IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE of the)	
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for the)	
ADVANCEMENT of COLORED)	
PEOPLE, et al.,)	
)	NO. 3:20-cv-01039
Plaintiffs,)	
)	JUDGE CAMPBELL
v.)	MAGISTRATE JUDGE FRENSLEY
)	
WILLIAM LEE, et al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
		Oly
	ODDED	

ORDER

Pursuant to the Court's prior Order, (Doc. No. 164), the parties have filed a joint motion to continue the bench trial in this matter, currently set for November 28, 2023. (Doc. No. 169). Through the motion, the parties submit that their requested continuance is necessary due to Defendant Mark Goins' recent and substantial changes to the State of Tennessee's procedures and requirements related to voting rights restoration, including issuing Certificates of Restoration (CORs). (See id. ¶¶ 3-4, 7-8). The parties do not propose new trial dates in the pending motion; instead, they propose filing a joint status report with proposed trial dates in 60 days, by October 23, 2023. (Doc. No. 169 ¶ 9). In support of their proposed October 2023 deadline for filing proposed trial dates, the parties note their agreement that the new COR-related procedures "present a potentially dramatic change in the factual circumstances of this case and the landscape of voting

Sometime between June 29, 2023, and July 21, 2023, Defendant Mark Goins determined that it was necessary to revise the State of Tennessee's policies and procedures for the restoration of voting rights for individuals with felony convictions based on his reading of the Tennessee Supreme Court opinion in *Falls v. Goins*, issued on June 29, 2023. (Doc. No. 169 ¶ 3; Declaration of Mark Goins, Doc. No. 151-1 ¶ 3). At some point, Goins made changes to the State of Tennessee's procedures and requirements relating to voting rights restoration, issuing CORs, the COR form itself, and processing voter-registration forms from individuals with pre-1981 felony convictions. Goins issued the revised policies and procedures on Friday, July 21, 2023, (Doc. Nos. 151-2 through 151-7), and they became effective the same day. (*See* Declaration of Mark Goins, Doc. No. 151-1 ¶¶ 3-6; Doc. No. 169 ¶¶ 3-4).

rights restoration in Tennessee." (*Id.* ¶ 7 (citing Doc. Nos. 158, 161)). Additionally, Plaintiffs reiterate that they are investigating the effects of these changes, if any, on members of the Plaintiff Class and on the individual circumstances of the class representatives. (Doc. No. 169 ¶ 8; *see also* Doc. No. 158). Plaintiffs submit that they continue to evaluate the potential impact, if any, on their COR-related claims, as well as to consider the most appropriate response and how it might affect the time of a trial in this case. (Doc. No. 169 ¶ 8).

For good cause shown, the parties' motion (Doc. No. 169) is **GRANTED**, and the trial in this matter is **CONTINUED** to a date to be set by separate order. On or before **October 23, 2023**, the parties shall file a joint status report with agreed proposed trial dates.

It is so **ORDERED**.

WILLIAM L. CAMPBELL, **L**X.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE