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Election Law

Presented by

Nancy G. Abudu, Deputy Legal Director, Southern Poverty Law Center

Public Interest Lawyers

Hosted by: Legal Services of North Florida, Inc.

Thursday, May 29, 2019

- I. Overview of Presentation – Election Law 12:00 Noon**
 - A. Florida’s Amendment 4 and rights restoration efforts
 - B. Redistricting and current legal landscape
 - C. Election administration
 - D. Community engagement and GOTV mobilization efforts

- II. Florida’s Amendment 4 and rights restoration efforts**
 - A. History of felon disenfranchisement in Florida
 - B. Ballot initiative
 - C. Litigation – Hand v. Scott
 - D. 2019 Legislative session and outcome of proposed regressive legislation

- III. Redistricting**
 - A. Partisan gerrymandering
 - 1. Florida’s Fair Districts amendments
 - 2. Rucho v. Common Cause/Lamone v. Benisek
 - 3. Alabama Legislative Black Caucus v. Alabama
 - B. Citizenship question on U.S. census form
 - 1. Evenwell v. Abbott

2. Department of Commerce v. New York

IV. Election Administration

- A. Debrief of Florida's 2018 mid-term elections
- B. 2019 Legislative session and omnibus election bills

V. Community engagement and GOTV mobilization efforts

- A. Public education and outreach strategies
- B. GOTV models for 2020

VI. Conclusion

VII. Questions and Answers (Time permitting)

1:00 p.m.



Today's Presenter

Nancy Abudu, Deputy Legal Director, Southern Poverty Law Center

Nancy Abudu is the Deputy Legal Director for the Southern Poverty Law Center's Voting Rights Practice Group. In that role, she leads a team of lawyers, community organizers, and technical experts in protecting and strengthening the voting rights of minority communities and other politically vulnerable populations.

Prior to joining SPLC, Nancy was the Legal Director for the ACLU of Florida and a senior staff attorney with the ACLU's Voting Rights Project. She has litigated a variety of civil rights and civil liberties issues in federal and state courts, including legal challenges to state felon disenfranchisement, proof of citizenship, and voter photo ID laws; and has pushed for greater enforcement of the Voting Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act, Help America Vote Act, and other federal laws. Her practice areas have also included criminal justice reform, free speech, reproductive rights, immigrants' rights, LGBT rights, privacy and government surveillance, and education issues.

In addition, Nancy has worked as a staff attorney with the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, and an associate with the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York. She served as an international election observer in Albania, is a member of the ABA's Advisory Committee to the Standing Committee on Election Law, and is a Senior Fellow with the Environmental Leadership Program based in Washington, D.C.

She received her B.A. from Columbia University and her J.D. from Tulane Law School where she won the "Most Outstanding Managing Editor Award" for her work on the Tulane Environmental Law Journal. She is admitted to practice in Florida, Georgia, New York, the U.S. Supreme Court, and several other federal and state courts.

Nancy G. Abudu
Voting Rights Practice Group
P.O. Box 370037
Miami, FL 33137-0037
786-376-5311 (mobile)
Nancy.abudu@splcenter.org