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Yinka Faleti Statement on Secretary Ashcroft's Failure to Protect Missouri Voters

"Along with so many other Missourians, I am completely underwhelmed by Jay Ashcroft's appearance in the governor's COVID-19 update today.

Ashcroft should have taken the podium to announce he and his office are taking immediate measures to ensure that our 2020 elections can happen without risking voters' and poll workers' lives. He should have stated he is going to facilitate and fully fund no-excuse absentee vote-by-mail. He should have stated he'll expand options for in-person absentee voting and fund modification of polling locations to protect public health.

He said none of those things. Instead, he simply stated he is not planning to even explore no-excuse absentee vote-by-mail for the November elections. He then passed the buck on to the legislature, choosing to feign ignorance to the authority to enact those measures within the emergency powers of the governor, as set forth in Mo. Rev. Stat. § 44.100. This is not leadership. The safety and sanctity of our elections are at risk, and the individual charged with protecting them is dangerously asleep at the wheel."

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Yinka Faleti is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, a U.S. Army veteran, and the Democratic Nominee for Missouri Secretary of State. Learn more at www.yinkafaleti.com.