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VOTER REGISTRATION PROBE REVEALS NEW INFORMATION

Following an investigation, ACORN officials discover how fraudulent voter registrations transpired

CLARK COUNTY, Nev. - Oct. 2, 2008 - Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), revealed information from their investigation of voter registration fraud in several states. The examination comes after allegations of hired canvassers submitting forms with false information.

An incentive program called "blackjack" was discovered as the main cause. In this program, canvassers were to be paid an additional five-dollars per registrant after they reached 21 voters. The most recent development in the investigations at ACORN state offices around the country was that of Clark County, Nevada. There officials found that only 25% of registration forms submitted were valid. Nationally, it was found that roughly 1.5 percent of the 1.3 million voter registration cards were fraudulent.

The implementation of this incentive program was meant to encourage canvassers to register more voters, thereby adhering to ACORN's principle of empowering citizens by getting them registered to vote. However, it unfortunately prompted the submission of fictitious information by select canvassers.

This mishap has shed a negative light on other successful registration efforts by ACORN around the country. ACORN was unaware of the submission of the fraudulent forms and their depth prior to the investigation. In an effort to decrease the possibility of a spread of misinformation. The organization will continue to present its findings from the reviews of all offices.

With this transparency, ACORN hopes to reassure all of its constituents that it holds the same principles it has always been committed to. The inappropriate decisions made by select canvassers are not a representation of all involved with the ACORN organization.

ACORN's mission for its non-profit organization is to improve the communities of low and moderate-income families through issue campaigns aimed at raising minimum wages, creating affordable housing, improving education in urban public schools and counseling people on various topics. ACORN is one of the largest non-profit community organizations in the US with more than 400,000 members in 1200-plus local chapters in 40 states serving the citizens of each area. For more information, visit the organization's Web site at www.acorn.org.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Scott Levenson, ACORN National Spokesperson at 888-24-ACORN or email at pr@acorn.org.