TRANSGENDER VOTERS: INFORMATION FOR POLL COMMISSIONERS

The voter you are talking to is transgender, meaning that their gender identity is different than the gender that was recorded on their birth certificate. Transgender people are sometimes unable to update their IDs to reflect their identity for a number of reasons.

Here is other information that might be useful to you:

- Gender discrepancies on ID are not a valid reason to deny a ballot. Transgender voters may have ID that indicates a different gender than what they look like. They may not have had the opportunity to update their ID yet or may not be able to do so. This does not mean their ID is invalid or fraudulent for voting.

- Different clothing, makeup or hairstyle on an ID photo is not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot. Voters may look different today than on their photo ID for many reasons.

- A voter’s transgender status and medical history is private. Asking personal questions is offensive, inappropriate, and not relevant to the right to vote.

- Transgender voters are not doing anything wrong—they are being themselves. Transgender people have the right to vote just like everyone else, and it is your responsibility to ensure they are able to do so without hassle.

If confusion about this person’s right to vote persists, please speak to an election supervisor in your parish to resolve any remaining questions.