

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
TALLAHASSEE DIVISION**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF  
FLORIDA, INC.; LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS OF FLORIDA  
EDUCATION FUND and FLORIDA  
STATE CONFERENCE OF THE  
NAACP,

*Plaintiffs,*

v.

RON DESANTIS, in his official  
capacity as Governor of the State of  
Florida, and CORD BYRD, in his  
official capacity as Secretary of the  
State of Florida

*Defendants.*

CASE NO. [click to insert case number](#)

**PLAINTIFFS'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR TEMPORARY  
RESTRAINING ORDER AND PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION  
AND FOR ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

COMES NOW, Plaintiffs, the League of Women Voters of Florida, Inc., the League of Women Voters of Florida Education Fund (collectively "LWVFL" or "the League"), and the Florida State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("FL NAACP"), by and through its attorneys, and moves the Court pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for a

temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction, and for an order to show cause as to why injunctive relief should not issue against Ron DeSantis, in his official capacity as Governor of Florida, and Cord Byrd, in his official capacity as Secretary of State of Florida. In support thereof, Plaintiffs state as follows:

1. On October 8, 2024, Plaintiffs filed their Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief alleging, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1983, that Defendants violated the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution when it failed to extend the deadline for voter registration because of Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

2. Plaintiffs seek a temporary restraining order enjoining Defendants from enforcing the current October 7 voter registration deadline and requiring Defendants to reopen Florida's voter registration deadline for an additional ten days.

3. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65 provides for the issuance of a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction where the facts alleged demonstrate irreparable injury, loss, or damage to the moving party.

4. Plaintiffs have submitted a Memorandum of Law in support of this motion alleging such injury and addressing all elements entitling them to relief for the issuance of a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, and order to show cause.

5. Plaintiffs seek leave to present 30 minutes of oral argument in support of this motion pursuant to Local Rule 7.1(K).

6. This motion is filed as an emergency motion pursuant to Local Rule 7.1(L) because the voter registration deadline expired yesterday, October 7, 2024. Defendant DeSantis also made his announcement that he would not extend the voter registration deadline on October 7, prompting the filing of this litigation. Given that the deadline has expired, it is essential for the Court to reopen the registration such that voters can register once it is safe for them to do so.

7. Plaintiffs will provide prompt notice to Defendants of the instant motion and all supporting documentation.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, and those set forth in Plaintiffs supporting Memorandum of Law, Plaintiffs respectfully request this Court enter a temporary restraining order requiring Defendants to reopen the voter registration deadline.

Dated: October 8, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Matletha Bennette

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\**Pro hac vice* motion forthcoming

**Attorneys for Plaintiffs**

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on October 8, 2024, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will then send a notification of such filing to the counsel of record in this case.

*/s/ Matletha Bennette* \_\_\_\_\_

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