter identification law**.

January 23, 2012: Texas **complaint seeking declaratory court judgment**.

Case information: *State of Texas c/o Attorney General Greg Abbott v. Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General of the United States (No. 1:12-cv-00128)*.

March 12, 2012: Department of Justice **declines to approve** Texas voter ID law (S.B. 14, 82nd R.S.).

March 14, 2012: Texas' **amended complaint seeking declaratory judgment**.

March 22, 2012: Plaintiff's **motion for protective order regarding legislative privilege**. Includes:

- Exhibit A, U. S. DOJ Letter requesting depositions of 12 Texas legislators;
- Exhibit B, United States' first set of requests for production of documents;
- Exhibit C, United States' first set of interrogatories;
- Exhibit D, Proposed order granting motion for protective order.

March 23, 2012: [Affidavit](#) of Keith Ingram, Director of Elections, Texas Secretary of State.

March 29, 2012: Defendant's [response in opposition](#) to plaintiff's motion for a protective order.

April 2, 2012: Texas' [reply on legislative privilege](#).

April 10, 2012: United States' [statement in support](#) of its request to depose and seek documents from state legislators and staff.

April 20, 2012: [Order denying](#) Texas' motion for protective order.

April 23, 2012: U.S. Attorney General's [motion for clarification](#) about the scheduling order and to reset the trial date.

May 7, 2012: [Court order](#) regarding submission of key evidence.

July 9, 2012: U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia scheduled to hear live testimony for *State of Texas c/o Attorney General Greg Abbott v. Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General of the United States* (No. 1:12-cv-00128).

For a complete list of court documents related to this case, please see: [ElectionLaw @ Mbritz-Texas v. Holder](#). You may also view their [collection of media coverage](#) on the Texas voter identification lawsuit.