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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 53

INDEX NO. E2022-0116CV

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 02/15/2022

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF STEUBEN

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TIM HARKENRIDER, GUY C. BROUGHT, LAWRENCE CANNING, PATRICIA CLARINO, GEORGE DOOHER, JR., STEPHEN EVANS, LINDA FANTON, JERRY FISHMAN, JAY FRANTZ, LAWRENCE GARVEY, ALAN NEPHEW, SUSAN ROWLEY, JOSEPHINE THOMAS, AND MARIANNE VOLANTE,

Index No. E2022-0116CV

AFFIRMATION OF GOOD FAITH

Petitioners,

Mot. Seq. # 003

-against-

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL, LIEUTENANT
GOVERNOR AND PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
BRIAN A. BENJAMIN, SENATE MAJORITY LEADER
AND PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE
ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS, SPEAKER OF THE
ASSEMBLY CARL HEASTIE, NEW YORK STATE
BOARD OF ELECTIONS, AND THE NEW YORK
STATE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON
DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AND
REAPPORTIONMENT,

Respondents.

BENNET J. MOSKOWITZ, an attorney admitted to practice in the State of New York, hereby affirms under the penalties of perjury as follows:

1. I am a Partner at Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP, attorneys for Petitioners in this CPLR Art. 4 special proceeding.

Expedited Discovery (Mot. Seq. # 003).*

INDEX NO. E2022-0116CV RECEIVED NYSCEF: 02/15/2022

2. I submit this Affirmation of Good Faith pursuant to 22 NYCRR § 202.7 to attest to the good faith efforts made in connection with Petitioners' Motion For Leave To Conduct

- On February 3, 2022, Petitioners, electors in the State of New York, commenced 3. this special proceeding to challenge, *inter alia*, the validity of the Legislature's new congressional map ("2022 congressional map"). See Petition, NYSCEF Doc. No. 1. On February 8, 2022, Petitioners submitted a still-pending proposed Amended Petition, adding, in relevant part, their challenge to the new state Senate map ("2022 state Senate map"). See Proposed Amended Petition, NYSCEF Doc. No. 18, ¶¶ 179–212.
- This Court's initial Order To Show Cause, entered on February 7, 2022, required 4. the parties to "confer . . . on a schedule for expedited fact discovery and expert reports." Order To Show Cause, NYSCEF Doc. No. 11 at 4.
- 5. On February 10, 2022, consistent with this Court's February 7 Order To Show Cause, Petitioners and Respondents held a lengthy telephonic meet-and-confer session, during which they discussed Petitioners' proposed discovery requests. At that meeting, counsel for Respondents contended that these proceedings did not contemplate any discovery whatsoever other than notices to admit, and that counsel was unsure how any additional discovery could work, given both Respondents' privilege concerns and practical considerations regarding such additional discovery's incompatibility with the form of these proceedings. Nevertheless, Petitioners agreed

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 53

^{*} As discussed in Petitioners' contemporaneously filed letter to the Court dated February 15, 2022, and contrary to Respondents' suggestion, Petitioners are not required to submit an Affirmation of Good Faith under the present circumstances. Nevertheless, Petitioners hereby submit this Affirmation of Good Faith in an abundance of caution, without conceding that such submission is required.

INDEX NO. E2022-0116CV

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 02/15/2022

to provide Respondents a detailed proposal of the discovery Petitioners contemplated, in good faith efforts to come to a reasonable agreement on the scope of discovery.

- 6. Later that day, Petitioners provided Respondents with a detailed, written proposal of their contemplated discovery requests, including party and non-party document discovery and depositions.
- 7. Respondents rejected Petitioners' discovery proposal outright, refusing to consent to any such discovery in this matter and instead declaring in substance that Petitioners would have to seek leave to pursue any and all discovery other than notices to admit.
- 8. Given Respondents' blanket refusal to consent to any discovery beyond notices to admit, and given the exigent nature of this special proceeding, which exigency is set forth in the New York Constitution itself, Petitioners determined in good faith that further discussions concerning the discovery issues would be futile and untenable.
- 9. Thus, on February 14, 2022, Petitioners filed their Proposed Order To Show Cause Why Petitioners Should Not Be Granted Leave To Conduct Expedited Discovery, which this Court entered the next day. NYSCEF Doc. No. 51.
- 10. I respectfully submit that counsel for Petitioners made a good faith effort to resolve the issues raised in Petitioners' Motion For Leave To Conduct Expedited Discovery (Mot. Seq. # 003), before filing it.

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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 53

INDEX NO. E2022-0116CV

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 02/15/2022

WHEREFORE, Petitioners respectfully request that the relief requested in their Motion For Leave To Conduct Expedited Discovery (Motion Seq. #003) be in all respects granted, together with any such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York February 15, 2022

BENNET J. MOSKOWITZ

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