

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
FOURTH DIVISION**

**DEBORAH SPRINGER SUTTLAR, JUDY GREEN, FRED LOVE,  
in his individual and official capacity as State Representative,  
KWAMI ABDUL-BEY, CLARICE ABDUL-BEY, and  
PAULA WITHERS,**

**PLAINTIFFS**

vs.

**CASE NO. 60CV-22-1849**

**JOHN THURSTON, in his official capacity  
as the Secretary of State of Arkansas and in his official capacity  
as the Chairman of the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners;  
and SHARON BROOKS, BILENDA  
HARRIS-RITTER, WILLIAM LUTHER,  
CHARLES ROBERTS, WENDY BRANDON, JAMIE CLEMMER and  
JAMES HARMON SMITH III, in their official capacities  
as members of the Arkansas State Board of  
Election Commissioners,**

**DEFENDANTS**

**ORDER**

Comes now before the Court the parties' Joint Motion for Stay of Proceedings, and based on a review of the materials submitted to the Court, the files and records of the case, and all other matters considered, the Court DOTH FIND.

Following remand from federal district court, the parties each filed motions that would potentially resolve all or some of the merits of this litigation. Defendants have filed a Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings (dated September 1, 2022), and Plaintiffs have filed a Motion for Partial Summary Judgment (dated September 1, 2022), (the "Pending Motions"). The outcome of the Court's decision on the Pending Motions will materially affect the issues presented for trial. Accordingly, the parties jointly request that the proceedings be stayed until the Court resolves the

Pending Motions. The parties respectfully request that the Court decide the Pending Motions expeditiously, given that the Plaintiffs have requested relief ahead of the 2024 congressional elections, and thus time is of the essence in this litigation.

The parties also request that the Court continue the current trial date and direct the parties to consult with chambers and select a trial date later this year. The parties have conferred and agree to request that the trial date be continued until July 2023, subject to the Court's availability.

The Court finds that the Motion should be, and is hereby, ordered GRANTED. Proceedings are hereby STAYED pending the Court's forthcoming ruling on the Pending Motions.

The bench trial currently set to begin April 17, 2023, is CONTINUED to a four-day setting beginning July 11, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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HERBERT T. WRIGHT, JR. – CIRCUIT JUDGE

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DATE

Prepared by:

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