



## **Voting/Registering to Vote in U.S.**

### **Has the applicant ever voted in a U.S. election?**

- If yes, then the applicant is ineligible for citizenship (and deportable), unless the locality in which the applicant voted allows non-citizen voting (rare).
  - Ask for where the applicant voted.
    - If a federal or Massachusetts election, the person is ineligible.
    - If somewhere else, Legal can research to confirm that the locality does not allow non-citizen voting.
- There is one rare exception for those who voted with the sincere belief they were a U.S. citizen. All of the following must be true:
  - Both of the applicant's parents must have been U.S. citizens at the time the applicant voted;
  - The applicant permanently resided in the U.S. prior to age 16; and
  - At the time of voting, the applicant reasonably believed they were a U.S. citizen.

*If you think this might be true, tag Legal to analyze.*

### **Has the applicant registered to vote in the United States?**

- If yes, then the applicant must unregister in each location s/he registered before applying.
  - Ask for where the applicant registered.
  - Applicant must get proof that s/he is unregistered in each location from each locality where s/he registered.
- Check an applicant's voter registration status in Massachusetts on line:  
<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>
- The applicant will also need to obtain his/her voting record in each location to prove to USCIS s/he never voted. This can be submitted at the interview.