

From the beginning, the 11th Episcopal District has been a supporter of the state-wide campaign to **automatically** restore the voting rights of any returning citizen except those whose voting rights are specifically excluded by the language of Amendment 4 itself. Now that January 8, 2019 is here, the effective date of the amendment, I am concerned that there may be differing levels of voter registration information, registration outreach, and registration assistance being made available to these returning citizens by the 67 Supervisors Of Elections in Florida.

To this end, I am asking that the following steps be taken across the 11th Episcopal District to assure maximum effectiveness state-wide in the voter registration of all eligible returning citizens:

1. Before January 21, 2019, I am asking that a delegation consisting of at least one (1) clergy and/or one (1) member each from the Sons of Allen, the Lay Organization, the Missionary Society, and the Social Action Committee of every county in a Presiding Elder's District, meet at least once with the Supervisor of Elections Office in that county to ask if they have been accepting the voter registration forms of all returning citizen except those whose voting rights are specifically excluded by the language of Amendment 4 itself. I am asking that each Presiding Elder insure that the names of the attendees and the written results of these Supervisor of Elections meetings be sent by e-mail to me by one of the attendees at bishoprichardson_2000@yahoo.com, and a copy to Rev. James T. Golden, Esquire, jamethegold@aol.com.
2. That beginning with our 3rd Sunday Martin Luther King observances and at each of our Sunday worship services until the Mid-year convening that some focus be placed on the importance of the 11th Episcopal District's continued involvement in the voter registration of returning citizens. In particular, I am asking that the 11th Episcopal District support our Sons Of Allen Men's Ministry in their voter registration efforts to assist returning citizens by being "Brothers Helping Brothers" Likewise, in a similar fashion, I would welcome a similar effort on the part of our WMS component to be "Sisters Helping Sisters." More details of how you may assist in these efforts will be forthcoming at our Mid-Year convening.
3. That we continue to coordinate, cooperate, and collaborate with Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC) and other like-minded organizations to resist any efforts from any quarter to minimize the impact and importance of this major victory for returning citizens in Florida.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.