



CLIENT PROFILES: KOHLS, et. al. v. MARTIN

Freedom Kohls

Freedom is 34 years old and has lived in Little Rock, Arkansas for 3 years. She relocated to Arkansas after she lost all of her possessions, including her ID and birth certificate, during Hurricane Katrina. Freedom is active in her community and is well known and respected among her friends, her church family, and the organizations with which she works. Freedom is very enthusiastic about life and always finds the good in any situation.

Just as her name suggests, Freedom loves her county and believes voting is vitally important. She has proudly carried her current voter registration card since she registered in Pulaski County last year. Without a photo ID, Freedom is unable to exercise her right to vote. While she has sought help in getting ID, It is nearly impossible for Freedom to get an ID as she does not have a copy of her certified birth certificate or any other forms of official Identifying documents and she must have a photo ID and pay a fee in order to obtain her birth certificate and other documents necessary to obtain ID needed to vote.

Toylanda Smith

Toylanda has called Little Rock home for the past 2 years. She is 23 years old, sharp, and has a great sense of humor. Toylanda not only wants to get her ID in order to vote and have her voice heard, but also to allow her to participate in many other areas of life. She desires to go back to school and pull herself out of poverty. For the past 2 years, Toylanda has tried to navigate the systems on her own to get her ID but has not had much success. She soon realized that without her birth certificate or any other forms of identity, it is nearly impossible to get an ID. She cannot obtain a copy of her birth certificate from her state of birth without a photo ID.

Joe Nathan Flakes

Joe is 78 years old and was born and raised in Arkansas. Joe was never issued a birth certificate by the state of Arkansas because he was delivered by a midwife who recorded most of his siblings properly but did not properly record Joe or one of his sibling's births, according to the state of Arkansas. The state requires three forms of ID before they will issue a delayed birth certificate and Joe cannot produce three that satisfy the requirements. Joe would have to go to court to have the court order the state of Arkansas to issue him a birth certificate before he can take the necessary steps to obtain ID needed to vote.

Barry Haas

Barry came to Arkansas in August of 1967 to serve on a Titan II nuclear missile launch crew at Little Rock Air Force Base. He served four years active duty in the U. S. Air Force and received an honorable discharge in October 1970. He has been registered to vote in Pulaski County since 1967 all but one year when he temporarily moved back to northern Virginia where his parents lived. He has voted in almost every election the past 47 years, and has served as a poll worker for about twelve years. He has even served as chief judge at one of the largest polling places in Pulaski County which serves more than 4,300 registered voters. Barry does have a photo ID that would satisfy the requirements of the law, but refuses to show it in protest as he believes that the law tramples the fundamental right of voters that he has spent much of his life to protect. His refusal to show ID cost him his right to vote in the March 11 Pulaski County special election.