

Redacted copy

I hope this email finds you both well in this very busy time. I wanted to flag two items for you as absentee ballots are being sent out.

**Grant Money for Poll Workers/Hazard Pay:** For any needs that you continue to have with poll workers and ABM ballots:

There is new grant money from the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) available to NC county board of elections to defray the cost of the November elections and to help ensure everyone can vote safely during the pandemic. **These funds can be used to fund additional poll workers or even supplement or offer hazard pay to existing poll workers for Early Vote and Election Day.**

CTCL's goal is to ensure that this is low-burden for elections officials—both in terms of the application process for the grant itself, as well as post-grant reporting requirements. They have set up an online portal for grant applications at <https://techandcivicle.org/grants>. The application includes the official's name, contact information, basic information about their office, and a checklist of election administration needs. Once approved, CTCL will send a written agreement to the county to sign, and then CTCL will disburse the funds. More information is available at: <https://www.techandcivicle.org/>

**Recommendations regarding Review of Absentee Applications:** I am passing on a letter the NC Democratic Party prepared. In short, we are urging counties to provide written guidance to staff on the signature and witness requirement. **The attached letter provides our current thinking on best practices as you begin to review absentee ballots.** I know today is especially busy (though I will probably be able to say that every day for the next 60+ days!), but if you have time, I am around to talk through any questions. We know this election cycle presents unprecedented administrative challenges, and we appreciate all of your work.

I will be in touch with any questions that we have as the election approaches.

Sincerely,  
Rodrick Barge

[Enclosure]

--

**Rodrick Barge**  
Regional Voter Protection Director  
[rodrick.barge@2020victory.com](mailto:rodrick.barge@2020victory.com) | 910.321.8587