

To: ALL Jersey Township Residents

Fr: Jersey Township Fiscal Officer

Re: Response to US Census

Dear Residents;

The elected officials of Jersey Township urgently request that ALL residents of our township respond to the US Census population inquiry we should all receive this year. There is a finite amount of public money (income taxes, sales taxes, excise taxes, tariffs, fees, etc.) that will be disbursed throughout the nation based on individual area population. The Licking County Commissioners seem to believe that the population in some areas of our county have been undercounted in the past, resulting in public monies being spent in other areas of Ohio (or elsewhere in the country) rather than our communities. Our county is faced with caring for an increasing number of children of opioid addicted parents (judicially ordered) and with replacing bridges that are becoming too old to repair amongst other challenges. It is critically important that any monies that by rights ought to come to Licking County (or to Jersey Township) not be diverted elsewhere!

According to federal law, census results CANNOT be used for any purpose other than tallying the US population total and determining where the population resides. The definition of population includes citizens and noncitizens (legal and illegal aliens); all persons living in the country. Homeless persons, seasonal agricultural workers, anti-social persons, prisoners, and anybody else you can think of MUST all be accounted for in order to provide an accurate population count to satisfy census requirements!

Let me provide an example of what I am writing to you about. I am a package car driver for UPS; my route used to be in the South Linden neighborhood of Columbus. During the 2008 presidential election neighborhood organizers (ACT, ACORN, MoveOn.Org) went door to door repeatedly to make sure everybody in the neighborhood was registered to vote. They saturated the neighborhood so thoroughly that some residents would tape notes to their storm doors stating they were already registered to vote. Barack Obama won the State of Ohio with an extremely strong vote count coming out of South Linden. While it would be difficult to conduct such a campaign in Jersey Township, there are things we can do to help maximize our resident count. We can help the elderly fill out the census form, we can encourage coworkers, neighbors and family members to fill out the form, we can educate people who are mistrustful of filling out the form that it can ONLY be used for the purpose of counting population. There is a fear that urban counties will have accurate counts and rural counties will be undercounted, resulting in tax monies and fee incomes diverting to large urban areas and away from our local neighborhoods.

Lastly, the private sector uses census results to help determine where in the country to invest and where to offer goods and services. A sparsely populated area might not get 5G cell service, might not get natural gas lines, cable service, or other commercial or residential development opportunities. We pay an opportunity cost in future job growth and infrastructure development by not responding to the census!

When you receive your census materials, **Please Respond.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marko F. Jesenko



Fiscal Officer, Jersey Township