IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

GEORGIA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NAACP, et al.

1. Requesting Judge

Case No. 1:21-cv-5338-SCJ

Plaintiffs,

Hon. Steve C. Jones

v.

2. District Judge

STATE OF GEORGIA, et al.,

Hon. Steven D. Grimberg

Defendants.

3. Circuit Judge

Hon. Elizabeth L. Branch

DESIGNATION OF THREE-JUDGE COURT [28 U.S.C. § 2284]

Judge Steve C. Jones has notified me that this action is one required by Act of Congress to be heard by a district court of three judges. I hereby designate District Judge Steven D. Grimberg and Circuit Judge Elizabeth L. Branch to serve with the requesting judge, Judge Jones, as members of the three-judge court to hear and decide the action.

This designation is not a prejudgment as to whether this action should be heard by a three-judge court. Federal law requires the chief circuit judge to designate a three-judge panel upon the filing of a request for such a panel. 28 U.S.C. § 2284(b)(1). "[T]he chief judge's duty is solely ministerial. . . . The three-judge court itself, of course, may subsequently determine that it should not have

been constituted." *Merced Rosa v. Herrero*, 423 F.2d 591, 593 n.2 (1st Cir. 1970). The parties will have the opportunity to brief and argue all questions before the three-judge court as the court concludes is appropriate.

Dated this 4th day of January, 2022.

William H. Pryor Jr.
William H. Pryor Jr.
Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

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