September 2, 2020

Corey Richards
Postmaster, Houston Postal Customer Council
P.O. Box 3544
Houston, TX 77253-2544

Dear Postmaster Richards,

It has come to my attention from the League of Women Voters of Houston that 13 of the 86 United States Post Offices in the City of Houston are not accepting kits including voter registration materials in multiple languages, reminders about key voting deadlines and American flags.

As the Mayor of the fourth largest city in the United States, I want to know why.

Specifically, the Alief, Ashford West, Cornerstone, Eastwood, Fleetwood, Foster Place, Galleria, Long Point, Oak Forest, Spring and Westbury reported they could not display the voter registration cards.

In reporting on this issue, the Houston Chronicle said postal workers mentioned a memo saying the materials were in violation of USPS policy. My office would like to review this memo and by this letter I am formally requesting a copy.

Providing voter registration applications is a critical service for the citizens of this country. Many have sacrificed so much to move our country forward to create a more inclusive city. Access to the ballot starts with access to voter registration materials.

In January 2019, I welcomed the late Congressman John Lewis to the City of Houston to honor him as a Grand Marshall of Houston’s MLK Day Parade. No person is more recognized for his work and sacrifice for the right to vote than he is. Lewis is famous for saying, “If you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have a moral obligation to do something about it.”

I encourage you do something about it, and do it now.

Sincerely,

Sylvester Turner
Mayor