



Gianforte Will Not Publicly Support Montana Election Workers & Voters

In September, Governor Gianforte was asked to publicly affirm that his administration will support Montana election officials and respond appropriately to any attempt—from any individual, organization, or government entity—to intimidate voters or election workers, interfere with lawful election procedures, or improperly disrupt Montana's elections. **To date, he has not responded.**

With Election Day just around the corner, *the need for that commitment has become more **urgent**.*

Here's why:

- **Wyoming turned a hypothetical concern into an actual precedent.** During its August primary, federal election monitors reportedly sought to interview voters and examine election equipment. Republican Governor Mark Gordon called their conduct "aggressive" and "irregular" and requested an investigation.
- **Federal involvement has expanded far beyond poll monitoring.** DOJ has pursued voter-registration data from states nationwide, federal agencies have reviewed voter rolls, and federal investigations have obtained election materials

in Georgia and Arizona. Recent court rulings have found significant federal voter-data efforts unlawful.

- **The President's own statements raise questions about jurisdiction.** President Trump has called for Republicans to “take over” and “nationalize” voting in some jurisdictions, making clear boundaries between federal and state election authority especially important.
- **Concerns about election interference are prompting advance preparations.** Current and former national security officials are advising state leaders about potential federal interference. These are precautionary concerns, not confirmed plans, but they underscore the importance of preparedness.
- **Election workers face real disruption threats.** Suspicious mailings to election offices across the country have prompted security responses, reinforcing the need to protect election operations from interference of any kind.

Montana should not have to determine the boundaries of lawful authority for the first time during an incident at a polling place.

This is not a partisan issue. Wyoming's response demonstrates that it is a question of federalism, lawful authority, election integrity, and a state's responsibility to protect its elections.

The request is simple: Governor Gianforte need not predict what the federal government will do. He need only make clear what Montana will do—protect lawful voting, support election officials, coordinate with county authorities, and respond appropriately to improper interference from any source.

Please join us in requesting this public commitment **before Election Day, November 3.**

A sample email to the governor is included below. Please adapt and send it to governor@mt.gov, greg.gianforte@gmail.com, or ggianforte@mt.gov. You can also send a message to the governor via his Contact page at <https://governor.mt.gov/Contact/>.

Share this message far and wide!

P.S. Links to resources to learn more about why this is important are below.

Sample Email

Dear Governor Gianforte,

I am writing to ask you to publicly affirm your commitment to protecting Montana voters, election workers, and election officials from intimidation, disruption, or improper interference during the 2026 general election.

Recent events in Wyoming, where concerns were raised about the conduct of federal election monitors during the August primary, have underscored the importance of clear state leadership on this issue. Subsequent federal court rulings concerning federal access to state voter information, along with growing concerns about potential election disruptions, further reinforce the need to establish clear expectations before Election Day.

We recognize that federal agencies have legitimate responsibilities under federal voting-rights laws. At the same time, any federal involvement in Montana elections must respect applicable law, the authority of Montana election officials, and every voter's right to cast a ballot free from intimidation or interference.

I respectfully ask you to publicly affirm that your administration will support Montana election officials and respond appropriately to any attempt—by any individual, organization, or government entity—to intimidate voters or election workers, interfere with lawful election procedures, or improperly disrupt the administration of Montana's elections.

This should not be a partisan issue. Every eligible Montanan deserves to vote freely and confidently, regardless of political affiliation.

With Election Day approaching, I respectfully request a public statement as soon as possible, and no later than October 27, so that voters and election officials can have clarity about the state's commitment before November 3.

Respectfully,

You can email the Governor now at governor@mt.gov, greg.gianforte@gmail.com, or ggianforte@mt.gov!

YOU CAN VOTE NOW

(and you should!)

- ✓ Skip Election Day lines!
- ✓ Be kind to your introverted self - vote in peace and quiet!
- ✓ Schedules change. Don't chance it - vote early!
- 📍 Head to the courthouse or [find early voting spots here](#).

▶ And after you do, [check your voter status](#) to make sure your vote is counted.



Below are links to all the reasons why the Governor needs to make a public statement supporting Montana's elections.

- **U.S. Department of Justice — “Justice Department to Conduct Election Monitoring in Florida and Wyoming Primary Elections,” Aug. 18, 2026.**
Primary source confirming DOJ sent two Civil Rights Division attorneys to Laramie County, Wyoming; that DOJ had deployed more than 75 monitors across five states and 200+ polling locations during the primary season; and DOJ's stated rationale and legal authority for monitoring. [Department of Justice DOJ — Election Monitoring in Florida and Wyoming](#)
- **Wyoming U.S. Attorney's Office — “Wyoming U.S. Attorney's Office and Department of Justice work to ensure election integrity,” Aug. 18, 2026.**
Primary source for DOJ's description of the Wyoming operation and U.S. Attorney Darin Smith's statement that the purpose was ensuring “transparency, ballot security, and strict compliance with federal voting rights statutes.” [Department of Justice Wyoming U.S. Attorney — Election Monitoring Statement](#)

- Associated Press/Washington Post — “Wyoming governor requests investigation into activity of Justice Department monitors during primary,” Aug. 28, 2026.**
 Especially important. Documents Laramie County Clerk Debra Lee's account that monitors sought to interview voters, questioned officials about poll-worker training, requested training materials, asked how election equipment had been acquired, and wanted to examine tabulators. It also reports Gov. Mark Gordon's concerns and his request for an investigation by Wyoming's attorney general. [The Washington Post AP/Washington Post — Wyoming Governor Requests Investigation](#)
- WyoFile — “Gov. Gordon concerned by ‘aggressive’ DOJ election observers during Wyoming’s primary election,” Aug. 26, updated Sept. 2, 2026.**
 Excellent Wyoming-specific source. Reports Gordon's characterization of the conduct as “aggressive” and “irregular,” Lee's objections, the lack of advance awareness among state/local officials, and the broader context of federal voter-data requests. [WyoFile](#)
[WyoFile — Gordon and Wyoming Officials Respond to DOJ Monitors](#)
- U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division — “About Federal Observers and Election Monitoring.”**
 Useful for establishing the other side of the legal framework: federal election monitoring itself is legitimate and longstanding. DOJ explains that its Civil Rights Division monitors polling places to assess compliance with federal voting-rights laws. This supports framing the request around **lawful boundaries and conduct**, rather than opposition to federal monitoring itself. [Department of Justice DOJ — About Federal Observers and Election Monitoring](#)
- CBS News — “Justice Department to send a record 1,000 monitors to polling places in midterm elections,” Aug. 18, 2026.**
 Reports Civil Rights Division chief Harmeet Dhillon's announcement that DOJ planned to deploy approximately **1,000 federal monitors** for the general election—a record deployment according to the report. [CBS News](#)
[CBS News — DOJ Plans 1,000 Election Monitors](#)
- Axios — “The most-watched election in U.S. history,” Oct. 6, 2026.**
 This is useful because it is **new today**. Axios reports that DOJ still plans to train roughly 1,000 election monitors for nationwide deployment and describes the unusually large combination of federal, partisan, nonpartisan and citizen monitoring expected around the 2026 election. [Axios](#)
[Axios — The Most-Watched Election in U.S. History](#)
- National Conference of State Legislatures — “Federal Requests for Statewide Voter Lists.”**
 A particularly strong neutral/institutional source. NCSL says DOJ began requesting statewide voter-registration lists in May 2025, calling this a “**significant shift from its historically limited role in voter list maintenance.**” It tracks the resulting litigation and notes that numerous federal courts have dismissed DOJ cases seeking unredacted voter information. [NCSL](#)
[NCSL — Federal Requests for Statewide Voter Lists](#)
- CBS News — “The Trump administration has filed 31 lawsuits seeking states’ voter data. Here’s where they stand,” Oct. 1, 2026.**
 Current overview of DOJ's litigation seeking state voter-registration information. It reports lawsuits against 30 states and Washington, D.C., providing useful evidence of the scale of the administration's federal voter-roll initiative. [CBS News](#)
[CBS News — DOJ State Voter-Data Lawsuits](#)
- Reuters — “Trump asks Supreme Court to allow voter verification database that was blocked by judge,” Sept. 8, 2026.**
 Covers the administration's effort to use a revamped federal immigration database to assist in checking state voter rolls and the federal court dispute surrounding that system. [Reuters](#)
[Reuters — Supreme Court and Federal Voter Verification Database](#)
- Reuters — “How Trump’s obsession with ‘rigged’ voting machines spread across US government,” Oct. 2, 2026.**
 Important recent reporting on election equipment. Reuters documents federal investigations involving DOJ, FBI, DHS and intelligence personnel examining voting-machine and election-data claims. The reporting provides useful context for why the Wyoming monitors' reported request to examine tabulators attracted particular concern. [Reuters](#)
[Reuters — Federal Government and Voting-Machine Investigations](#)
- Reuters — Trump calls for Republicans to “nationalize” voting, Feb. 2, 2026.**
 Reports Trump's statement that Republicans should “take over” voting and “nationalize” voting in at least 15 unspecified places. The report also explains the constitutional division of election authority and reactions to the

statement. [Investing.com](#)

[Reuters](#) — Trump Calls for Republicans to Nationalize Voting

- [Washington Post](#) — **U.S. officials privately advise states fearing Trump election meddling** (October 20).
- [Reuters](#) — **U.S. judge rules Justice Department use of voter rolls unlawful** (October 9).
- [Reuters](#) — **Seven subpoenas engulf Nevada election chief** (October 15). This is an additional concrete example of federal pressure on state election administration.
- [Associated Press](#) — **Authorities investigate suspicious letters sent to election offices** (October 15).
- [U.S. Supreme Court](#) — **Department of Homeland Security v. League of Women Voters** (September 25). Useful primary-source context for the ongoing SAVE litigation.

