



Evaluating English-Only Driver's License Testing in Florida

Summer Associate Project Exchange

Single or Multiple Opportunities

Single

Organization Name

LatinoJustice PRLDEF

Background

LatinoJustice PRLDEF is examining how Florida's new English-only driver's license testing policy functions as a facially neutral rule that produces significant disparate impacts on communities of color.

Scope of Work

Analyze how Florida's English-only testing policy produces disparate impacts on LEP communities and downstream civic participation.

Timing

Due no later than end of July 2026.

Jurisdiction

Florida (11th Circuit)

Contact Information

Please contact Paul Lee (plee@step toe.com) and Natallya Velev (natallya.velev@ropesgray.com) if you'd like to be assigned to this project.

Description

LatinoJustice PRLDEF is examining how Florida's new English-only driver's license testing policy functions as a facially neutral rule that produces significant disparate impacts on communities of color. The policy particularly affects limited English proficient (LEP) Latino, Haitian, Vietnamese, and other immigrant populations by restricting access to driver's licenses, undermining economic stability, and increasing exposure to legal penalties. The research explores downstream consequences for civic participation, including reduced voter registration through motor voter systems and barriers to obtaining required identification. The project situates the policy within the historical use of language restrictions as proxies for race and national origin to evaluate whether discriminatory intent can be inferred. Ultimately, the analysis assesses whether the policy operates as a modern mechanism of racial exclusion in both civic and democratic participation.

Subtasks (0)

Reminders(0)